

**California Garden Clubs, Inc.**

**Winter Board Meeting**

February 14-15, 2014

Hilton Hotel, Glendale, CA

**President: Rita Desilets**

Host: Arboretum District

President Rita Desilets called the meeting (#1) to order on Friday, February 14 at 4:00 p.m.

The Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Circle of Poppies member, Doris Nagy.

The inspiration was given by Kathy Bramhall, Cascade Co-District Director.

President Rita Desilets presented the CGCI Executive Committee, former CGCI presidents, Circle of Poppies member and Pages.

Without objection President Rita Desilets appointed Lorraine Ornelas as Timekeeper.

Arboretum District Director Mary Betlatch welcomed the CGCI Board of Directors to the Winter Board Meeting.

President Rita Desilets thanked Arboretum District, 2014 Winter Board Meeting Chairman, Shirley Stewart and the Host Committee for their generous hospitality.

President Rita Desilets installed Carol Jauregui as Co-Director of Buttes District.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst called the roll and the chair declared a quorum.

**EXCUSED:** Edie Adams; Gloria Aminian; Penny Binney; Terri Blomker; Anne Capes; Joan Craig; Laura Crenshaw; Rob Crenshaw; Carolyn Daniels; Joyce Dean; Sara Delperdang; B.J. Doerfling; Dann Dunst; Rebecca Ferguson; Myrtle Findley; Helen Gates; Mary Lou Goodwin; LaVerne Harms; Joelle Holford; Rosalie Hooper; Carolyn Hoyum; Tonya Judkins; Monica Lewis; Niarja Marchand; Carol Mayo; Carley Metcalf; Angela Michaels; Dolores Moffat; Marilyn Oberti; Gertrude Paul; Ruth Pimentel; Linda Riddle; Lynn Rose; Dorothy Roton; Hoberley Schuler; Robert Schuler; Sue Swackhammer; Elisabeth Tufo; John Vafis; Bonnie Wagner; Martha Ann Walter; Pat York

President Rita Desilets announced that the Rules of Order for Board Meetings were accepted at the Organizational Meeting in June 2013 for this entire term and can be found on page 6 of the Winter Board Meeting Program as well as on pages 26-27 of the new 2013-2014 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*.

Shirley Stewart, 2014 Winter Board Chairman, moved to adopt the Winter Board Meeting Program as printed. **Passed.**

Robin Pokorski presented the Winter Board Registration Report with a total of 125.

Lorraine Ornelas moved to adopt the minutes of the September 5-7, 2013 Fall Board Meeting in Costa Mesa as distributed by CGCI Mail Distribution on October 10, 2013 – Lorraine Ornelas, Chairman, Greg Pokorski, and Sue Bennett. **Passed as corrected.**

Without objection, President Rita Desilets appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of this meeting: Lorraine Ornelas, Chairman, Greg Pokorski and Sue Bennett.

### **Financial Reports**

Treasurer Joan Patten and Financial Secretary Shane Looper reported.

- **Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2014**

<b>CURRENT ASSETS: <u>Checking/Savings Accounts</u></b>	
Business Max Acct 4096-[.04%J	\$ 42,652.17
CGCI BofA 12962-Checking Account	\$ 62,644.67
CGCI BofA Symposium-Checking Account	\$ 4,840.52
CGCI BofA Events - Checking Account	\$ 5,011.00
Golden Gardens BofA 06688-Checking Account	\$ 19,483.98
<b>Total Cash in Checking/Savings Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 134,632.34</b>
<b><u>Certificates of Deposit</u></b>	
Luther Burbank CD 899-2-[May 31, 2014/.98 %]	\$ 62,366.58
Luther Burbank CD 075-3[Apr.3, 2014/.93%]	\$ 30,890.36
<b>Total Checking/Savings Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 227,889.28</b>
<b><u>Other Assets – Long Term</u></b>	
PREPAID DEPOSITS-Hotel & Meeting Deposits	\$ 0.00
US Bank 7664-[Apr. 08, 2014/ 4.00%]	\$ 93,892.20
Principal Financial CGCI Endowment	\$ 35,552.34
Principal Financial Scholarship Endowment	\$ 71,678.17
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$ 201,122.71</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS:</b>	<b>\$ 429,011.99</b>
LESS: Board Designated Net Assets	\$ 152,474.43
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$ 50,450.23
Permanently Restricted Net Assets	\$ 118,423.01
<b>Cash Balance Available</b>	<b>\$ 107,664.32</b>

Financial report was filed as corrected.

### **Officer's Reports**

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported. See Attachment A

Communications Director Jane McKee reported. See Attachment A

Treasurer Joan Patten reported.

Financial Secretary Shane Looper reported.

Corresponding Secretary Rosa Radicchi reported. See Attachment A

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst reported that the submission deadline for reports is February 18, 2014.

Third Vice-President Josie Goodenow reported. See Attachment A

Josie Goodenow moved to ratify the following clubs, Associate Plant Societies and Affiliate.

**Passed.**

**Clubs:**

Organization of Floral Art Designers / 46 members

Bakersfield Garden Club / 78 members

San Clemente Tree Foundation / 20 members

San Geronio Garden Club / 39 members

Clovis Botanical Garden Committee / 390 members

Contra Costa Rose Society / 60 members

**Associate Plant Societies:**

Kern County Rose Society / 40 members

American Begonia Society, Whittier Branch / 10 members

**Affiliate:**

Seed Library of Los Angeles

Josie Goodenow moved to ratify the following Orange County District club's name change from The Oasis Garden Club to Oasis Senior Garden Club. **Passed.**

Second Vice-President Krystal Migliore reported. See Attachment A

First Vice-President Sue Bennett reported. See Attachment A

President Rita Desilets reported. See Attachment A

**Standing and Special Committee Reports**

Board of Trustees Chairman Robin Pokorski reported. See Attachment B

Life Membership Chairman Carlotta Wixon reported. See Attachment B

Carlotta Wixon moved to ratify the following CGCI and NGC Life Members. **Passed.**

**CGCI**

Cline, DeeDee

Redding Wonderland GC

Cascade District

Hill, Carolyn

Temecula Valley GC

Palomar District

McGinnis, Vernell

Desert Crossroads GC

Roadrunner District

Sandoval, Ed

Cactus Wren GC

Roadrunner District

**National Garden Club, Inc.**

Doran, Linda

N/A

N/A

Nominating Committee Chairman Shane Looper reported. See Attachment B

CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program Chairman Bev Davis moved to ratify the following groups to the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program:

- Crown Garden Club of Coronado, Palomar District
- Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society, San Fernando Valley District
- Organization of Floral Art Designers, Bay Ocean District. **Passed.**

2013 Fall Board Chairman Annie Hall Bosché reported there were 106 in attendance.

2014 CGCI Convention Chairman Robin Pokorski reported. See Attachment B

First Vice-President Sue Bennett moved to elect Rilla Crane as a delegate to the Pacific Region Convention in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho July 1-3, 2014. **Passed.**

Meeting was recessed at 5:20 p.m.

The meeting (#2) reconvened on Saturday, February 15, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Communications Director Jane McKee presented a workshop on the website.

Bylaws and Policy Committee Chairman Sue Bennett introduced committee members and announced that the Executive Committee unanimously recommends the following amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Bylaws and Policy Committee Chairman Sue Bennett moved on behalf of the Bylaws and Policy Committee that the following bylaw amendments be recommended to the voting membership at Convention 2014 in Glendale.

**1) ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP & DUES (page 83)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 3. (b) The per capita dues of any new club or associate plant society shall accompany application for membership. Clubs or associate plant societies shall forward dues on a quarterly basis for new members accepted during the previous quarter to the membership chairman.

*Amend* by replacing the words "on a quarterly basis" with "periodically", replace "new" with "additional" and replace "accepted during the previous quarter" with "joining after July 1".

**To Read:**

Sec. 3. (b) The per capita dues of any new club or associate plant society shall accompany application for membership. Clubs or associate plant societies shall forward dues periodically for additional members joining after July 1 to the membership chairman.

**Rationale:** To coincide with what the membership chairman sends out.

**PASSED**

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**2) ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES (page 84)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 5. The corresponding secretary shall:

(c) mail (electronic or postal), following the organizational meeting, the official roster of names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of CGCI officers, district directors and chairmen to the Pacific Region alternate director and to NGC headquarters, and subsequent changes as they

occur; (d) mail (electronic or postal), following notification from the membership and life membership chairmen, the names and addresses of CGCI president, *Golden Gardens eNews* editor, club and associate plant society presidents, and current list of NGC life members to NGC headquarters, ATTN: Circulation,

*Amend* by removing CGCI in (c) and (d).

