



CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Fall Board Meeting

Hilton Hotel, Stockton, CA

September 15-18, 2011

President: Julie A. West

Host: Valley Lode District

EXCUSED: Myra Andrest, Win Archibald, Lorna Bonham, Ruth Browning, Bev Brune, Emily Bueermann, Susan Coolidge, Mona Dunlop (Excused from Friday Session), Helen Gates, Helen Gregory, LaVerne Harms, Rosalie Hooper, Jackie Jackman, Dana Lozano, Maryanne Lucas, Jane McKee, Angela Michaels, Doris Nagy, Gladys Nielsen, Gertrude Paul, Kathy Pifari, Judy Powers, Joyce Reid, Deanna Ridolfi, Dorothy Roton, Pauline Sechi, Linda Simonds, GinaBelle Smith, Mary Tebo, Elisabeth Tufo, Martha Ann Walter.

President West called the meeting to order on September 16, 2011 at 4:03 p.m.

The Recording Secretary, Geri May Thirloway, was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America was led by Victoria Lucido, Time Keeper.

The Inspiration was given by Kathy Bramhall, Flower Show Judges' Credentials Chairman.

Bob Taylor, Valley Lode District Director, gave the welcome from the District.

President West thanked the Valley Lode District, Chelsea Wilson, Chairman, the Host Committee as listed on page one of the program booklet and all the volunteers helping behind the scenes for their generous hospitality.

President West introduced National Garden Clubs Board Members, Pacific Region Board Members, CGCI Officers, former CGCI Presidents Mary Lou Goodwin, Bob Gordon, and Robin Pokorski, Pages Janet Epperson and Willie Burke and Timekeeper Victoria Lucido.

President West announced that Myra Andrest was elected District Director for the Roadrunner District.

Recording Secretary Geri May Thirloway called the roll and a quorum was established.

A moment of Silence was observed in memory of JoAnn Gould, CGCI President 1993-1995 and Lou Ann Unger, Circle of Poppies, and other garden club members, family and friends no longer with us except in our hearts.

President West stated that the Rules of Order for Board Meetings were accepted at the Organizational Meeting in May, 2011 for this entire term (as printed on page 6 of the Fall Board Meeting Program as well as on page 36 in the new 2011-2012 Yearbook).

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski moved to adopt the Fall Board Meeting Program as corrected.

ADOPTED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

Fall Board Meeting Registrar Shirley Day gave the registration report (141) for information only.

Joelle Holford, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2011 Pre-Convention Board Meeting in Rohnert Park moved their approval as distributed.

APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

Lorraine Ornelas, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2011 Post-Convention Meeting in Rohnert Park, moved their approval as distributed.

APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

Lorraine Ornales, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2011 Organizational Meeting in Rohnert Park, moved their approval as distributed.

APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

President West appointed, without objection, the Committee to approve the minutes of this meeting: Lorraine Ornelas, Costa Verde District Director, as Chairman, Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian and Bylaws and Policy Member, and Alexis Slafer, Landscape Design Schools Chairman.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Treasurer Joan Patten reported: (See Attachment A)

Net Worth

Total Cash including CD's	\$ 189,120.33
Other Assets including GG & Chase	\$ 185,714.70

Total Assets:	<u>\$ 374,835.03</u>
of which Restricted Funds are:	\$ 294,722.58
Cash Balance Available	\$ 80,112.45

President West introduced a special Presentation by Price Sheppy, Golden Gate National Park Conservancy and partner to CGCI, on the project to save the Mission Blue Butterfly.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Recording Secretary Geri May Thirloway presented the following recommendations:

RATIFICATIONS:

1. Accept with regret the resignation of Donna Haddock and Pat Chaney 2012 Fall Board Co- Chairmen.
2. Accept with regret the resignation of Maryanne Lucas, Golden Gardens Assistant Editor for Layout.
3. Accept with regret the resignation of Carol Amenta, Channel Islands District, Nominating Committee.

1,2, AND 3 RATIFIED.

APPOINTMENT RATIFICATIONS:

4. Gwen Nansen, 2013 San Francisco Flower & Garden show Advisor.
5. Donna Thomas Golden Gardens Conservation Feature Editor.
6. Kris Ethington, Golden Gardens Youth Feature Editor.
7. Margaret Strachan, Channel Islands, Nominating Committee.
8. Loraine Ramshaw, Top O' The State District Liaison.
9. Myrtle Findley and Joan Craig, 2013 Winter Board Co-Chairmen.

4,5,6,7,8,AND 9 RATIFIED .

CALENDAR RATIFICATIONS:

10. August 20-22, 2012 Flower Show School, Course I, Host: Southern California Judges Council
Co-Chairmen: Martha Hunt and Linda Lang.
11. September 6-9, 2012 CGCI Fall Board Meeting, San Mateo Marriott Hotel., San Mateo. Host:
CGCI Executive Committee.
12. January 7-9 2013 Flower Show School, Course II, Host: Southern California Judges Council.
Co-Chairmen: Martha Hunt and Linda Lang.
13. June 3-7, 2013 CGCI Convention, Crown Plaza Hotel, San Diego. Host: Palomar District,
Chairman: Jane McKee.
14. August 12-14, 2013 Flower Show School, Course III, Host: Southern California Judges Council.
Co-Chairmen: Martha Hunt and Linda Lang.
15. January 6-8, 2014 Flower Show School, Course IV, Host: Southern California Judges Council.
Co-Chairmen: Martha Hunt and Linda Lang.
16. June 5-9, 2014 CGCI Convention, Glendale Hilton, Host: San Fernando Valley District.
17. 2014 Winter Board Meeting. Host: Arboretum District. Chairman: Shirley Stewart.
18. 2015 Convention. Host: Golden Foothills District. Co-Chairmen: Myrtle Findley and Joan
Craig.

RATIFIED WITHOUT OBJECTION.

PAYMENT RATIFICATION:

19. CGCI to sponsor National Garden Clubs Award #20 Roadside Beautification in the amount
of \$100, with money to come from the General Fund. **RATIFIED WITHOUT OBJECTION.**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

20. That CGCI contribute \$5000 to the 2013 NGC Convention in Seattle, WA when Linda Nelson
from Oregon in the Pacific Region is installed as the NGC President. Money to come from the
General Fund. **PASSED AS AMENDED.**
21. That 2012 Winter Board Registration fee be \$30 with a late fee of \$45. **PASSED.**
22. That Liability Insurance rates for 2012-2013 policy term remain the same:
\$.75 per capita rate
Minimum Premium for small clubs \$20
Additional Insured Certificates \$20 each
Late Fee \$20
PASSED.

President West announced the Insurance Rates will increase in 2012 for the 2013-2014 policy term and
will be announced at the 2012 Convention in Sacramento.

23. That CGCI accept the CPA's Review Report of August 23, 2011 (of Financial Statements dated
June 30, 2011). **PASSED.**

The meeting was recessed at 5:17 P.M. Friday, September 16, 2011

The meeting was reconvened at 9:02 A.M. on Saturday, September 17, 2011 (Session 2)

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America was led by Jerry Thirloway, Civic
Development Chairman.

The Inspiration was given by Merrilee Ray, Operation Wildflower Co-Chairman.

OFFICERS' REPORTS: (See Attachment A)

Parliamentarian - Greg Pokorski reported. (See Attachment A)

Financial Secretary - Shane Looper reported. (See Attached A)

Corresponding Secretary - Joelle Holford reported. (See Attachment A)

Recording Secretary - Geri May Thirloway reported. (See Attachment A)

3rd Vice-President - Pat Clayes reported. (See Attachment A)

2nd Vice-President - Sue Bennett reported. (See Attachment A).

Sue Bennett moved to ratify 3 new Garden Clubs:

San Francisco Orchid Society - Bay Ocean District - 218 members

Carlsbad Community Gardens Collaborative - Palomar District - 6 members

Vallejo Garden Club - Sacramento River Valley District - 10 members

RATIFIED.

1st Vice-President - Rita Desilets reported. (See Attachment A)

President - Julie A. West reported: "How I Spent My Summer Vacation" and presented NGC awards won by CGCI. (See Attachment A)

STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS: (See Attachment B)

Board of Trustees - Joan Craig Chairman reported that the Board is comprised of 6 members: Beverly Brune, Robert Gordon, Robin Pokorski, Elisabeth Tufo and David West and serve for 6 years. The deadline for scholarships has moved to January 15, 2012.

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

Bylaws and Policy Committee - Rita Desilets Chairman reported. (See Attachment B)

Golden Gardens Editor - President West reported. (See Attachment B)

The meeting recessed at 10:01 A.M.

The meeting reconvened at 10:12 A.M.

STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS - Continued (See Attachment B)

Convention 2011, Rohnert Park - Dave West reported. (See Attachment B)

IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption - Mary-Jo Noth reported. (See Attachment B)

Mary-Jo Noth moved to ratify the removal of the IRS revoked Tax Exempt status of the following 14 groups from CGCI nonprofit group exemption:

Auburn Arrangers Guild, Chicago Park Garden Club, Desert Crossroads Garden Club, Los Angeles Garden Club, Orange County Organic Gardening Club, San Pedro Garden Club, The Palms Garden Club, Desert Horticultural Society of the Coachella Valley, Tustin Garden Club, Orange County

Geranium Society, Westlake Village Garden Club, Porterville Garden Club, South Valley Fleurs Garden Club, and San Jose Garden Club.

RATIFIED.

Mary-Jo Noth moved to ratify the following 2 clubs which have been certified to participate in the CGCI IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption program:

Atherton Garden Guild

Carlsbad Community Garden Collaborative

RATIFIED

IRS Reporting Requirements and Bylaws and Policy Committee member George Perko reported. (See Attachment B)

Life Memberships - Carlotta Wixon reported. (See Attachment B)

Carlotta Wixon moved to ratify the 17 new Life Members since the 2011 Convention to CGCI Life Membership.
RATIFIED.

Nominating - Chairman Kathy Bramhall reported the Nominating Committee met on Friday, September 16, 2011 and met with or communicated with the officers.
President's Project - Ruth Browning excused. President West reported \$1,005 donated over the summer. (See Attachment B).

The meeting recessed at 10:57 A.M.
The meeting reconvened at 11:02 A.M.

STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS - Continued (See Attachment B)
Yearbook - Carmen Black reported. (See Attachment B)
Youth Assistance and Awards - Linda Riddle reported. (See Attachment B)

Linda Riddle moved to ratify the application of Shorecliffs Middle School Gardeners to the Youth Membership in CGCI. **RATIFIED.**

2012 Winter Board Invitation was presented by Chairman Nancy Johnson of Montana De Oro District for February 6-8, 2012 in Pismo Beach, CA.

The meeting recessed at 11:14 A.M.
The meeting reconvened at 2:01 P.M. (Session 3)

CHAIRMEN REPORTS:
President West introduced Robin Pokorski, Chairman Coordinator.
Robin introduced all the chairmen including those who reported. (See Attachment C)

The meeting recessed at 3:10 P.M.
The meeting reconvened at 3:17 P.M.

CHAIRMEN REPORTS - Continued (See Attachment C)

Robert Gordon moved that California Garden Clubs, Inc. endorse Robin Pokorski for National Garden Clubs, Inc. Third Vice-President. **PASSED**

President West awarded a President Citation to Chelsea Wilson Chairman of the 2011 Fall Board Meeting.

Announcements - Be sure everyone has picked up their yearbooks!

Joan Craig moved the adoption of the Courtesy Resolution. (See Attachment E). **ADOPTED.**

There being no further business and no objection, the 2011 Fall Board Meeting of California Garden Clubs, Inc. was adjourned by President West at 4:07 p.m.

Submitted

Geri May Thirloway, Recording Secretary

Dat

2011 CGCI Fall Board Meeting, Stockton - Attachment A

OFFICER REPORTS

Parliamentarian, Greg Pokorski

In response to several questions this officer has received from clubs for parliamentary rulings, I'd like to remind clubs and districts that Parliamentarians should not be making rulings.

The role of the Parliamentarian is to advise and offer opinions, when asked. In your meetings, the Chair, that is the club president or the district director, rules.

Remember that your bylaws are the fundamental rules that define and govern your organization.

Robert's Rules, if you adopt them as your parliamentary authority, are binding on your organization insofar as they don't conflict with your bylaws or any special rules you've adopted.

Speaking of *Robert's Rules*, the 11th edition, the first revision in eleven years, will be published next week. If you're planning to buy *Robert's*, be sure you purchase the new version.

Handouts from two National Garden Clubs, Inc. parliamentary workshops have been placed in the District Director mailboxes. These are about presiding and about minutes. These may provide useful tips and guidelines for District Directors, club presidents, and district and club recording secretaries.

Treasurer, Joan Patten

**California Garden Clubs, Inc
Balance Sheet
As of September 10, 2011**

	Sep 10, 11
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10100 · Cash in Checking Accounts	
10101 · BofA Business MMA 4096 .25%	52,479.04
10102 · BofA CGCI Checking 12962	14,698.30
10103 · G Gardens BofA Checking 06688	<u>30,902.04</u>
Total 10100 · Cash in Checking Accounts	98,079.38
10300 · Certificates of Deposit	
10302 · L Burbank CD899-2 5/20/12 1.08%	60,889.91
10303 · L Burbank CD075-3 3/25/12 1.13%	<u>30,151.04</u>
Total 10300 · Certificates of Deposit	<u>91,040.95</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>189,120.33</u>
Total Current Assets	189,120.33
Other Assets	
18000 · Prepaid Deposits	2,250.00
18500 · US Bank CD7664 4/8/14 4.00%	86,812.58
19000 · CGCI Endowment	
19010 · Principal Endowment-CGCI	33,000.00
19050 · Allowance for Change in FMV	<u>-748.68</u>
Total 19000 · CGCI Endowment	32,251.32
19500 · Scholarship Endowment	
19510 · Principal Endowment-Scholarship	64,755.00
19550 · Allowance for Change in FMV	<u>-354.20</u>
Total 19500 · Scholarship Endowment	<u>64,400.80</u>

Total Other Assets 185,714.70

TOTAL ASSETS 374,835.03

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

30500 · Unrestricted Net Assets

30700 · General Activities

30701 · Available General Activities 102,451.91

30710 · CGCI Endowment Transfer -30,000.00

Total 30700 · General Activities 72,451.91

31000 · Board Designated Net Assets

31001 · Blue Star Memorial 3,230.30

31002 · Educational Schools 13,767.39

31003 · F.A.S.T. 1,000.00

31006 · Golden Gardens 30,902.04

31007 · Honor Book 9,328.25

31009 · Liability Insurance 64,373.20

31010 · Reforestation Fund 4,005.00

31011 · Symposium

31011-1 · Symposium Reserve 18,515.62

Total 31011 · Symposium 18,515.62

31012 · Wildflower Conference 11,122.96

31013 · Youth Fund 2,242.48

Total 31000 · Board Designated Net Assets 158,487.24

Total 30500 · Unrestricted Net Assets 230,939.15

31500 · Temp Restricted Net Assets

31501 · Awards 9,014.76

31503 · E. Miller Memorial Fund 3,250.00

31504 · H. Minor Memorial Fund 4,213.65

31505 · V. Bennetts Memorial Fund 475.00

31508 · Gardening Consultants Council 1,125.65

31509 · Judges Council 1,029.47

31510 · Landscape Design Council 1,693.80

31511 · President's Project 1,105.00

31512 · Project Mission Blue 435.00

31513 · Scholarship Donations Life Mbr 3,900.00

Total 31500 · Temp Restricted Net Assets 26,242.33

31800 · Perm Restricted Net Assets

31801 · Copeland Fund 12,238.01

31805 · Endowment - CGCI 33,000.00

31810 · Endowment -Scholarship 64,755.00

Total 31800 · Perm Restricted Net Assets 109,993.01

Net Income 7,660.54

Total Equity 374,835.03

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 374,835.03

Financial Secretary, Shane Looper

Line codes will be established for the Restricted Funds so that the Treasurer and Financial Secretary can balance the financial records for each month easier. A reminder for each chairman and the Cash Receipt Reports sent in each month should also include their line code - The White Copy goes to the Treasurer with the deposits and the Yellow Copy goes to the Financial Secretary. In order to get a reimbursement, or, if you need to have a payment made, you must fill out the Request For Payment Or Reimbursement form. Then send the form by email or post to this Financial Secretary, Shane Looper, with your receipts. The Treasurer will only issue checks that are authorized by the Financial Secretary. If you need assistance, please give the Financial Secretary a call or email her.

Corresponding Secretary, Joelle Holford

During the past three months, a thank you letter was sent to Grab N 'Grow Soil Products, Inc. in Santa Rosa for a \$301.98 contribution for the printing of the 2011-2012 membership cards.

On August 1, 2011, CGCI's Excel list of club Presidents, District Directors and Associate Plant Presidents was sent to NGC for free subscriptions to *The National Gardener*. This chairman will send any changes to NGC on a quarterly basis.

The Call to the Fall Board was sent out via email with some sent by US Mail. Remember, that The Call is promptly posted on the CGCI website. If you have any changes to your email or mailing address, please get a hold of me with your corrections.