**To Read:**

Sec. 5. The corresponding secretary shall:

(c) mail (electronic or postal), following the organizational meeting, the official roster of names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of officers, district directors and chairmen to the Pacific Region alternate director and to NGC headquarters, and subsequent changes as they occur; (d) mail (electronic or postal), following notification from the membership and life membership chairmen, the names and addresses of president, *Golden Gardens eNews* editor, club and associate plant society presidents, and current list of NGC life members to NGC headquarters, ATTN: Circulation,

**Rationale:** To remove unnecessary wording.

**PASSED**

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**3) ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES (page 84)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 8. The communications director shall oversee: (a) the creation and distribution of publications including, but not limited to, *Golden Gardens e-News, Yearbook, Manual & Roster*, press releases and brochures; and  
(b) the website.

*Amend* by striking “*Manual & Roster*.”.

**To Read:**

Sec. 8. The communications director shall oversee: (a) the creation and distribution of publications including, but not limited to, *Golden Gardens eNews, Yearbook*, press releases and brochures; and  
(b) the website.

**Rationale:** Simplification for everyone who uses it and or references it.

**DEFEATED**

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**4) ARTICLE VI - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS (page 85)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 1. OFFICERS:

(b) Eligibility:

3. The treasurer, communications director, recording, corresponding, and financial secretaries, shall be eligible for two terms. No officer shall serve longer than four years in any one position except that eligibility restrictions shall not apply to the appointive office of parliamentarian.

*Amend* by replacing “two” with “four two-year” and replace “four” with “eight”.

**To Read:**

Sec. 1. OFFICERS:

(b) Eligibility:

3. The treasurer, communications director, recording, corresponding, and financial secretaries, shall be eligible for four two-year terms. No officer shall serve longer than eight years in any one position except that eligibility restrictions shall not apply to the appointive office of parliamentarian.

**Rationale:** To allow specialized skilled members to serve longer in a position.

**PASSED**

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**5) ARTICLE VI - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS (page 85)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 1. OFFICERS:

(b) Eligibility:

*Amend* by inserting new 7.

**To Read:**

7. A candidate shall have a written endorsement from his/her district; a maximum of two one-page letters of recommendation and a one-page resume form of the candidate’s related qualifications and experience. All information shall be sent directly to the Nominating Committee Chairman by the candidate. Upon receipt of this material, the Nominating Committee Chairman shall send copies to the members of the Committee for the study of the candidate’s qualifications.

**Rationale:** Requires some minimum level of commitment on the part of the prospective candidate and creates more transparent nomination process – eliminating elements of secrecy surrounding those candidates who are being considered for office.

**PASSED AS AMENDED**

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**6) ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS (page 86)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 1 Composition of the CGCI board of directors shall be: (a) officers; (b) district directors, (c) members of the nominating committee; (d) members of the board of trustees; (e) members of the advisory council; (f) members of the bylaws committee; (g) members of the Circle of Poppies; (h) editor and members of the *Golden Gardens eNews* committee; and (i) all committee chairmen. One-third shall constitute a quorum. No member shall be entitled to more than one vote.

*Amend* by deleting “CGCI”.

**To Read:**

Sec. 1 Composition of the board of directors shall be: (a) officers; (b) district directors; (c) members of the nominating committee; (d) members of the board of trustees; (e) members of the advisory council; (f) members of the bylaws committee; (g) members of the Circle of Poppies; (h) editor and members of the *Golden Gardens eNews* committee; and (i) all committee chairmen. One-third shall constitute a quorum. No member shall be entitled to more than one vote.

**Rationale:** To remove unnecessary wording.

**PASSED**

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**7) ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS (page 86)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 2. The board of directors shall be the governing body of this corporation and shall:

- (a) at no time modify action taken by members at the annual convention;
- (b) transact routine business,
- (c) adopt policies and procedures;
- (d) adopt standing rules; and
- (e) ratify all classes of membership.

*Amend* by striking “(c) adopt policies and procedures” and re-alphabetize.

**To Read:**

Sec. 2. The board of directors shall be the governing body of this corporation and shall:

- (a) at no time modify action taken by members at the annual convention;
- (b) transact routine business;
- (c) adopt standing rules; and
- (d) ratify all classes of membership.

**Rationale:** Board does not adopt policies and procedures.

**PASSED**

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**8) ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS (page 87)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 7. Business may be conducted by mail (electronic or postal) when necessary. A report of any action taken by mail shall be made a part of the minutes of the next board meeting.

*Amend* by replacing Section 7 with new Section 7.

**To Read:**

Sec. 7. Business of the Board of Directors (including all committees and the Board of Trustees) may be conducted by mail (electronic or postal) or by telephone conference (as long as all members may simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting). A report of any action taken by the Board of Directors by mail or by telephone conference shall be announced and made part of the minutes of the next board meeting.

**Rationale:** To allow for electronic meetings for all committees and the Board of Trustees.

**PASSED**

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**9) ARTICLE IX - DISTRICTS & DISTRICT DIRECTORS (page 87)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 1. The state shall be divided into districts as set forth in the standing rules. A district shall be governed by its individual bylaws which shall not conflict with those of CGCI. Dues in a district shall be at the option of the individual district.

*Amend* by inserting: “of California” after state, insert “All clubs shall belong to a district.” as the 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence; replace “Dues in a district” to read “District dues”.

**To Read:**

Sec. 1. The state of California shall be divided into districts as set forth in the standing rules. All clubs shall belong to a district. A district shall be governed by its individual bylaws which shall not conflict with those of CGCI. District dues shall be at the option of the individual district.

**Rationale:** To clarify that clubs shall belong to a district.

**PASSED**

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**10) ARTICLE XI - ANNUAL MEETINGS (pages 88/89)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 11. Financial records of the convention shall be maintained under the direction of the district convention chairman and shall be reviewed by a member of the budget and finance committee. Copies are to be filed with the president, financial secretary, treasurer, and boards and conventions chairman within ninety (90) days of the close of convention.

*Amend* by deleting “district”.

**To Read:**

Sec. 11. Financial records of the convention shall be maintained under the direction of the convention chairman and shall be reviewed by a member of the budget and finance committee. Copies are to be filed with the president, financial secretary, treasurer, and boards and conventions chairman within ninety (90) days of the close of convention.

**Rationale:** The title is convention chairman; it is a CGCI ratified office.

**PASSED**

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**11) ARTICLE XII – FINANCES (page 89)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 7. (c) president-elect’s reimbursement of up to \$1,500.00 for verified expenses incurred in attending one meeting of NGC;

*Amend* by replacing “\$1,500.00 with \$2,000.00” and replacing “one meeting of NGC” with “the Pacific Region and the NGC Conventions; expenses over and above may be presented to the Board of Directors for approval;”.

**To Read:**

Sec. 7. (c) president-elect’s reimbursement of up to \$2,000.00 for verified expenses incurred in attending the Pacific Region and NGC Conventions; expenses over and above may be presented to the Board of Directors for approval;

**Rationale:** Increase reimbursement due to rising cost. The president-elect attends both the Pacific Region and NGC Conventions.

**PASSED**

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**12) ARTICLE XII – FINANCES (page 89)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 7. (d) a reimbursement of up to \$1,500.00 annually for verified expenses when the Pacific Region director is from California.

*Amend* by deleting and replacing with new Sec. 7. (d)

**To Read:**

Sec. 7. (d) Pacific Region director’s reimbursement of up to \$1,500.00 annually for verified expenses when from California.

**Rationale:** To clarify

**PASSED**

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**13) ARTICLE XIII - Golden Gardens eNews (page 89/90)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 5 The financial secretary shall submit the annual *Golden Gardens eNews* budget for adoption at the organizational meeting.

*Amend* by deleting Section 5 (renumber remaining section).

**Rationale:** There is no separate *Golden Gardens eNews* budget.

**PASSED**

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#### **14) ARTICLE XIV - BOARD OF TRUSTEES (page 90)**

##### **Now Reads:**

Sec. 1. The board of trustees shall consist of six (6) members, two of whom shall be replaced each even- numbered year, to serve for a six-year term. In the even-numbered year the immediate past president shall become a member, and the president shall appoint a member who has served on the board of directors. No trustee shall serve more than two terms, and the terms shall not be consecutive. No trustee shall serve concurrently as an officer.

Sec. 2. Immediately following the post-convention meeting in an odd-numbered, election year and immediately following the pre-convention meeting in an even-numbered, non-election year, the president shall call a meeting of the board of trustees to elect a chairman and secretary who shall serve for one year and may be reelected for an additional one-year term. Four members shall constitute a quorum. If the chairman is unable to represent the trustees at board meetings, the secretary may act as alternate. Board of trustees shall meet upon the call of the chairman, or secretary acting in the absence of the chairman.

Sec. 3. After the following reviews, board of trustees shall make recommendations in writing to the executive committee before any action by the board of directors: (a) review of investments; (b) review of new gifts or donations to assure the best resolution for the donor and the corporation; (c) review of existing gifts or donations to assure that the administration of the funds is as directed by the grantors; and (d) monitor bank accounts to ensure they do not exceed the limit insured by the FDIC.

Sec. 4. The board of trustees, together with the scholarship chairman, shall constitute the scholarship committee.

Sec. 5. Board of trustees chairman shall report to the board of directors at all board meetings and conventions.

Sec. 6. Board of trustees is established as the endowment funds committee.

Sec.7. The board of trustees together with the Golden Legacy Society chairman, shall constitute the Golden Legacy Society committee.

*Amend* by deleting entire **ARTICLE XIV** and replacing it with new **ARTICLE XIV**.

#### **ARTICLE XIV - BOARD OF TRUSTEES (page 90)**

##### **To Read:**

Sec. 1. The Board of Trustees shall consist of six (6) members, two of whom shall be replaced each even- numbered year, to serve for a six-year term. In the even-numbered year, the immediate past president shall be extended the option to become a member, and the president shall appoint a member who has served on the board of directors. Assumption of duties shall commence upon the close of convention. No trustee shall serve concurrently as an officer. A trustee may serve more than one term but terms shall not be consecutive.

Sec. 2. The Board of Trustees shall meet upon call of the chairman, or secretary acting in absence of the chairman. Four members shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 3. The chairman shall report to the board of directors at all board meetings and conventions. If the chairman is unable to report the secretary may act as alternate.

Sec. 4. Prior to the organizational meeting each year the Board of Trustees shall elect a chairman and secretary who shall serve for one year. The name of this chairman shall be given to the president prior to the organizational meeting.

Sec. 5. The Board of Trustees shall make recommendations in writing to the executive committee prior to any action by the board of directors regarding: (a) investments, (b) new gifts or donations to assure the best resolution for the donor and the corporation, and (c) existing gifts or donations to ensure that the administration of the funds is as directed by the grantors.

Sec. 6. The Board of Trustees, together with the Scholarship Chairman, shall constitute the Scholarship Committee.

Sec. 7. The Board of Trustees, together with the Golden Legacy Chairman, shall constitute the Golden Legacy Society Committee.

Sec. 8. The Board of Trustees shall constitute the Endowment Committee which shall oversee the Endowment Fund and Scholarship Endowment Fund as directed in the charters of the two funds. The Endowment Promotion Chairman shall be a non-voting member of the Endowment Committee.

**Rationale:** To update and standardize the wording and to allow a non-Trustee to serve on the Endowment Committee.

**PASSED**

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**ARTICLE XIV - BOARD OF TRUSTEES (revised)** if approved then the following two items need to be adopted as well.

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**15) ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES (page 84)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 6. The financial secretary shall: (a) issue authorization, using the warrant system, to the treasurer for all budgeted expenses, transfer of funds, and for payment of all bills authorized by the board of directors; (b) prepare financial statements for board of directors meetings; (c) serve as chairman of the budget and finance committee.

*Amend* by inserting “; and” after committee and adding new “(d)” to end of Section.

**To Read:**

Sec. 6. The financial secretary shall: (a) issue authorization, using the warrant system, to the treasurer for all budgeted expenses, transfer of funds, and for payment of all bills authorized by the board of directors; (b) prepare financial statements for board of directors meetings; (c) serve as chairman of the budget and finance committee; and (d) monitor bank accounts to ensure they do not exceed the limit insured by the FDIC.

**Rationale:** To bring up-to-date with new Board of Trustees changes **ARTICLE XIV**.

**PASSED**

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**16) ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES (page 84)**

**Now Reads:**

Sec. 7. The treasurer shall: (a) receive all monies collected in the name of CGCI; (b) deposit all monies in the name of CGCI with a bank(s) authorized by the board of directors in designated general or specific accounts; (c) administer CGCI funds as authorized by the board of directors; (d) sign all checks, (e) upon receipt of authorization from the financial secretary, issue checks for payment of bills; (f) upon receipt of authorization from the awards chairman issue checks to award winners; and (g) prepare financial statements for the board of directors' meetings.

*Amend* by deleting “and” before “(g)” inserting “; and” after “meetings” and adding new “(h)” to end of Section.

**To Read:**

Sec. 7. The treasurer shall: (a) receive all monies collected in the name of CGCI; (b) deposit all monies in the name of CGCI with a bank(s) authorized by the board of directors in designated general or specific accounts; (c) administer CGCI funds as authorized by the board of directors; (d) sign all checks, (e) upon receipt of authorization from the financial secretary, issue checks for payment of bills; (f) upon receipt of authorization from the awards chairman issue checks to award winners; (g) prepare financial statements for the board of directors' meetings; and (h) monitor bank accounts to ensure they do not exceed the limit insured by the FDIC.

**Rationale:** To bring up-to-date with new Board of Trustees changes **ARTICLE XIV.**

**PASSED**

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**Standing Rules**

Bylaws and Policy Committee Chairman Sue Bennett moved on behalf of the Bylaws and Policy Committee to amend the following standing rules. If passed, the Standing Rules changes become effective immediately.

**17) Title (page 91)**

**Now Reads:**

*ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, BYLAWS, POLICY BOOK, MOTIONS*

*Amend* by striking entire line

**Rationale:** Erroneous subtitle

**PASSED**

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**18) SR1 (page 91)**

**Now Reads:**

***GOLDEN FOOTHILLS*** - Counties of El Dorado, Nevada, and Placer and Organic Gardening Club of Sacramento County.

*Amend* by striking “, “(comma) after “Nevada” and striking “and Organic Gardening Club of Sacramento County”.

**To Read:**

***GOLDEN FOOTHILLS*** - Counties of El Dorado, Nevada and Placer.

**Rationale:** Removal of exceptions to geographical boundaries; otherwise it will become too cumbersome.

**PASSED**

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**19) SR1 (page 91)**

**Now Reads:**

***PALMS TO PINES*** - Western San Bernardino and western Riverside Counties; to northern and eastern boundaries of San Bernardino National Forest area, excluding Temecula Valley Garden Club..

*Amend* by striking “, excluding Temecula Valley Garden Club..”.

**To Read:**

***PALMS TO PINES*** - Western San Bernardino and western Riverside Counties; to northern and eastern boundaries of San Bernardino National Forest area.

**Rationale:** Removal of exceptions to geographical boundaries; otherwise it will become too cumbersome.

**PASSED**

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**20) SR1 (page 92)**

**Now Reads:**

***PALOMAR*** - Counties of San Diego and Imperial and including Temecula Valley Garden Club.

Amend by striking “and including Temecula Valley Garden Club”.

**To Read:**

**PALOMAR** - Counties of San Diego and Imperial.

**Rationale:** Removal of exceptions to geographical boundaries; otherwise it will become too cumbersome.

**PASSED**

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**21) SR1 (page 92)**

**Now Reads:**

**SACRAMENTO RIVER VALLEY** - Counties of Sacramento, Solano, Yolo, Sutter and one club in the state of Nevada.

Amend by striking “and one club in the state of Nevada”; insert after Sutter “(Rios Oso area) and Yuba (Wheatland area)”.

**To Read:**

**SACRAMENTO RIVER VALLEY** - Counties of Sacramento, Solano, Yolo, Sutter (Rios Oso area) and Yuba (Wheatland area).

**Rationale:** Removal of exceptions to geographical boundaries; otherwise it will become too cumbersome.

**PASSED**

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**22) 2. (page 92)**

**Now Reads:**

2. Articles of Incorporation shall be printed before the bylaws. Standing rules shall be printed after the bylaws. Policy shall be printed after the standing rules.

Amend by replacing 2 with new 2.

**To Read:**

2. The order printed in the *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* shall be Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policy.

**Rationale:** To clarify.

**PASSED**

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**23) SR6 (page 92)**

**Now Reads:**

Proposals to endorse any products or commercial enterprises shall be thoroughly investigated, and approved by the board of directors to determine that such endorsement would not be in conflict with CGCI's stated objectives, or jeopardize CGCI's tax exempt status at any government level.

Amend by deleting and replacing with new SR6.

**To Read:**

The Board of Directors shall investigate and approve all proposals to endorse any products or commercial enterprises to determine if such endorsement would be in conflict with CGCI's stated objectives or jeopardize CGCI's tax exempt status.