Recording Secretary, Geri May Thirloway

The minutes of the Special Meeting of the 2011-2013 Executive Committee of the Convention were distributed in July to the Executive Committee. The Post Convention Meeting Minutes and the Organizational Meeting Minutes were distributed on July 22nd. to most of the Board Members by email. Twelve Board Members required snail mail at a cost of \$57.59.

Reports to the Recording Secretary (other than from officers and the standing committee) are to be condensed 100-word maximum format for distribution with the minutes. You may send me your reports, preferably by email until September 26th.

Third Vice- President, Patricia Claves

Awards

CGCI has new sponsors for some of its already-established awards for the 2011-2013 term:

- * **Elisabeth Tufo** - C-13B and G-3
- * **Albert Chang** - C-9A
- * **Ilona Burati** - C-9B
- * **Terry Taylor** - C-9C
- * **Lou & Diane Charbonneau** - PR-2-2A
- * **Sue Bennett** - PR-2-2B & 2C
- * **Redlands Horticultural & Improvement Society** - J-9A & 9B

New sponsors for the 2011-2013 term:

- * G-16 Ways & Means – **Meadow Vista Garden Club**, sponsor
- * G-17 Photography (CA Arboretum/Botanic Garden Collection) **Roger Camp**, sponsor
- * G-18 Garden Therapy – **Orange County District**, sponsor
- * J-13 Youth Arbor Day Essay & Tree Planting -- **Colfax Garden Club**, sponsor
- * J-14 Youth Sculpture Contest – **Sharon Thorne & Don Smith**, sponsors
- * NGC & Pacific Region have eliminated most of their books of evidence. The new rules can be found in the CGCI *Awards Manual* (found on pages 91-125 of the CGCI *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* and on the CGCI website

under "Awards." Also, NGC has changed its scale of points for judging club yearbooks. Subsequently, CGCI has changed its G-2 club yearbook evaluation form to conform to NGC's changes. This information is also available in the CGCI *Yearbook* and on the website.

iContact.com

The CGCI eNewsletter currently has 1,154 subscribers. The Consultants eNewsletter currently has 109 subscriber

Toll Free Number

CGCI continues to receive calls to the toll free number which this chairman forwards to the appropriate chairmen/district directors to answer.

2nd Vice President/Membership, Sue Bennett

As of September 14, 2011, **200 clubs** with **10,639 members**; **16 associate plant societies** with **2252** members and **12 affiliates** have paid their 2011-2012 dues. A total of **\$29,567.50** was received. This leaves 77 clubs, 18 associate plant societies and 8 affiliates in danger of being delinquent if dues are not paid by October 1. Each District Director received a list of clubs and affiliates in their district whose dues are not paid as of September 14. Directors, please contact these clubs and remind them of the approaching deadline.

Congratulations to the following Districts for having 100% of their dues paid: Desert Empire and Luther Burbank. Golden Foothills, Road Runner and Top o' The State need to be recognized for having just one unpaid club.

20,000 membership cards designed by Julie West were printed thanks to Grab N 'Grow Soil Products Inc. of Santa Rosa who underwrote the expense of providing membership cards to every CGCI garden club member. Cards for paid clubs are packaged and were 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 and Affiliates will receive one card for their records with their yearbook.

Membership cards are good for discounts at businesses on the Participating Sponsors list which is available on the CGCI Website.

CGCI promotional materials such as the bookmarks and brochures have been counted bundled and are available outside this room on the yearbook table for pick up. District Directors already picked up theirs. Be sure to remind those who take these materials to put their club information in the space provide before using.

The Membership theme for the next two years is "*Membership and You*". Of course, the most valuable members of the Membership Team are all of you. This chairman's article published in the Aug/Sept *Golden Gardens* talked about where we were and what are we going to do to take us into the future. Look for a second article in the Oct/Nov issue of *Golden Gardens*.

As Membership Chair, I have taken on the role of APS Liaison and the duties with it; I have also taken on the role of updating Membership Information, District, APS and Affiliate web pages. I have completed all the updates; however they have not been tested. Next step, I will be working on how to eliminate redundant work between District websites with CGCI District websites. I will be sending the APS & Affiliate liaisons a message to review the web page links and the District Directors will be informed at their meeting.

It is my pleasure to introduce our Three newest additions
3 CLUBS:

San Francisco Orchid Society, Bay Ocean District (218 members) Carlsbad Community Gardens Collaborative, Palomar District (6 members) Vallejo Garden Club, Sacramento River Valley District (10 members)

Madam President, I move to ratify these 3 new clubs.

First Vice-President, Rita Desilets - Convention and Board Meeting

This chairman is pleased to report that all but two of the CGCI meetings for 2013-2015 have host districts ratified. Thank you to Arboretum District, San Fernando Valley District, Cascade District and Golden Foothills District for your invitations. Two districts are in the process of planning to host the remaining board meetings.

The guidelines for board meetings were recently updated, however the Convention Procedure Book was not. This chairman's summer project has been to update the Convention Procedures Book. The updated version will be available soon thanks to the proofing help of Robin Pokorski. Districts will be able to receive a copy via e-mail. Hopefully it will be helpful to those planning a future CGCI Convention.

Official Calendar

This chairman welcomes additions to the Official Calendar at anytime. Before choosing dates for your event, please check with the Official Calendar Chairman to avoid unnecessary scheduling conflicts.

Personnel Chairman

This chairman compiles a file containing the names of members eligible to serve on the CGCI Board of Directors. Although the personnel form is available on the CGCI website, copies have been made for distribution to those present today. If you know of someone in your district or club who is a potential candidate, please encourage them to fill out a form and return it to Nominating Committee Chairman, Kathy Bramhall.

President, Julie A. West

How I Spent My Summer Vacation

The highlight was the honor representing CGCI at National Garden Club's Convention held May 25-30th in Washington, DC. It was my first NGC convention. I discovered CGCI's Exhibit Room in Rohnert Park with 28 exhibits was much more extensive than NGC's exhibit room with less than 10. NGC has many educational field trips with a few workshops intermingled before and after the business meetings and lots of vendors. It was all quite an experience! I am looking forward to NGC's Fall Board next week in St. Louis, MO where I will see NGC Headquarters for the first time.

I would now like to present the awards won by CGCI from NGC's Convention to the 2009-2011 chairmen who won them:

- For a state magazine over 24 pages – *Golden Gardens*, Lynne Hansen, Editor
- For a state yearbook – CGCI Manual, Yearbook & Roster, Pat Claves
- Landscape Design Consultants Trophy – CGCI Landscape Design Council, Mary Lou Goodwin
- NGC Citation for Increase in Net Membership – Rita Desilets
- NGC 'Help Membership Bloom' contest – Rita Desilets (presented her with the African Violet named in CGCI's honor 'California Victory').

June 1st found me having a surgical procedure called lithotripsy to blast a sizeable kidney stone in my right kidney that Kaiser found bouncing around. They originally wanted to do it May 18, the date of installation but I advised them I was a little busy that day. After a two-week recovery, I attended the re-dedication of the Blue Star Memorial Marker at Gold Run Rest Stop along I-80 followed by a quick visit to San Fernando Valley District to honor the National Grand Prize Winner of the Smokey Bear Poster Contest that was featured in the Summer issue of *Golden Gardens*

July was dedicated to working with CGCI's yearbook team and Chairman, Carmen Black; assisting the awards committee when asked by Pat Clayes and Win Archibald; meeting with the previous and current CGCI financial officers to reconcile the 2010-11 fiscal year; meeting with the CPA, Carolyn Mayes; working as Editor on Golden Gardens followed by the unexpected layout work that needed to be done to get the summer issue to the printer; working with Web Tech Therapy on the CGCI website transition (with more to be done) and meeting with San Francisco Flower & Garden Show. Rita asked if CGCI provided vision coverage as a member of the proofreading team for all the proofreading she was asked to do involving several publications – yearbook, eNewsletter, *Golden Gardens*, etc.

August 3rd I had my second surgical lithotripsy procedure to blast the kidney stone in my left kidney with another two week recovery. In August, the financial statements with the CPA were finalized; various items of importance cropped up with CGCI's IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption program with a flurry of emails that began in July between Mary-Jo Noth, George Perko in Greece and myself that continued right up to this meeting; working with George Perko fine-tuning the financial reports with the transition from Quicken to Quickbooks along with the current financial officers, Joan and Shane, the dynamic duo who make a great team working closely together to reconcile and balance their monthly reports; and working with Chelsea Wilson and various members of her committee getting ready for this Fall Board meeting.