**Rationale:** To simplify.

**PASSED**

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**24) SR35 (page 93)**

**Now Reads:**

Expenses of up to \$300 may be allocated to a CGCI member who will represent CGCI by participating in a special unbudgeted event by request of NGC. This must have the approval of the executive committee and will not include normal chairmanship activities. The money shall come from the general fund.

*Amend* by deleting and replacing with new SR35.

**To Read:**

The executive committee shall approve the expenses of up to \$300 allocated to a member who shall represent CGCI by participating in a special unbudgeted event by request of NGC. Normal chairmanship activities will not be included. The money shall come from the general fund.

**Rationale:** To remove unnecessary wording.

**PASSED**

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**25) SR52 (page 93)**

**Now Reads:**

Program expenses and complimentary tickets shall be approved by the president when involving the CGCI convention fund.

*Amend* by deleting and replacing with new SR52.

**To Read:**

The president shall approve program expenses and complimentary tickets that involve the convention fund.

**Rationale:** To simplify.

**PASSED**

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**26) WEBSITE SR60 (page 94)**

**Now Reads**

1. Definition: The website shall be the internet portal for official information and general information relevant to the mission and goals of CGCI.
2. There may be a communications coordinator, who shall work with the webmaster and the hired website provider. Money for technical assistance shall be in the budget.
3. Website Links:
  - a. The website may post links to CGCI district websites, the website of NGC including regions thereof, CGCI affiliates, associate plant societies and clubs that are CGCI members in good standing.
  - b. Links to horticulture, design and environmental organizations that are not members or affiliates of CGCI are not accepted unless approved by the executive committee.
  - c. It shall be the policy of CGCI not to accept commercial links except those of businesses that are official members of the CGCI participating sponsors program or other official CGCI business partnership program.
4. The website may contain, but is not limited to:
  - a. General Information, items of benefit to garden club members as well as non-members: e.g. calendar of events, educational schools, membership.
  - b. Official CGCI information, convention and board of directors meeting information including minutes and annual financial statements; Articles of Incorporation; bylaws and standing rules. Any other information the president shall deem necessary.
5. Advertising - Only those ads approved by the executive committee or by a chairman designated by the executive committee shall be accepted.

6. Endorsements - Only endorsements approved by the board of directors shall be posted.

Amend by deleting and replacing with new SR60.

**To Read:**

1. The website shall be chaired by the Communications Director and include:
  - a. items of interest to members as well as non-members, e.g., calendar of events, educational schools, membership and forms;
  - b. convention and board meeting information (the call and minutes), annual financial statements, Articles of Incorporation, amended sets of Bylaws and Standing Rules;
  - c. advertising approved by the executive committee or a designated chairman; and
  - d. endorsements approved by the Board of Directors.
2. Links:
  - a. districts, affiliates, associate plant societies and clubs that are members in good standing, Pacific Region and NGC;
  - b. non-member horticulture, design and environmental organizations or affiliates upon approval by the executive committee;
  - c. commercial links approved by the executive committee or a designated chairman;
3. Money for technical assistance shall be in the budget.

**Rationale:** To clarify.

**PASSED AS AMENDED**

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**27) SR70 (page 94)**

**Now Reads:**

70. Membership chairman shall send, by July 1, a list of all clubs, associate plant societies and affiliates with names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of the presidents, treasurers and youth gardener leaders to the CGCI president, vice-presidents, corresponding secretary, CGCI group tax exemption program chairman, *Golden Gardens eNews* circulation chairman, *Golden Gardens eNews* editor, liability insurance chairman, website chairman, yearbook chairman, youth activities chairman and zip code club finder service chairman. The list should follow the format of the state roster.

Amend by removing "CGCI" before president (3<sup>rd</sup> line).

**To Read:**

70. Membership chairman shall send, by July 1, a list of all clubs, associate plant societies and affiliates with names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of the presidents, treasurers and youth gardener leaders to the president, vice-presidents, corresponding secretary, CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program chairman, *Golden Gardens eNews* circulation chairman, *Golden Gardens eNews* editor, liability insurance chairman, website chairman, yearbook chairman, youth activities chairman and zip code club finder service chairman. The list should follow the format of the state roster.

**Rationale:** To remove unnecessary wording.

**PASSED**

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**28) SR73 (page 94)**

**Now Reads:**

73. Affiliates shall (1) be organizations with one or more CGCI objectives, (2) have a membership of at least ten members, (3) pay dues in accordance with Article IV, Sec. 3(c), (4) be approved by the CGCI board of directors, and (5) not be eligible for liability insurance, awards program and CGCI group tax exemption program. In addition, affiliates may also belong to a district.

Amend by removing "CGCI" before board of directors (near end of 2<sup>nd</sup> line).

**To Read:**

73. Affiliates shall (1) be organizations with one or more CGCI objectives, (2) have a membership of at least ten members, (3) pay dues in accordance with Article IV, Sec. 3(c), (4) be approved by the Board of Directors, and (5) not be eligible for liability insurance, awards program and CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program. In addition, affiliates may also belong to a district.

**Rationale:** To remove unnecessary wording.

**PASSED**

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**29) SR77 (page 94)**

**Now Reads:**

A club may be designated a club-at-large by the board of directors because it is geographically located in an inactive district. It shall pay annual per capita dues and be eligible to apply for liability insurance, awards program and CGCI group tax exemption program. It shall be informed about CGCI activities and functions of special interest by a designated chairman.

*Amend by Deleting SR77.*

**Rationale:** Clean up; term is no longer used.

**PASSED**

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**30) SR93 (page 94) Now Reads:**

CGCI shall not accept advertising for the *Yearbook, Manual and Roster*.

*Amend by replacing with new SR93.*

**To Read:**

The *Yearbook, Manual, & Roster* shall not include advertising.

**Rationale:** To clarify.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**31) MISCELLANEOUS SR107 (page 95)**

**Now Reads:**

Budgeted funds for chairmen and district directors are for administrative expenses, i.e. postage, copying, office supplies, print cartridges, etc. Allowable expenses exclude board meeting and convention registration fees, transportation, lodging and meals.

*Amend by inserting "officers," before chairmen and replace last sentence with "This excludes all expenses incurred in attending conventions and board meetings except for President and president-elect."*

**To Read:**

Budgeted funds for officers, chairmen and district directors are for administrative expenses, i.e. postage, copying, office supplies, print cartridges, etc. This excludes all expenses incurred in attending conventions and board meetings except for President and president-elect.

**Rationale:** To clarify.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**32) MISCELLANEOUS NEW SR109 (page 95)**

1. No member should vote on a question in which they have a direct personal or pecuniary interest.
2. To protect this tax-exempt organization's interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of an officer or Board of Directors;
  - a) an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the Board of Directors,
  - b) the Board of Directors shall decide if a conflict of interest exists,

- c) if a conflict exists, the Board of Directors, after exercising due diligence, shall determine whether the organization can obtain with reasonable efforts a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest. If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the board of directors shall determine whether the transaction or arrangement is in the organization's best interest, for its own benefit.

**Rationale:** To conform to government regulations.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

President Rita Desilets recessed the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

The meeting (#3) was reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst read the Executive Committee Ratifications / Recommendations.

**Appointments**

That the appointment of Pat Zarnowski as the 2014 CGCI Convention Treasurer be ratified.

**Passed.**

**Ratifications**

**2014**

- May 3 Landscape Design School Refresher, Host: Colfax Garden Club, Registrar: Ingrid Elsel.
- June 5-8 CGCI 83<sup>rd</sup> Convention, Glendale Hilton, Host: San Fernando Valley District, Chairman and Registrar: Robin Pokorski
- June 6 & 9 TRI-REFRESHER, Glendale Hilton, Host: California Consultants Council, Chairman: Julie A. West, Registrar Robin Pokorski
- August 3-5 CGCI Flower Show School Symposium, Holiday Inn, Auburn  
Chairman: Mary Arakelian
- August 7-8 Environmental Studies School, Series 6, Course I, Riviera Garden Club, South Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula  
Chairman: Geneva Martin, Registrar: Marybeth Muir
- November 13-14 Environmental Studies School, Series 6, Course II, Riviera Garden Club, South Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula  
Chairman: Geneva Martin, Registrar: Marybeth Muir

**2015**

- January 23-25 CGCI Flower Show School Symposium, Bakersfield; Chairman: Mary Arakelian
- February 19-20 Environmental Studies School, Series 6, Course III, Riviera Garden Club, South Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula  
Chairman: Geneva Martin, Registrar: Marybeth Muir
- April 30-May 1 Environmental Studies School, Series 6, Course IV, Riviera Garden Club, South Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula  
Chairman: Geneva Martin, Registrar: Marybeth Muir. **All Passed.**