The good news is that the kidney stones that were discovered are now gone with a follow-up x-ray needed next summer to make sure they do not reform, God forbid. People ask me, "What's it like to be President?" Being fairly new in the position, I see a lot more email activity that needs daily attention and my husband tells me the phone rings more than it used to. I have always had so many jobs coming up the chairs that I found it interesting this summer that I no longer had all those chairman duties to contend with. All of a sudden, other people are doing those jobs and I am happy to say, the people in those positions are all doing a great job so far and I appreciate their endeavors and hard work. I know you have heard this before, it truly is both an honor and a privilege to serve as your President. In addition to the responsibilities that come along with the position, it is also enjoyable. So if you are asked by the Nominating Committee to interview with them for a position, please take the time to do so. The rewards to be a leader of CGCI are priceless.

In conclusion, I challenged you at convention to ask yourself, are you going to be a board of directors of individuals working independently OR are you going to work together as a team to achieve the organization's objectives, a board that speaks in unison as a single voice? The experience from this summer indicates the latter and I am proud to be included in the team effort demonstrated. I hope to see more teamwork with the progression of time as we all work together for CGCI as an organization. After all, there is no "I" in the word TEAM.

CGCI 2011 Fall Board Meeting, Stockton - Attachment B

STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board of Trustees, Joan Craig, Chairman

The Scholarship Committee met and the deadline for scholarships is moved to January 15, 2012.

Bylaws and Policy Committee, Rita Desilets, Chairman

Four members of the Bylaws and Policy Committee, Sue Bennett, Mary-Jo Noth and Greg Pokorski met on Thursday, September 15, 2011, to discuss proposed Standing Rules and Bylaws changes. The fifth member, Beverly Brune was excused.

We welcome your input, but, to be considered this year, proposed changes must be submitted by November 1, 2011 as stated in Bylaws Article XIX, Section 2.

Endowment Committee, Bob Gordon, Chairman

Charter Membership in the Endowments is open until June 3, 2012. You may donate in any amount, and donations are cumulative. Please make your check out to "CGCI" and send to Bob Gordon, 1532 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. indicate in the memo line which Endowment you would like to support:

* **CGCI Scholarship Endowment Fund** or

* **CGCI Endowment Fund**

Full description of both Funds can be found on pages 155-158 of the 2011-2012 Yearbook, Manual & Roster.

All donors will be invited to the "thank you" reception and dinner with CGCI President Julie West, June 4, 2012 (just prior to CGCI Convention). Dinner will be free to all donors of \$500 or more. All are invited to this semi-formal event. Details will be given at CGCI Winter Board Meeting.

Levels of giving

Amounts include monies now or included in your Trust or Will.

- * Copper: \$500
- * Bronze: \$1,000
- * Silver: \$5,000
- * Gold: \$10,000
- * Platinum: \$15,000

Golden Gardens Editor, Julie A. West

This chairman is enjoying serving as Editor putting together the summer issue of *Golden Gardens*. The challenge arose when this chairman had to do the layout. After 100+ hours and proofreading assistance from Robin Pokorski, Pat Clayes and Rita Desilets, it went to the printer in early August and you should have received your issue by now.

To assist with the layout situation for the remainder of this term, each Vice President will do one issue of the four quarterly issues. Pat Clayes will layout the Fall issue that includes Seasons Greetings, Sue Bennett will layout the Winter issue and Rita will handle the Spring issue while I continue to layout the Summer issue. This is a band-aid approach without going outside CGCI to hire professionals. The problem arises in the fact no one seems to want to be the Editor or Assistant Editor in charge of Layout and the future of *Golden Gardens* relies on volunteers to fill these positions.

Another situation is the expense of printing and mailing that has risen from the original quote by \$152 from \$4,857 to \$5,009 per issue. *Golden Gardens* barely breaks even and does not have \$600

extra to offset the increased expense. **This is where we need as many people as possible to purchase Seasons Greetings as well as Angels.** Both Seasons Greetings and Angels supplement *Golden Gardens* revenue and without that additional revenue, it will likely lose money this term. Carol Mayo has both forms available here today and will be happy to take your check.

It now costs over \$20,000 to produce four issues a year with a declining subscription base that CGCI pays almost \$4,000 for the 755 complimentary issues that presidents, district directors and CGCI life members before June 1, 1997 receive. That represents approximately 20% of the *Golden Gardens* revenue and paid subscriptions of 3600 making CGCI the largest subscriber. When you deduct the 755 subscriptions that CGCI pays for, there are only 2,850 2011 Fall Board Meeting subscribers paid by 100% clubs and individuals that represent only 13.5% of our 21,000 members.

Compare these facts with the CGCI eNewsletter that is mailed free to 1,152 of subscribers at a cost of less than \$500 with archives on CGCI's website to past issues available for viewing. It is produced monthly with the latest breaking newsworthy articles. The subscriber has the option to either view it electronically or print it at home – it's their choice. People who do not have email can easily have a friend who does have email provide them with a printed copy.

What is the future of *Golden Gardens*? What suggested solutions do you have as a member of this Board of Directors? We would like to hear them. It likely needs to move toward an electronic publication rather than the printed publication that we have now. This chairman has asked the Bylaws Committee to begin the process of gathering information and researching the possibility of transitioning *Golden Gardens* to the *Golden Gardens eNewsletter*.

As a member of CGCI's Board of Directors, we all have a fiscal responsibility to be diligent when it comes to both CGCI and *Golden Gardens* finances. Whether we like it or not, electronic communication is likely our future with less expense and monthly newsworthy articles that has the potential of reaching more of CGCI's 21,000 members than the 3,600 members it currently reaches only four times a year. This chairman does not like to present a report of this nature but I believe it is this chairman's duty as Editor to be honest and direct with you as to the precarious financial situation *Golden Gardens* is currently in.

2011 Convention, Dave West

It was a very successful Convention. The Tri Refresher, Tours, Workshops and Post Convention Tour all finished in the **black**. Total registration was 366, with 334 room nights and 773 meals served.

We were fortunate to have worked with our local Sonoma County Tourism Bureau and received a \$4,000 bonus for booking over 300 room nights. In addition to this \$4,000, we ended up making an additional profit of \$4,887.62. I am pleased to hand Joan Patten our check in the amount of \$4,443.81 for 50% of the total profit. And, yes Shane, here is your copy of the cash receipt form for your records.

Virginia Stranske, here is Mendo-Lake's \$2,221.90 check for your half of the remainder. Bev Davies, here is your check for \$2,221.91, but in an effort to be fair and balanced, I have also placed one penny in Mendo-Lake's envelope to square it up.

And a big thank you to everyone in the Mendo-Lake and Luther Burbank District for all their help. We could never have done all this without them.

CGCI IRS Tax Exempt Group, Mary-Jo Noth,

The IRS has **revoked** the Tax Exempt Status of the following 14 clubs.

1. Auburn Arrangers Guild
2. Chicago Park Garden Club

3. Desert Crossroads Garden Club
4. Los Angeles Garden Club
5. Orange County Organic Gardening Club
6. San Pedro Garden Club
7. The Palms Garden Club
8. Desert Horticultural Society of the Coachella Valley
9. Tustin Garden Club
10. Orange County Geranium Society
11. Westlake Village Garden Club
12. Porterville Garden Club
13. South Valley Fleurs Garden Club
14. San Jose Garden Club

Therefore, I moved to ratify the removal of these 14 clubs from the CGCI Tax Exempt Group.
and

I moved to approve the addition of Atherton Garden Guild and Carlsbad Community Garden Collaborative to the CGCI Tax Exempt Group.

CGCI IRS Reporting Requirements Applicable to all Garden Clubs, George Perko CPA,MBA

I. ALL nonprofits (incl. garden clubs) with incomes less than or equal to \$50,000 [for tax years beginning in 2010] are supposed to electronically file the form 990-N *e-Postcard*.

[Nonprofits with incomes more than \$50,000 must file IRS form 990 or 990-EZ.]

- A. Regardless of size of club or district
 1. \$1 of cash in bank is enough to file
 2. \$1 of gross receipts per year is enough to file
- B. Tax classification does not matter—it applies to all
 1. Goes beyond 501(c)(3) clubs or districts
 2. Applies to 501(c)(4)s, 501(c)(7)s, and clubs or districts that do not know how they are classified

II. IRS is automatically revoking tax-exempt status for all clubs or districts that fail to file form 990-N *e-Postcard* for 3 consecutive years

- A. 14 clubs in CGCI 501(c)(3) group exemption program have suffered this in 2011
- B. IRS says other clubs or districts losing tax-exempt status will be posted on the same revocation list the 501(c)(3)s are posted on

III. Risk to clubs or districts of having nonprofit status revoked

- A. For 501(c)(3)s, donors will not be able to take charitable contribution deductions
- B. For other clubs or districts, they cannot join CGCI group exemption program
- C. Ultimately, IRS might declare revoked/non-filing clubs or districts to be for-profit entities, so clubs/districts would pay INCOME TAXES on net income

IV. Test to see if a garden club or district is in violation of the rules

- A. Fill in the following Yes/No chart

Yes No

For the following fiscal year end dates, did clubs e-file

Form 990-N *e-Postcard*?