**Recommendations:**

1. That the 2014 CGCI Convention registration fee be \$50 and early registration postmarked by May 20, 2014 be \$35, one-day fee \$20 and early registration fee postmarked by May 20, 2014 be \$10. **Passed.**
2. That effective immediately no further clubs or districts be added to the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program for the remainder of the fiscal year (ending June 30, 2014) that the list provided to the IRS by March 31, 2014 will be a true list of the current members of the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program. **Passed.**
3. To elect Shane Looper as member and Julie A. West as alternate to the NGC 2015-2017 Nominating Committee. **Passed.**
4. To approve the request of the disbanded Roseville Arrangers Guild to end their membership in the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program, effective June 30, 2013. **Passed.**
5. That Anne Capes be accepted into the Circle of Poppies. **Passed.**
6. That we accept the recommendations of those present at the 2014 Winter Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees and the Budget and Finance Committee that future investments in the CGCI Endowment and the CGCI Scholarship Endowment Fund be equally split between the Vanguard High Dividend Yield Index Fund and the Vanguard U.S. Total Stock Market Index. Fund. **Passed.**
7. That \$1500.00 be borrowed from the Honor Book Fund to open the CGCI Endowment Fund with Vanguard to be replaced as funds are received. **Passed.**

District Director Coordinator Julie A. West introduced District Directors who reported. See Attachment C.

President Rita Desilets recessed the meeting at 3:33 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 3:46 p.m.

Chairman Coordinator Bob Gordon introduced the Chairmen who reported. See Attachment D.

Second Vice-President Krystal Migliore announced the she would be available to take photos for the Photo Roster.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

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Gail Vanderhorst, Recording Secretary

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Date

## **2014 Winter Board Meeting Attachment A – Officer’s Reports**

### **Parliamentarian, Greg Pokorski**

Since Fall Board Meeting, this officer reviewed minutes from the Fall Board Meeting and provided input, reviewed agendas for this Winter Board Meeting, devoted quite a bit of time to reviewing bylaws and standing rules in preparation for this meeting, and participated in the Bylaws and Policy Committee meeting yesterday. Responses were made to inquiries from several clubs. One response included an invitation for the club president to attend a monthly meeting of my Parliamentary Unit. That visit resulted in her becoming a member of the Unit, providing the opportunity for her to get answers to her first questions as well as the opportunity to ask additional questions.

A prime value of parliamentary procedure is that it provides processes through which an organization, large or small, can work out satisfactory solutions to the greatest number of questions in the least amount of time. It can do this whatever detail or complexity may be involved. It makes meetings go smoothly when everyone is in agreement, and allows the group to come to decisions fairly when issues are contested.

Repetition and practice are the keys to mastering parliamentary procedure. Take advantage of workshops, ask questions and contact this officer with questions about parliamentary procedure.

### **Communications Director, Jane McKee**

#### **VONAGE TOLL-FREE NUMBER**

- Payment Plan changed Nov 15 to one with lower rate, saving \$415 annually

#### **MAIL DISTRIBUTION SERVICE**

- iContact plan canceled December 31, 2013 (a paid service)
- Switched to two free services, saving Approximately \$450 annually
  - **Vertical Response** for newsletters
  - **Mail Chimp** account for official correspondence
- Reason for 2 plans: if you “unsubscribe” from newsletter you won’t lose receipt of official notifications

#### **Website:**

- Site reorganization complete
- New Site Map and Site Index
- Club and district hosted websites
  - All reviewed
  - Notes requesting updates sent to those whose sites are out of date or incomplete
  - Website managers who had not logged on in more than 12 months were advised that their access had expired; to renew they need to submit new request.
  - club sites now linked on main “Club Website” page (no need to use left sidebar)
  - In process of searching for any club/district non-hosted websites to be linked if not already
- Website Host Requests  
Level I – 2   Level II – 9   Level III - 20

- Conducted Website Workshop hosted by Temecula Valley GC at Temecula Library with 17 attendees
- New Handbooks (information on several webpages consolidated into one document that can be downloaded)
  - Website administration for clubs/districts
  - GTEP (update posted Feb2014)
  - In draft: Youth Activities (updated from 2003 document)
- New/updated forms/info sheets
  - Under Board Members
    - Change of Information/Address (New)
    - Cash Receipts & Expense Reimbursement Procedures
    - Request for Payment or Reimbursement
    - Cash Receipts Report Form (New)
    - Line Codes-Chairman & DD Expense (New)
    - Line Codes-Restricted Funds (New)
  - Under Membership
    - Change of Information/Address (New for Clubs/APS/Affiliates)
  - Under Youth
    - Application Form (New group) (New)
    - Annual Report Form (New)
  - Misc.
    - *Golden Gardens eNews* subscription form

### **Corresponding Secretary, Rosa Radicchi**

The Call was promptly sent out electronically & posted to the website by Communications Director, Jane McKee, and was also mailed to members without email. A thank you email from Joan Craig expressing her sincere thanks to all for the get well cards & notes; a thank you note from Bobbie Verser for \$100 donation to sponsor NGC Award #20; and an acknowledgement card from Lois D. Shuster (former NGC President) for the expression of sympathy for the passing of her husband, Raymond Shuster were read.

### **Third Vice-President, Josie Goodenow**

As of February 11, 2014:

**272 clubs /17,865 members**

**51 APS / 3,648 members**

**16 Affiliates**

Josie Goodenow moved to ratify the following clubs, Associate Plant Societies and Affiliate.

**Passed.**

#### **Clubs:**

Organization of Floral Art Designers / 46 members

Bakersfield Garden Club / 78 members

San Clemente Tree Foundation / 20 members

San Geronio Garden Club / 39 members

Clovis Botanical Garden Committee / 390 members

Contra Costa Rose Society / 60 members

#### **Associate Plant Societies:**

Kern County Rose Society / 40 members  
American Begonia Society, Whittier Branch /10 members

**Affiliate:**

Seed Library of Los Angeles

Josie Goodenow moved to ratify the following Orange County District club's name change from The Oasis Garden Club to Oasis Senior Garden Club. **Passed.**

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society dropped their CGCI membership and the Dibbler Garden Club has disbanded.

**Second Vice-President, Krystal Migliore**

Since the fall board meeting this officer has prepared the photo roster update with an additional 23 photos of board members. Some members have been absent or missed photo opportunities and may have their photos taken tomorrow.

December and January was a busy time coordinating the judging of 57 award entries in 5 categories, 7 sections and 11 classes. Judging reports have been submitted and a suitcase full of award entries is ready to be delivered. It was an opportunity to learn more about the activities of our clubs and we have so many clubs who definitely are deserving of praise. Since substantially more time was required than expected to judge the entries, the process has been documented and soon all notes will be used to create written procedures for the future.

A number of clubs and organizations who are not a part of CGCI have been identified and letters outlining the benefits of CGCI membership will be sent within two weeks of this meeting. Online research continues to identify opportunities to promote the benefits of CGCI membership.

Contributions for *Golden Gardens eNews* will include follow-up articles with topics including recruiting new and existing clubs as well as additional membership tips and techniques for our CGCI clubs to gain new members and to retain existing members.

CGCI will have a membership booth at the March San Francisco Flower & Garden Show. District Directors have been asked to provide district brochures or brochures for clubs within their district. Anyone who is attending the show and would like to share a couple of hours with us in the booth should contact this officer.

**First Vice-President, Sue Bennett**

With extreme pleasure, this officer hosted President, Rita Desilets in October and then again in November, so that we could attend the Roseville Better Gardens Club 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and attend the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Victorian Tea hosted by Chicago Park Garden Club. This VP got to say "NO" to the President for the first time, when asked "do you have clippers in the car so we can pull over and I can cut some cattails."

In the morning on Veterans Day, November 11, this officer attended the Veterans Day Ceremony and dedication of the Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker in Castro Valley, Bay Bridges District. Quickly left Castro Valley to drive to Discovery Bay, to attend the dedication of the Blue Star Memorial Garden sponsored by the Discovery Bay Garden Club, Diablo Foothills District and had the chance to visit with Rebecca Ferguson, District Director.

On December 6, this officer attended the services for Gladys Nielsen who passed away on November 21. Gladys was CGCI President from 1989-1991; the family was very thankful that someone from CGCI spoke.

This officer has been involved with reviewing various awards.

### **Convention and Board Meetings Chairman Report – Sue Bennett**

This Chairman is waiting to officially hear from one district to host the 2015 Fall Board meeting. Still looking for five more Districts to host either a board meeting or Convention. If your District can help, don't hesitate to call this chairman – at this board meeting, contacts have been made.