- Year ended 6/30/07.....
- Year ended 6/30/08.....
- Year ended 6/30/09.....
- Year ended 6/30/10.....

B. If No is checked for 3 consecutive years, the club or district has a problem!

V. Method to correct failure to file for 3 consecutive years

- A. Filing form 990-N now is NOT ENOUGH

- B. Club must fill out either of 2 IRS forms so IRS can give them tax classifications
 - 1. Form 1023--for clubs that want to be 501(c)(3)s
 - 2. Form 1024--for clubs that expect to be 501(c)(4)s or (7)s
 - C. IRS indicated there is a \$100 application fee for this
 - D. Club will have its own independent status
 - 1. 501(c)(3)s will not be able to rejoin CGCI group exemption program
- VI. IRS nonprofit unit phone number for further questions: 1-877-829-5500

Life Membership, Carlotta Wixon,

Since the Convention, this chairman is pleased to report that CGCI has welcomed 17 new Life Members. Most of those new members received this honor as gifts from their clubs or districts. This means that in four months \$1,700 has been added to the Scholarship Fund which is wonderful! This chairman did not receive any applications for the Pacific Region or National Life Memberships. For the CGCI Life Membership, the tax deductible donation is \$100 and this included a presentation certificate and a Life Membership pin. This chairman set a personal goal of awarding certificates to each district that welcomes at least 2 new Life Members during this term. Already 4 Districts have met this goal.

This chairman has submitted articles to the *Golden Gardens* magazine and had an informational display board up at Board Meetings and Conventions. District Directors and other officers have received revised Life Membership applications for CGCI, Pacific Region and National Life Memberships. The CGCI web site also has copies of the forms. Please contact this chairman with any questions you may have regarding Life Memberships.

Life Membership Ratified at the Fall Board

Johnson, Mary	Morro Bay Floral Design	Montana De Oro District
Petrosky, Clara	Cactus Wren Garden Club	Roadrunner District
Nolan, Sue	Desert Crossroads Garden Club	Roadrunner District
Johnson, Mary	Huntington Harbour Garden Club	Orange County District
Oakley, David	Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club	Diablo Foothills District
Brown, Trudy	A Garden Club of Big Bear Valley	Palms to Pines District
Gores, Leslie	Toluca Lake Garden Club	San Fernando Valley Dist.
Hanley, Lucy	Westlake Village Garden Club	Channel Islands Dist.
Eichler, Lynda	Woodside Hills Garden Club	Bay Ocean District
Greswitt-Acker, Chris	Arrowhead Garden Club	Palms to Pine District
Bennett, Sue	Roseville Better Gardens Club	Golden Foothills District
Person, Judy	Livermore Armador Valley Garden Club	Diablo Foothills District
Keunung, Maudie	Livermore Armador Valley Garden Club	Diablo Foothills District
Schmidt, Carol	Floralia Guild	Arboretum District
Campbell-McClain, Sandi	San Clemente Garden Club	Orange County District
Axel, Linda	Admiralty Land Lover's Garden Club	Orange County District
Senske, Lyn	Admiralty Land Lover's Garden Club	Orange County District
Arakelian, Mary	Sacramento Floral Design Guild	Sacramento River Valley Dist.
	and Auburn Arrangers Guild	Golden Foothills District

President's Project Report, President West

Neither Ruth Browning nor Linda Simonds are able to attend Fall Board due to prior commitments. They have asked me to present this report on their behalf.

We want to take this opportunity to 'thank' those who have made a donation to funding permanent educational signage for the Native Plant Garden at Sonoma State University. \$1,005 has been donated over the summer. Your generosity is appreciated!

Exciting things are happening as respects the President's Project for 2011-2013:

- San Francisco Flower & Garden Show has agreed to donate \$1 for every ticket sold by their Garden Club Fundraising Opportunity. Any club or district that is taking a field trip or carpooling to attend the 2012 San Francisco Flower & Garden Show should take advantage of this program and earn \$2 profit for every advance purchased discount ticket sold by their club or district. Tickets are sold for the discounted price of \$16 instead of \$20 at the door. Your club or district submits any unsold tickets along with the funds for those tickets sold. Within 30 days after March 25, 2012, a check is sent to the club or district for \$2 for every ticket sold. The owners of the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show will donate \$1 from their proceeds, matching ticket for ticket sold by garden clubs and districts. It is a win-win opportunity for everyone who participates. Instructions and Ticket Order forms have been placed in the District Director's mailbox system for distribution. Please make copies and give to every club in your district so they can take advantage of this easy fundraiser.
- 2500 updated full-color rack cards were received for the project last week. Envelopes have been placed in each District Director's mailbox folder with one for every club president, including co-presidents, district affiliate presidents and district director.
- Linda Simonds, the President's Project Coordinator, is compiling a list of businesses to solicit donations from to help us reach our goal of funding three educational signs. She will be at Winter Board to report on her progress.
- A silent auction of gently worn jewelry at Winter Board. All proceeds will benefit the President's Project. Donations of jewelry as well as the empty jewelry boxes that accumulate from purchases are welcome. District Directors may collect donations from their clubs and bring to Pismo Beach with them to Winter Board. Events of this nature in the past have been fun to participate in as people find a new treasure to enjoy.
- Catherine Brady, a former member of CGCI's Board of Directors, read about this project in *Golden Gardens*. She realized her neighbor's last name is Stocking. She mentioned the project to her neighbor and lo and behold, Steve Stocking is the son of Kenneth M. Stocking for which the Native Plant Garden is named. He was unable to be with us today because he was leaving on vacation but was excited to share the information with family members that we have sent him. Steve is speaking October 12th at Calaveras County Garden Club for their monthly program and CGCI's president has been invited to attend by the club president, Suzy Voss. How exciting to meet a family member of Kenneth M. Stocking and another opportunity to promote signage for the Kenneth M. Stocking Native Plant Garden. Thank you, again, for your generous support in this endeavor!

CGCI 2011-2012 Yearbook, Carmen Black,

Once again, the CGCI yearbook (color cover/front only - 216 page) was printed at Print-Scape – Sylmar, CA. A total of 775 copies were ordered and the cost was within budget.

The FINAL PDF file was sent (via email) to the printer on August 18, 2011. The total shipment of books (775 books) was sent via UPS on September 7, 2011. They arrived at the home of Carmen Black on Thursday, September 8, 2011.

As of September 12, 2011, 106 additional books have been sold at \$8.00 each. Hopefully, there will be more books sold at the CGCI Fall Board Meeting in Stockton.

Youth, Linda Riddle

Over the summer, one new club has applied for youth membership in CGCI.

It is:

Shorecliffs Middle School Gardeners

Orange County District

Sponsored by San Clemente Garden Club

Grades 4-6; Grades 7-8 total about 1000 students

Shorecliffs Middle School Gardeners are establishing the West View Teaching Garden serving grades 6-8 Fall 2011. Under the leadership of science teacher, Jenny Goit, the garden committee includes other teachers, parents, and students. The garden is receiving grant and

advisory support from the San Clemente Garden Club. The 2,500 sq. ft. site will include an outdoor classroom, raised vegetable beds, a butterfly habitat, California natives, a weather station, a composting station, and rain water collection barrels.

I move to ratify Shorecliffs Middle School Gardeners, Orange County District and sponsored by the San Clemente Garden Club be approved for CGCI Youth membership.

CGCI 2011 Fall Board Meeting, Stockton - Attachment C

CHAIRMEN REPORTS

Arbor Day, Jane Johnson:

“Other holidays repose upon the past - Arbor Day proposes for the future”. This is what is on the marker that adorns the home of the founder of Arbor Day - a guy named J. Sterling Morton - in Nebraska. He and his wife moved to Nebraska in 1855 and missed the lush vegetation they had known in the East...and so they began celebrating trees. By 1920, more than 45 states had joined in observing Arbor Day. While National Arbor Day is the last Friday in April, each state celebrates it on a different day. We in California have set aside March 7th through the 14th. Can your club help to support this movement? Plan to beautify your community - PLANT A TREE!!!

Award Finance, Winifred Archibald:

Awards Sponsor Statements for 2011 awards were updated for changes in sponsor and award/place amounts. Statements were created for new awards. Sponsor statements totaling \$3,400 were mailed on July 29, 2011. Deadline for payment was August 15, 2011. \$3,125 payment has been received. Reminders will be sent to 6 sponsors for non-payment of \$325 total. Awards Finance records show a balance for the Awards Restricted Fund of \$8,497.64 including a carryover balance of \$5,372.64.

Backyard Habitat, Carolyn Villi

You can take it with you - We created a wildlife habitat while on vacation in the Dixie National Forest, Utah. I packed a wire bird-feeder, chose feed of a variety of seeds, bought UNSALTED Peanuts, and sweet mix deer feed. Providing these treats and water, we attracted a variety of Finches, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Evening-Grosbeaks, Nuthatches, Clarkes Nutcracker, Deer Fox and three sizes of Chipmunks. Remember when traveling, check out the habitat and animals of your destination and pack something for the local creatures. It's amazing!

Banner Orders, Rita Desilets

You can have a professionally designed (2 ft. by 6 ft.) banner to attach to your club or district. Use at plant sales, monthly meetings, flower shows, schools or district meetings. Have it customized with your club or district's name. Cost: \$75, make check out to CGCI and mail to this chairman. A simple PVC stand is available for \$25. Stand instructions are free. If you want a stand, include the extra \$25 on your check and it will be delivered at a board meeting or convention. The stand can be shipped, but costs must be covered by the club or district ordering.

The order form and directions for making your own stand are available on the CGCI website. A FREE fabric banner bag will be given to anyone ordering both a banner and a stand. The Banner Order team, Rita Desilets, Launa Gould and Charlene Hyde await your orders.

Blue Star Memorials, George Unrine

CALTRANS relocated a highway marker from Emigrant Gap to Gold Run, both on I-80. It was re-dedicated by Golden Foothills District. VFW Post 3758 and the Chico Horticultural Society dedicated a new highway marker in Portola. A byway marker will be dedicated by the VA McCellan Clinic in McCellan on September 24, 2011 by the North Highlands Garden Club. CALTRANS remounted the highway marker at Donner Lake Overlook on I-80 after Golden Foothills District reported it had fallen. A highway marker dedicated in 1966 at Hotel Circle on I-8 in San Diego was lost due to an auto accident.

California Native Plants, Margaret Strachan

The California Native Plant Society will be holding its 2012 Conservation Conference January 10-14, 2012 in San Diego. This will focus on applied science and research for conservation of native plants

and habitats. The sessions address subjects ranging from planning and policy to restoration and management to horticultural science. Further information is on the website www.cnps.org/2012

The first California Native Plant Week (in April 2011) brought the CNPS together with many public officials, as well as conservation and community groups, to celebrate this part of California's heritage. In the future, the CNPS aims to make California Plant Week an increasingly effective statewide celebration.

CGCI Long- Service Certificates, Lynne Hansen

Since May 2011, four people from the Cactus Wren Garden Club, Roadrunner District were honored with CGCI Long-Service Certificates for 20 years. They are: Senta deClouette, Erlene Finn, Marie Mosset and Vera Sandoval. Information about these certificates can be found in the 2011-2012 CGCI Yearbook on pages 30 and 60.

Civic Development, Jerry Thirloway

Getting involved in some fashion in your community, especially landscaping, would be a worthwhile project. There are many ways for individuals and garden clubs to involve themselves in projects to beautify and improve their community, Rehabilitating a landscape can sometimes be as simple as planting a few shrubs and doing little weeding. CGCI has many awards including monetary awards with book of evidence requirements for various civic development projects such as, civic landscaping or beautification projects or roadside improvement projects. Check the 2011-2012 CGCI yearbook for details.

Cultivar (New Chairman), Judy Powers

What is a cultivar or a variety in the plant world? These two terms are often misused by gardeners and horticulturists. Both refer to some unique characteristic of a plant. The difference is that most varieties often occur in nature and are true to type, the seedlings having the same characteristics as the parent plant and looking identical to them. Cultivars are not always true to type. The word cultivar means "cultivated variety", a plant that was selected and cultivated by humans. Some cultivars could be hybrids of two plants, a sport or a mutation. To make a true to type plant it usually must be done through cuttings, grafting, or tissue culture. Using the seeds of a cultivar usually results in something different than the parent plant.

For my chairmanship I'm going to refer to both variety and cultivar as a cultivar, which many gardeners as well as those in the nursery business now do.

Environmental Studies Schools, Shane Looper

Want to hear about the Environment? Want to see Mission Blue Butterflies? Come to the next Environmental Studies School in San Mateo, November 7th and 8th, 2011. Brochures are available here and are in the district director's packet. Why go to the school? Well, it's exciting to learn about our inter-relationship to the earth and how we impact our environment. You can become a consultant and help your community and yourself. Contact: Shane Looper, 650-871-0172 or email slooper@sbcglobal.net for information on the school in San Mateo OR maybe your club or district would like to start a new school.

Project: Mission Blue Butterfly, Shane Looper

As of this date, we have collected \$3,395.00. As a special gift to anyone who donates \$100.00 at one time, a pin has been purchased to acknowledge your donation. Price Sheppy, Educational Director of Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy will be the guest speaker at the Fall Board Meeting in Stockton to inspire us on the Mission Blue Butterfly. *Golden Gardens* has published articles about the Mission Blue Butterfly. Keep those dollars rolling into our new five year project. Your club or you can make a difference in conserving the decline of the population of this butterfly.

Flower Show Awards, Susan Coolidge

This chairman is continuing the work begun by Gudrun Kimmel this year. In 2011, 11 flower shows were registered and evaluated. Eight are eligible to apply for NGC Flower Show Awards, and two may apply for CGCI awards. One of these was a Small Standard Flower Show. So far, two flower shows have been registered for 2012. If you are asked to evaluate a show, please return your paperwork within a week of the show; don't keep clubs waiting for their application materials! This chairman will ask a variety of judges to evaluate, giving everyone an opportunity. As always, remember to register your shows to make them "count" toward judges' accreditation; and, please, have a flower show!

Garden Patch Pointers, Robert Schuler

Do you have a garden question? Has your club helped a new member with some garden ideas? Ideas for involving children in your garden planning? How to get the husband involved with your club? Send us an email to be answered in our Garden Patch Pointers! We need your input to make our newspaper articles interesting and informative for our readers. Does your newspaper include articles for gardening? If not, let us know and we will contact and dazzle them with our weekly articles. Best of all, there is no charge. This is another good way to promote CGCI!! All clubs and newspapers can check our CGCI internet for published articles at no cost to them at the present time.

Garden Therapy, Bonnie Wagner

This report describes the two types of Garden Therapy and the new award associated with it. This Chairman is encouraging clubs to appoint a chairman and begin a project in order to apply for the \$50.00 award associated with it. She also requests that information on public gardens designed for the handicapped be sent to her. A list of these gardens and facilities throughout the state is being compiled for later publications. The second page of the report is a compilation of suggestions for a restorative garden that may be used by everyone.

Gardening Consultants Council, Myrtle Findley

This Council is challenging all Clubs, Guilds, Councils, affiliates, to hold programs on the study of horticulture with or at: programs, workshops, exhibits, flower shows, fairs, etc..

Both Clubs and Districts are eligible for our First place gift in HT-1 with a deadline of January 10. All that is required is that at least two programs are given and reported on in your application. During the club year have a program on Horticulture and have an exhibit at your flower show, or fair...then you can enter! Take photo's....they tell the story best.

Mail with an application and evaluation sheet. Follow instructions in our Yearbook/Roster.

Award in Section A to Clubs; in Section B to Districts.

Gardening Study Schools, Greg Pokorski

The annual update of Gardening Consultant information is on pages 82-85 of the new 2011-12 Yearbook. All are encouraged to know, recognize and utilize local Consultants. This chairman is working with Local Chairman Sue Bennett on finalization of Course IV, Series 21, Golden Foothills District - moved from Loomis to Citrus Heights - September 27 & 28 - Information/Registration brochure is in the District Director mailboxes. Upon completion, we will not have any GSS in California. This chairman met with DDs on Friday to encourage consideration of sponsorship of GS and other schools. This chairman will attend the Bi-Refresher (GS & LD) sponsored by Dos Valles Garden Club in Valley Center on October 28 & 29. Gardening and LD Consultants can refresh for credit, but all are welcome to attend this special program "Refresh This Winter for a Fabulous Spring." As GSS Chairman for NGC, I continue to work to have information about this education program in all issues of *The National Gardener* and some issues of *Keeping in Touch*, and encourage you to read these articles.