### **Official Calendar Chairman – Sue Bennett**

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. Visit the calendar webpage for a list of upcoming events.

### **President, Rita Desilets**

While perusing some old issues of *Golden Gardens* from the archives, I came across Peggy Northon's message in the Jan/Feb 1996 issue. She tells of her visit to NGC Headquarters in St. Louis and how each state president was asked to provide a colored picture of their state's logo. The logos would be woven into runner rugs for the hallways. This would be something to look forward to seeing when visiting NGC Headquarters.

It was an honor to represent California at the NGC Fall Board Meeting knowing our state comprises about 10% of the NGC's total membership. The President's training and Parliamentary Workshops were exceptionally useful. We had a meeting with Pacific Region Director, Elaine Gunderson and the Pacific Region State Presidents and Chairmen.

My visit to Luther Burbank District in October demonstrated a formula for a well-organized, beautifully run District meeting. While listening to each club report on their varied projects and activities one could sense their pride in their club's accomplishments. Standouts were an inspirational garden therapy project, a Tranquility Garden, and a club that gives over \$10,000 in scholarships each year.

It was a pleasure to work with Sue Nolan and Pat Clayes in the booth prepared by Girl Scout Liaison, Terri Blomker at the Believe in Girls Expo at the Palm Springs Convention Center January 11, 2014. Seeing the excitement on the girls faces when given the opportunity to plant poppy seeds reminds me of the value of our youth groups. Let's encourage all our clubs that can to support a school garden, Girl Scout Troup or Boys and Girls Club. These youth are our future garden club members and leaders.

Later this month your President will travel to California City for an official visit with Cecile Campbell and Desert Empire District members.

CGCI will again have a presence at the March San Francisco Flower & Garden Show. Your President and two Vice-Presidents will greet visitors, discussing the benefits of membership in a garden club, and distributing promotional and educational materials. A seed planting activity will provide a hands-on experience.

The **Wildflower Conference** will be held at the La Quinta Inn & Suites in Tehachapi from April 6-8, 2014. We have scheduled seven informative speakers and a tour.

We are excited to sponsor a fundraising 10-day cruise to see the Fall Colors along the East Coast. You will leave from NY City, NY and travel to Quebec, Canada with excursions at various ports planned just for us. The cruise is from October 4-14, 2014.

The CGCI Convention in June of 2014 will be hosted by San Fernando Valley District at the beautiful Glendale Hilton. Convention Chairman, Robin Pokorski and her committee members are planning a great convention experience – so please come and join in the fun from June 5-8, 2014. We are trying something new to accommodate a Tri-Refresher on June 6 and 9. The Organizational meeting usually held on the last day will be moved up to the previous afternoon.

Being CGCI President is the most rewarding, enjoyable experience one could have in their lifetime, partly because of the wonderful people who serve as District Directors and chairmen. Thank you for your support and dedication to CGCI and its goals.

**Winter Board Meeting 2014**  
**Attachment B - Standing and Special Committee Reports**

**Board of Trustees, Robin Pokorski**

The board met and reviewed and discussed the performance of our investments with Principal Financial Group. Those present formulated a recommendation for the direction of future Endowment donations into a Vanguard account (one account each for the CGCI Endowment and the CGCI Scholarship Endowment Funds). The recommendation was sent to the Executive Committee and to the Budget and Finance Committee.

**CGCI 2014 Convention Chairman, Robin Pokorski**

2014 Convention, Robin Pokorski: The convention is under construction with the added bonus of a Tri-Refresher sponsored by our CCC. The hotel contract has been signed, programs and workshops are in place. The tour is set to go. Registration forms will be posted to the website shortly after the 2014 Winter Board Meeting. With this convention a primary registration form for full-time, package plan attendees will be available as well as a secondary registration form for part-time attendees and tertiary Youth Luncheon registration form for the youth and their parents that attend. All we need is YOU!

**Life Membership, Carlotta Wixon**

This Chairman received notice from the National Chairman, that she processed one Life Membership application from CGCI that was sent directly to her. Please encourage your club members to send all applications and checks directly to this Chairman.

Please send in the newly revised forms. It will be processed as soon as it is received. Thank you to the presidents and directors that have forwarded to the Chairman or the Yearbook Chairman the address changes or names of deceased persons that are listed in the back of the CGCI *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*.

Carlotta Wixon moved to ratify the following CGCI and NGC Life Members. **Passed.**

**CGCI**

Cline, DeeDee	Redding Wonderland GC	Cascade District
Hill, Carolyn	Temecula Valley GC	Palomar District
McGinnis, Vernell	Desert Crossroads GC	Roadrunner District
Sandoval, Ed	Cactus Wren GC	Roadrunner District

**National Garden Club, Inc.**

Doran, Linda	N/A	N/A
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### **Nominating Committee, Shane Looper**

The CGCI Nominating Committee is looking at *YOU* as the future Leaders of this Organization. *YOU* are already leaders at your local and district club levels. Being an officer of CGCI is just the next step in increasing your knowledge and improving your own skills. On behalf of the Nominating Committee, I invite *YOU* to consider how *YOU* can serve CGCI. I am pleased to announce the 2013-2015 Nominating Committee members: Janean Guest-Humboldt District, Shane Looper- Bay Ocean District, Robin Pokorski-San Fernando Valley District, Alexis Slafer – Greater Los Angeles District, George Speer – Palomar District, Shirley Stewart – Arboretum District and Carolyn Villi- Sequoia Foothills District. Feel free to contact any member of this committee and be sure to complete the Personnel Form on CGCI's website.

## **Winter Board Meeting 2014 Attachment C - District Directors Reports**

### **Arboretum District, Mary Betlach**

Three newsletters have been sent to the District club presidents, treasurers, and representatives to be forwarded to their members who have emails. It has been requested hard copies be printed and be available at garden club meetings. Each newsletter contains information of upcoming events, an illustrated article about a native plant growing in the area and a bird found in our backyards.

In order to have all the ten clubs in the district participate at our meetings, each club is responsible for the following at a district meeting: the morning refreshments, flag salute, inspiration and cleanup. This plan has encouraged members from that particular club to attend. The date of each club's responsibility was published in the Arboretum Yearbook. More club presidents, representatives and members are attending. They are encouraged to inform others of special events occurring in their clubs. The attendance list is at the front door, and members sign in under their club name. As their names are read off from the Attendance Sheet, a question is asked of each person in attendance. In February the question was: What would you like for Valentine's Day? This encourages all the members to talk and get to know one another!

### **Bay Bridges District, George Perko**

2014 is our anniversary, in a way. Our district celebrates 60 years under the name Bay Bridges, having previously been known as District 4 from 1932 to 1954.

The district started its current year with a September meeting at historic Alta Mira House in San Leandro. Sales tables and a talk by internationally known daffodil hybridizers Bob Spotts and Nancy Tackett were the highlights.

The district celebrated Veterans Day, November 11, 2013, with a Blue Star marker installation at the Castro Valley Veterans Memorial located at 18988 Lake Chabot Road in Castro Valley. This is the first Blue Star marker in the southern part of our district. We owe a great deal of gratitude to VFW Post 9601 of Castro Valley for their dedicated assistance in helping this become a reality. CGCI First Vice-President Sue Bennett joined 150 other guests at the ceremony. San Leandro and Eden Garden Clubs provided refreshments, set up, and clean up.

Our April 2014 meeting will be a celebration of the district's clubs and their activities, with district awards and presentation of two, \$1,000 scholarships to Merritt College horticulture students.

Our September 2014 meeting will be a picnic at Shinn Historic Park and Arboretum in Fremont, hosted by Friends of Heirloom Flowers.

### **Buttes District, Carol Jauregui**

Garden club fundraising enables clubs to aspire to afford scholarships and specific, larger projects. Most of the district clubs hold plant sales. Four clubs hold theirs the first Saturday in May. One has included a bake sale. The fourth club sells plant-filled, artfully decorated and recycled containers.

Annual yard sales are held by two other clubs. Three sold Japanese hoes and tools. One club sponsored a yard make-over and sold tickets for public viewing. Two clubs hosted garden tours, and one included a lunch.

Four clubs offer annual bus trips and these are open for other clubs to join in.

### **Channel Island District, Maggie Crane**

Ojai Valley and Pleasant Valley Garden Clubs sold Holiday Wreaths to support scholarships and grants to teachers.

Westlake Village Garden Club is busy getting ready for their scholarship fund raiser, the Annual Home Tour.

Conejo Valley Garden Club is having their Conservation and Grant fund raiser, The Annual High Tea. They are also putting on a Standard Flower Show.

Conejo Valley Organic Garden Club is actively getting the word out through workshops and meetings that Organic gardening is easy and worth doing.