Golden Gardens Angels & Seasons Greetings, Carol Mayo

Once upon a time, not too long ago, there was a board member from a not too far off land. This lady was another of our innovative members who came up with a solution to the rising costs of the three "P'S" of paper, printing and postage of our publication, *Golden Gardens*. And so, it was that Frances Frenzel suggested the idea of the Angel and Season's Greeting Fund. Your support of these funds

helps our *Golden Gardens* keep in the black. The Angel Fund can be a way to honor your special person, whether it be a birthday or anniversary or a memorial to someone who is no longer with us. For a donation of \$25 to *Golden Gardens*, your "Angel" will appear in the *Golden Gardens*.

For Season's Greetings, we encourage you to save a tree and postage by sending your greeting to your gardening friends and place your greeting in *Golden Gardens*. In your current *Golden Gardens*, you will find our rates or see me. We will figure out how much your greeting will be.

Golden Gardens Circulation, GinaBelle Smith

The following information is current statistics as of September 15, 2011. How many complimentary subscriptions will CGCI be paying for? $68+201+3+346=618$

How many 100% clubs? 68

How many Life Members? 201

How many individual subscribers? 123

What is the total number of subscribers that receive their copy in the mail? 3065

Home Grown, Myrtle Findley

Home Grown is encouraging all gardeners to use space available at their residence to plant edible horticulture and enter HT-3 and HT-4. Gardeners, we are all gardeners, aren't we...even designers grow a few things in a soil of sorts. Hopefully, we are all 'gardening' and getting that healthy soil on our hands and feet. Award HT-4 with a January 10, 2012 deadline offers a most generous financial gift for photos and plot plan of a home vegetable or fruit garden! take those photos, draw up your plot plan....Three awards are offered and only two entries came last year.. How about a bit of competition from our 20,000 member gardeners?

Home Grown offers another gift to those who grow edibles: HT-3 is for the Best Green Recipe....That means you grow it before you eat it! Had some winners last year...Hope some of you tried that chicken! Yes, the chicken was 'home grown' and filled with home grown garlic.

Send my testing committee a big bunch of recipes....and let me know if you want to serve on that committee. Send the recipe with only the application and evaluation sheet to me, or you may email the three pages to me. This chairman recommends "Make that garden Organic", no chemicals please. Read labels carefully...even in your super market.

Honor Book, Geri May Thirloway

Since our Convention in May, I have received \$410 in Honor Book donations from one district's raffle, one from a garden club, and one from the Southwestern Judges Council. Some of these were in memory of the wonderful women we lost this summer and one was to honor a member for her invaluable contribution of her time and talent.

Landscape Design Council, Patricia Clayes

The council presently has approximately seventy-five members for the 2011-2013 term.

The council currently offers five awards:

- 1) Award of Merit in Landscape Architecture - to landscape architects
- 2) Landscape Design Commendations - to individuals or groups for good land use
- 3) Certificate of Recognition - to individuals or groups who have demonstrated outstanding skill in managing land use or enthusiastically supported the landscape design program of CGCI
- 4) B-3 Civic Landscaping Awards for landscaping an area in the community
- 5) Landscape Design Consultant of the Year

Over the summer, ten applications for council awards were submitted and approved by panels of three landscape design council members:

Award of Merit in Landscape Architecture

- Jeffrey F. Gamboni, L.A.

Landscape Design Commendations

- Harry Dedini
- Best Western/Country Inn, Fortuna
- Best Western Plus/Humboldt Bay Inn
- Best Western Plus/Bayshore Inn
- Tanya Finney, Superintendent – Los Angeles County Staff, South Coast Botanic Garden
- Russ Guiney, Director of Parks & Recreation, Los Angeles County
- Adrienne M. Lao, CEO, South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation
- Stockton Beautiful

Certificate of Recognition

- Corky & Tom Huffsmith

New application forms for the first three awards listed above under “The Council Currently Offers Five Awards” can be found on the CGCI website under “Other CGCI Programs & Projects/Landscape Design Council.” Complete instructions can be found at the top of each application form.

In late August, the CGCI Consultants eNewsletter was launched to 106 subscribers. Prior to this, all consultants (environmental, gardening and landscape design) were contacted and asked to return a postcard with their email addresses and express permissions if they wished to be added to the eNewsletter’s database. To see the first consultants’ eNewsletter, go to the Landscape Design Council’s page on the CGCI website and see the link. There is also a link to subscribe to the CGCI eNewsletter and the Consultants eNewsletter on the home page of the CGCI website, upper right side. Anyone can subscribe to both; all consultants are encouraged to subscribe to the Consultants eNewsletter.

Everyone is invited to attend the council meeting on Sunday, September 18, in the Yosemite Room at 9:00 a.m. The Gardening Consultants Council will meet at 9:45 a.m. At 10:30 a.m., there will be an awards presentation from both councils, and the recipients of the awards will speak about their landscape and gardening accomplishments and share their wisdom with us.

Landscape Design Schools, Alexis Slafer

Costa Verde District is sponsoring the Landscape Design School - Series 24, Course 4 - at the South Coast Botanic Gardens, Palos Verde Peninsula on September 22nd & 23rd, 2011.

Series 25, Course 1 sponsored by Colfax Garden Club, began September 10th, 2011 with the next courses being held weekly beginning October 8th, 2011 and the school ending on October 23, 2011.

A Bi-Refresher, sponsored by Dos Valles Garden Club, will be held in Valley Center on October 28th & 29th, 2011. Landscape Design School handouts are in the mailboxes & CGCI website.

Legislation/Government, Charles F. Goodwin, Jr.

- * **Light Bulb Update:** This Chairman previously reported that the familiar light bulb wattages of 40, 60, 75 and 100 have been reduced to 38, 57, 71 and 95 watts, Further changes to incandescent light bulbs takes place January 1, 2012. The 95 watt bulb is scheduled to be replaced with a new bulb, called the halogen incandescent bulb, rated at 72 watts. The light output will be greater than the current 71 watt bulb but less than 95 watt bulb, which will be restricted from sales in California. The 38, 57 and 71 watt bulb will later be replaced with equivalent halogen incandescents. The twisty spiral compact fluorescent continues to expand its market with new shapes and colors.
- * Medicare Part “D”: For any of our members who have signed up for Medicare Drug Plan Part “D” be aware that the next enrollment period dates have changed. The new enrollment period for 2011 begins October 15 and closes December 7. Last year the period ran from November 15 to December 31. If you get advice from an insurance expert, be sure to make your appointment ASAP while time slots are still available.

- * **State Fire Tax Fee:** The state of California is attempting to collect a fire fee or tax on parcels that are located outside of incorporated cities. In the more built-up rural areas many Fire Districts have been established to provide fire fighting services. These Districts usually have a parcel fee or other revenue generating plan to pay for the services. Additionally, CalFire, or the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, provides fire protection on rural lands that are not Federally owned. The proposed State Fire Fee is designed to replace CalFire funding that traditionally came from the State's general fund. The amount of the fee or its application is still being discussed but some estimates place it in the \$150 to \$175 per parcel range. This is in addition to any fire district fees.
- * **Possessory Interest Tax:** Is there a new change coming to your Garden Club? At least one County Assessor has sent tax bills to organizations who have held meetings in public buildings for as few as one day at a time. Traditionally, the possessory interest tax was collected on tenants who had leases or long term contracts occupying public property. The final outcome of this attempt to generate new revenue has not been determined, but this is another example of all levels of government attempting to find new revenue through the use of fees and special charges.
- * **State Parks Update:** There are some 278 State Parks in California. The Governor and Legislature have announced a \$22 million reduction in general fund expenditure for parks over the next two years. In response, the Department of Parks and Recreation has announced its plans to close 70 of the parks by July 1, 2012. Since voters soundly defeated the November 2010 ballot measure, sponsored by the California Parks Foundation, to fund State Parks with an \$18 license plate fee rather than from the State's general fund, attempts have been going forward on many fronts to keep as many of the 70 parks from being closed as possible. Two bills have just passed out of the Legislature and are on Governor Brown's desk, awaiting his decision to sign in to law or to veto. AB 42 (Jared Huffman (D), San Rafael) and SB 356 (Sam Blakeslee (R), San Luis Obispo) would authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation to enter into agreements with public agencies or qualified nonprofit organizations to operate a state park that is subject to closure.
- * **Sacramento and Washington, D.C. Government Contact List:** To help you identify and contact your elected officials I have prepared a contact list. It is being distributed to District Directors for them to copy for their clubs. There are additional copies at your request.

IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption, Mary-Jo Noth

Securing income tax exempt status requires compliance with IRS regulations. Fourteen clubs that were members of the CGCI Group Exemption have learned this since June; their tax-exempt status has been revoked by the IRS. This chairman notified each club of the consequences, and advised the clubs about reapplying directly to the IRS for reinstatement of their tax-exempt status. The first annual renewal letter for CGCI's Group Exemption with the revised list of subordinates was submitted to the California Franchise Tax Board before August 15 deadline. Information on the CGCI website has been updated. Members of the CGCI Group Exemption will receive their annual renewal packets by October 1. Paperwork must be returned to this chairman by February 1, 2012.