The District has had one meeting and will have three more this garden club year.

### **Costa Verde District, Kitty Guzman**

CVD held a successful Holiday Victorian Tea, 100 in attendance, with Rita Desilets as guest, entertained by soloist Robin Pokorski. Rivera with Home Garden Tour profits gave \$10,000 in scholarships and a library mural. Hermosa raised \$5,000 for scholarships. Long Beach held a district wide Leadership Workshop with Robin Pokorski.

### **Desert Empire District, Cecile Campbell**

At DED Fall meeting a presentation of historical documentation pertaining to early development of the Desert Tortoise Preserve was made to founding members Dr. Kristin Berry and Laura Stockton. Huntington Library Rose Collection Curator, Tom Carruth, gave a program on Fragrant Roses.

DED garden clubs sponsored a Near Garden Club Flower Show eligible for a National Award.

The Dessert Rose Garden Club continues their project of rehabilitating three miles of median, has plant sales and participates in the Ridgecrest Wildflower Festival.

The Oasis Garden Club entered a float for the 50th Anniversary of Ridgecrest, made floral arrangements for Maturango Museum and held potting workshops.

### **Diablo Foothills District, Sandy Rogers for Rebecca Ferguson**

The District is comprised of ten clubs with a membership of over 1044 and four District – CGCI Affiliates. We added a new youth group for a total of six. DFD just successfully hosted Course II of the Flower Show School in Livermore, CA.



Walnut Creek Garden Club, in support of Rita Desilets' project, has applied for a CGCI grant as part of their participation in a local "Habitat for Humanity Landscaping Project". Other DFD clubs are also exploring their participation opportunities.

Several clubs have planted over 2200 additional daffodils in public areas. Due to the drought, clubs are looking to set examples in smart, water-wise gardening, including tailoring their propagated options in the Spring Plant Sales.

The Diablo Foothills District Board has approved the hosting of the CGCI Fall Board Meeting in 2015.

### **Golden Foothills District, Carlotta Wixon**

Colfax Garden Club & the local Lion's Club to plant 8,000 daffodils along Hwy.180, also landscaped the Sheriff's Station.

Lake of the Sky Garden Club had a program on Vertical Gardening.

Chicago Park Garden Club had their 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Victorian Tea. They donated over \$650 to local children's charities.

Divide Garden Club went on field trips, including gardens and wineries.

Meadow Vista Garden Club toured local nurseries and had a program on bees.

Lincoln Dirt Gardeners and The Rose Society removed old roses from a garden, replanting new roses. They also celebrated their 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Donner Garden Club of Auburn had a program entitled "Orchids for Wimps".

### **Humboldt District, Janean Guest**

We have five Garden Clubs and 266 members.

This year Fortuna Garden Club is celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Eureka Sequoia Garden Club has been growing its club, the membership has grown from 15 members to 50 members. They started a Front Yard Garden Jewel certificate program. Over the past 16 months over 6000 homes in Eureka have been evaluated and judged. The garden club members have learned to appreciate the landscapes by being a part of the judging committee. There are ten winners each month. The local newspaper runs a full page article with pictures and descriptions of the landscapes. It is a wonderful way to promote the garden club and increase the membership. The homeowners are also invited to the monthly meeting and given an award.

A new project for the Humboldt District will be to refurbish some of the Blue Star Memorial Highway markers that were installed in 1992 on Highway 101.

### **Luther Burbank District, David West**

Men's Garden Club of Santa Rosa won Best of Show in the Hall of Flowers at the Sonoma County Fair.

Santa Rosa Garden Club spends approximately \$150.00 to \$300.00 per month for program speakers and allows them to sell their products (books, flowers, etc.) after the meeting. This allows the club to provide excellent programs that help attract new members and retain existing members.

As to special events, Santa Rosa Garden Club is having its second annual "Bouquets to Art" program. Marsha Heckman will create floral tributes to the work of five Sonoma County artists.

### **Mendo-Lake District, Rhea Pitchard**

Mendo-Lake District has five clubs once again. Membership is at 232. Potter Valley Garden Club dropped out briefly, but rejoined Feb. 1, 2014. At district meetings, the host club was requested to do a program on a recent project. We were able to learn details about club projects.

We lost a treasured member, Evelyn Broaddus, last fall. She was also a great supporter of CGCI and most recently was Scholarship Chairman.

The district will combine forces with Ukiah Garden Club in its spring plant sale in April as its major fundraiser. All clubs will provide plants and help sell. We will feature drought tolerant and native plants.

### **Orange County District, Annie Hall Bosché**

Our district has been enjoying gathering four times a year at what we call “Field Trip Locations”. We meet at a new venue each time we gather in fall, winter, spring, and early summer. After a social time and continental breakfast we have our business meeting and then a tour of the venue. Our board has found that this is a good way to encourage people to our meetings. We usually have between 50-100 people at our district meetings. This also serves as a fundraiser as we charge \$5 per person.

For the past five years we have been providing financial support and labor to historically recreate the gardens at the cottages at Crystal Cove State Park and we are currently looking at taking on a new project.

Many of our clubs are working hard to get ready for spring garden tours, plant sales and boutiques and we have a flower show planned for fall. Many of our clubs have youth projects such as school gardens, hands on workshops and one club provides 80 classrooms with “Butterfly Kits” each year providing Asclepius seeds and information on the life of the Monarch Butterfly.

### **Palms to Pines District, Linda Lang (Representative)**

The district has lost two garden clubs from our membership. The San Geronio Garden Club in Beaumont, CA, has joined the district, and the club’s president, Brenda Bentley, presented a workshop at CGCI Winter Board Meeting on Water Gardening.

The District is sponsoring a Garden Festival and Small Standard Flower Show in March. The emphasis is education. There will be talks on Extreme Drought Tolerant Landscaping, Using Recycled Materials in the Garden, Successful Vegetable Gardening, and Growing Plants with Children.

Palms to Pines District is the sponsoring a Natural Habitat Project. Applications can be found on CGCI website.

### **Roadrunner District, Sue Nolan**

Roadrunner District has three clubs, 119 members, and two youth groups. All three clubs have been educating all their members on pruning, composting, vermiculture, bonsai, native planting, understanding propagation and seeds. Of course, we’ve had fun at potlucks. Some of the clubs are having workshops on propagation and decorating flower pots. One of the clubs taught High School students how to do a floral design. Another club worked with 90 after-school kids on monthly projects and planting vegetable and flower gardens.

### **Sacramento River Valley District, Jeff Higday**

Our district has experienced growth this year. One is that we are going to be celebrating our 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

We did not have a logo, so we had a logo contest. As a result we now possess a beautiful district logo.

We have been working together on the awards program applications with the combination of the awards revamp and spending the time to assist the members with understanding what there are...as well as how to process their entries, we have had a higher percentage of entries from our district this year.

### **San Fernando Valley District, Albert Chang**

The San Fernando Valley District has been busy working on our President's motto, "Growing Together." Our District welcomed the Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society, and two new affiliates, the San Fernando Valley Rose Society and the Seed Library of Los Angeles.

This director has urged clubs and affiliates to work together and create synergy. One example of synergy is the re-enactment ceremony at Campo de Cahuenga in January. Members from the Burbank-Valley, Sherman Oaks, Southern California, Toluca Lake and West Valley Garden Clubs participated. Another example of synergy is the pruning of over fifteen hundred roses in four public parks, three schools and several non-profit facilities in January by members of the Southern California Garden Club, the West Valley Garden Club and the San Fernando Valley Rose Society.

Horticulture education is a major focus. Southern California Garden Club has worked with a school in Tarzana to renovate its large vegetable and fruit garden. Getting the best value for its money, this club donates \$1000 which is matched by the local CANGC branch to pay for the shipping costs of two truckloads of donated organic soil valued at \$20,000 for use by any school in Los Angeles County.

We are excited to be the hosts of the 2014 CGCI Convention. Look forward for some great speakers, exciting trips and fabulous raffle prizes, including three one hundred dollar money trees.

This director thanks CGCI and all the members of his District for allowing him to serve.

### **Santa Clara Valley District, Roseann Costible**

Sunnyvale Garden Club plans to apply for grants from the CGCI President's Project, Habitat for Humanity Landscaping for homes currently being built in Sunnyvale.

San Jose Garden Club supports two garden projects, Loaves & Fishes Garden Kitchen and La Mesa Verde. A \$1000 donation to Loaves & Fishes was used to build greenhouse that will provide vegetables for persons in low income neighborhoods.

Carmel Valley Garden Associates annual Flower & Garden Show is May 4-5, 2014. Local artists create perfect art pieces for the garden on 24 inch wooden flower cutouts which are sold at the event. This "Field of Flowers" is a showstopper!