Master Gardener Liason, Hoberly Schuler

Information is being distributed to the District Directors at this meeting defining what the Master Gardener program is and why it can be of benefit to garden club members. It is the hope of this chairman to establish a better understanding of the Master Gardener program and how garden club members and Master Gardeners can work together for the mutual benefit of both.

Member Award of Distinction, Lynn Hansen

This chairman has issued four Member of Distinction Certificates. Honorees were Mary Waddington, San Fernando Valley District, Lois Bennett, Palms to Pines District, Sally Biersforff and Irene Mort, both from South Valley Fleurs Garden Club.

Operation Wildflower, Merrilee Ray

Plans are moving forward for the 2012 Wildflower Conference. The conference will be held in Palmdale, CA, April 4-6th, and the Host Hotel in Palmdale is the Palmdale Holiday Inn. Many educational programs will be on the schedule. Attendees will enjoy and be pleased with three days of

friendship, learning and excitement. The Conference Registration is \$100.00 per person, which includes programs and speakers, reception, entertainment, tour, lunch, dinner and a box lunch. It is hoped that everyone will mark their calendars NOW for this special event. The special group rate for rooms is \$99.95 plus tax. All reservations are to be made directly with the hotel and must indicate CGCI group affiliation when making reservations. Stay tuned....more to come. Hope to see you all there.

Penney Pines, Pat York

This chairman wants you to know that even though we have been on Summer vacation, the Penny Pines Program has continued to flourish with plantation notices sent this Summer. The only little problem is with the "In Honor" or "In Memory" of a special member or club friend. This could really be a problem for this chairman if she gets it wrong. Let us begin another year of CGCI work by working together with our clubs to continue this great program of replanting our many forests in our Golden State that have suffered a devastating fire. This chairman may be contacted by email but you have to include all the needed information.

Reforestation and Restoration, Judy Unrine

President Julie West has approved the continuation of Reforestation and Restoration for the next two years. At the present time, there is \$3,905 in this restricted fund. Remember when you wish to make a donation to Reforestation and Restoration, the check is made to CGCI and sent to this Chairman, Judy Unrine.

Shrubs/Trees. Linda Smith

When landscaping with trees and shrubs we must consider many questions before beginning. Evaluate your site. Does it allow for small or large specimens? Group water thirsty trees and shrubs together. Water deeply but less frequently to promote deep root systems. Consider California natives. They can be beautiful also. The salvia family has many to pick from. California ceanothus or toyon, can stand alone or can make an excellent hedge. Bring color to your gardens. Try a purple peppermint tree planted next to bright yellow coreopsis and then add a bright red canna to the mix. What a beautiful world we live in.

Sempervirens Fund, Rosa Radicchi

Sempervirens Fund works to protect and preserve our Redwood Forests. The Fund began in 1900 with the First State Park, Big Basin State Park located in the Santa Cruz Mountains. To date, donations and memorials total \$9,915 towards Grove #10. Currently, Sempervirens is working on a new proposal to replace the current Grove Program. An idea: clubs collect funds throughout the year and then purchase a memorial tree in the name of the club. If your club is interested in establishing a memorial tree, please contact this chairman for details. Currently, we are working on a date for dedication of the 10 year Presidents Tree at the Park. Thank you for your continued donations.

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest, Denise Davis

Smokey Bear is recognized nationally and internationally as the symbol for fire prevention. Beginning in 1944, Smokey's message has encouraged personal responsibility for fire prevention. Since 1971, Woodsy Owl has helped parents and teachers to inspire children to care for the environment.

This chairman has placed information on the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster contest in each of the District Directors folders. Please encourage your clubs to participate as this is a great opportunity for children to illustrate their understanding of wildfire prevention and environmental conservation principles.

State Parks, Janet Eyre

The State of California has recently announced that 70 state parks will close, starting this September. This is the result of the state budget cut recently signed into effect by Governor Jerry Brown. The closures are part of the government's attempt to reduce the states massive \$15 billion budget deficit. Services to the state parks have already been greatly reduced, due to previous fiscal reduction efforts "SB386 would require the state to post a notice if it plans to close a park and list contact information so that anyone interested in taking over its operation can contact the government.

Website, Ed Dempsey

Since the Convention, this chairman has been busy learning what this organization wants its web site to look like and what information you want on it. All facets of CGCI are available on the site plus articles of interest. All members have permission to add information to the web site. To apply, see CGCI Home Page and click on request website hosting on CGCI site. Let me know if you need any help getting your page on the site. Email me at webmaster@cagardenclubs.org or phone 916-723-2508. The Calendar Chairman lets me know what dates and information are important. We work together, she is the formatter and lets me know what the notice should look like and I upload the information.

Website Calendar, Dorothy Dempsey

The Calendar chairman posts special events on the CGCI website, for example: Plant Sales, Flower Shows, Garden Tours, Fundraisers, etc. To have your information posted on the CGCI website, go to the calendar page and fill out the request form, then click on the submit button, That's all there is to it.

CGCI 2011 Fall Board Meeting, Stockton - Attachment D

DISTRICT DIRECTORS REPORTS

Arboretum District, Shirley Stewart

The Arboretum District would be honored if the California Garden Clubs, Inc, would consider us to host the 2014 Winter Board Meeting. This was discussed at our June 13, 2011 District Meeting and approved by all the attendance. Please present our offer at the 2011 Fall Board Meeting in Stockton. Thank you for your consideration.

San Fernando Valley District, Pat Zarnowski

As of this date, no club meetings have been held for this new fiscal year, but work was done over the Summer. The most exciting news is that a contract is in the works for the June 2014 Convention, hosted by the San Fernando Valley District. The dates are June 5-9, 2014 and the location will be the Hilton - North Glendale, which is an exquisite hotel. More details to follow. We are all very excited and preparations have begun. Mark your calendars!

West Valley Garden Club is having a tea in October, "A Bountiful Harvest" which will be their major fundraiser. Southern California Garden Club is planning their 46th Standard Flower Show, "Holiday Celebrations", to be held March 2012.

Our District will have three meetings. The first in October featuring George Speer. His subject is what makes a club successful and the pitfalls to avoid. In February, Maryanne Lucas will speak on "Keeping Up with the Times", how technology will influence the character and function of our clubs. At our final meeting in June, CGCI President Julie A. West will be our special guest.

2011 Fall Board Meeting, Stockton, Attachment E

2011 CGCI Fall Board COURTESY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS,

The members of California Garden Clubs, Inc. attending the 2011 Fall Board Meeting at the Hilton Hotel in Stockton, California September 15-18, 2011 have benefited from information learned at the Fall Board Meeting and will disseminate this information to their districts, clubs, associate plant societies and affiliates; and

WHEREAS,

California Garden Clubs, Inc. President, Julie West, the officers, chairmen and members have served this organization with distinction, now therefore be it

RESOLVED,

That CGCI President Julie West, through her gracious presiding, and the members, chairmen and officers, through their dedicated concern in the deliberations of this meeting, be commended for their spirit of cooperation; and

RESOLVED,

That sincere thanks be given to the Valley Lode District, Bob Taylor, District Director, Chelsea Wilson, Chairman of the Fall Board Meeting, as well as all the members of the district who planned and participated in the success of the meeting and assured its success by their many courtesies extended; and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation be extended to our own Board of Director members, George Speers, Robin Pokorski and Pat Clayes for their special ways of spoon feeding needed information into us, and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation be given to the following workshop presenters: Kay Kiriara, "Learn about Herbs"; Mary Lou Rice, Judy Spencer and the Modesto Garden Club, "Uses of Photos for Garden Clubs"; and Anna Vieriera and Donna Nicolau, "Taste the Many Flavors"; and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation also be extended to Price Sheppy for his special presentation of Project Mission Blue, and that of Katrina Agamau, Weston and Christine Cook on the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show, and

RESOLVED,

That thanks be given to our speakers John Gray, "Gardens of Scotland"; Suzanne Breshears "Purposeful Unusual Plants" and Annie Joseph, "Water Pollution Prevention" and to the staff of the Hilton Hotel, and

RESOLVED,

That this resolution be incorporated into the minutes and that copies be sent to CGCI President Julie West, Convention Chairmen Chelsea Wilson, Secretary Geri May Thirloway and Alex and Karla of the Hilton Hotel.

Joan Craig
Courtesy Resolutions Chairman (Adopted September 17, 2011)