### **Sequoia Foothills District, Judy Silguero**

A Garden Club Trivial Pursuit Game focusing on garden history and tips was designed by Bonnie McCassy of the Redbud Garden Club. It is a PowerPoint presentation. She did a great deal of research, formed 41 questions and multiple choice answers with the correct answer circled in red. She also included beautiful pictures on each slide. When her club

played it, small teams were formed and score was kept, with the winning team receiving very modest prizes. It was fun and educational.

### **Valley Lode District, Penny Binney**

Modesto Garden Club is celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of keeping the city beautiful with colorful flowers. A birthday celebration is scheduled for February 13, 2014, at the general meeting for all of its 540 members. The club was founded February 12, 1924 by Frederick Knorr, a Modesto Junior College agriculture professor. His first goal was to help landscape the new College Avenue.

The date of June 5, 2014 has been set for the Spring Luncheon, at Del Rio Country Club in Modesto, CA. cost: \$35.00. Thirty members sign up to decorate a table of 8 – 10 with their tablecloth, dishes, glasses, silverware, center pieces from one foot to six feet tall, etc. They pick the colors and the theme. The Modesto Garden Club has been doing the luncheons for over 17 years and twice a year.

Sierra Madre Garden Club, Annual Flower Show is joined by the Amador Bonsai Society Show. The event will feature a plant sale on May 2, and 'Beauty in the Mother Lode' Flower Show from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. May 3.

### **Yosemite Gateway District, Mary Brooks**

Yosemite Gateway District is composed of five clubs with about 200 members located in Merced and Mariposa counties: Merced Garden Club is our oldest at 80 plus years, Atwater Garden Club, Catheys Valley Garden Club, Butterfly Garden Club – Mariposa and LeGrand Garden Club.

We have two Board Meetings and two District meetings per year. No fund raising is conducted by the District

The District meeting are sponsored and conducted by the clubs on an alternating basis All clubs are very active including community garden, garden tours, community in-service, workshops, plant sales, flower shows and Blue Star markers. All clubs provide scholarships for youth pursuing a career in horticulture and plant science.

We have received many awards for our yearbooks from CGCI

Currently we are exploring the possibility of founding an Arboretum at the University of California Merced.

## **2014 Winter Board Meeting Attachment D - Chairmen Reports**

### **Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Janet Eyre**

At Anza-Borrego Desert State Park they are working on a detailed map of the garden so the problems can be pinpointed. The Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Botany Society is a group of volunteers that are learning about the park and the garden so they can help give garden tours and help with the maintenance of the garden. Sally said "There are more new leaks coming up all the time in the watering system." One member of the team is looking into applying for a grant to fix the roof. So keep your donations coming. There is a big job to be done.

### **Arboreta & Botanic Gardens, Sherry Molinari**

This chairman has updated the list of Arboreta & Botanic Gardens. Most of the gardens now have websites. Here you can find information on admission and times. You can find this list

on our website or by typing in Arboreta & Botanic Gardens in the state of California. If you find any mistakes, please let me know. Also, this year this chairman will contact gardens about discounts on admission and in the gift shops by showing our CGCI membership card.

### **Awards Finance, Launa Gould**

Awards Sponsor Statements for the 2013 awards to be given out at the 2014 Convention were mailed in August 2013.

As of December 31, 2013 Awards Finance received \$3866.10 which has been reconciled with the CGCI Treasurer. An additional \$280.01 has been received as of January 27, 2014 completing the Awards Sponsors commitments.

In the interest of cutting costs, this chairman has not mailed thank you postcards to Sponsors. Gathering emails has been a focus of this term. In their statement for payment, Sponsors are “appreciated” and the statement following the award lists the recipients and also a thank you and appreciation. Several Sponsors have received emails, thanking them for their check and attempts will be made to respond to all in 2014 with an email thank you.

### **California Consultants Council (CCC), Julie A. West**

The Council's charter event is the Tri-Refresher scheduled June 6 & 9, 2014 at CGCI's convention. It has been approved by NGC and ratified for CGCI's official calendar. All Environmental, Gardening and Landscape Design Consultants are eligible to refresh their credentials by registering for the convention tour to Forest Lawn on June 6 **AND** registering to attend the three lectures and tram tour of Descanso Gardens on June 9. The flyer and registration form can be found linked to the June 6 & 9, 2014 dates on CGCI's website calendar. Space is limited so register TODAY!

### **California Native Plants, Margaret Strachan**

The Theodore Payne website is a valuable resource for assistance in growing California Native Plants. Once on the site at [www.TheodorePayne.org](http://www.TheodorePayne.org), click on *Native Gardening*. This will bring you to The California Native Plant Wiki, which is an information resource created by The Theodore Payne Foundation. A California Native Plant library follows with an alphabet guide to find each plant.

The *Plant Guides* page will provide guides for garden needs such as plants to attract wildlife, plants for containers or plants for special geographic areas.

California Native Plant Week is coming soon, April 12 to April 20, 2014. Check the California Native Plant Society website for local activities to celebrate that week.

### **District Director Coordinator, Julie A. West**

Twenty-four of the 26 districts were represented. Main topic of discussion was sharing each district's meeting structure: number of general meetings and board meetings; clubs hosting district meetings/events; fixed location vs. variable location; if fee charged, how is it split between district and host club, any fundraising, etc. Discussion will conclude at Convention with eight remaining districts to share their meeting structure. Collected per capita district dues charged. Zip Code Listing Approval Form, Email Etiquette and updated District Directors Month-by-Month Timeline distributed. Most Directors received a list of clubs not responding to Nonprofit Verification sent November 2013 for follow-up.

### **Environmental Studies Schools, Shane Looper**

Yahoo!! Yahoo!! Thank you Riviera Garden Club for sponsoring the next Environmental Studies Schools. Series 6 will be held the following dates at South Coast Botanic Gardens: Course I, Aug. 7-8, 2014, Course II, Nov.13-14, 2014, Course III, Feb.19-20, 2015 and Course IV, April 30-May 1, 2015.

Attend this course to see how your club, clubs or district can host a NGC Environmental Studies School.

### **Facebook Administrator, Pat Claves**

The Facebook page is updated regularly with information taken from club and district newsletters which are sent to this chairman. Information of interest to our members from other organizations is also posted on the page from time to time. All members are welcome to post on the page or send posts to this Chairman.

### **Flower Show Committee, Gudrun Kimmel**

Flower Show School Course IV sponsored by Judges Council of Southern California was completed in January 2014. Course II sponsored by Diablo Foothills District finished last week. Pauline Sechi, Floral Design Education has been giving programs and posting designs. Linda and Ron Lang finished judging the Flower Show Awards and Credentials Chair, Kathy Bramhall has kept her judges roster current and answered questions about judges status. Joyce Dean, Flower Show Schedules is ready to vet any schedules for shows that clubs send to her. Symposium Chair, Mary Arakelian has brochures for the years Symposium and is working on the Symposium for 2015. Judges Council Liaison, Rilla Crane is completing her convention tasks and chaired the committee for selecting Judge of the Year.

### **Flower Show Awards, Ron & Linda Lang**

During 2013 nine flower shows were registered with this committee. Already in 2014 eight clubs have registered flower shows. Those clubs include: Fallbrook Garden Club, Caroland's Garden Club, Conejo Valley Garden Club, The Los Angeles Garden Club, Palms to Pines District, Poway Valley Garden Club, Southern California Garden Club, and The Coronado Flower Show.

Even if a club does not want to have the flower show evaluated, this committee requests that all flower shows be registered so that a complete history will be available of all of the flower shows actually held.

### **Flower Show Symposium, Mary Arakelian**

The 54<sup>th</sup> CGCI Symposium will be held August 3-5, 2014 at the Holiday Inn, Auburn, CA. All CGCI members are encouraged to attend. The NGC Design Instructor will be Char Mutschler, speaking and demonstrating on "Assemblage" and "Creative Design with a Downward Thrust". Use of accessories and featured objects will be the allied topic. NGC Horticulture Instructor, Darlene Newell, will instruct on hydrangeas, vines and bees. Mark your calendars and register with Shane Looper.

### **Judges Council Liaison, Rilla Crane**

The Judges Councils are busy with their usual educational programs and judging, but have several additional things they working on this year.

1. The CGCI President sent a notice that the Flower Shows Schools Handbook Revision Committee would like any suggestions we may have to be submitted.
2. The Councils were asked if they have a 'Judges Story to Share' - They are slowly arriving and would like to receive more.
3. Councils were asked to send nominations for the 'Judge of the Year' Award
4. NGC Flower Show Schools requested information regarding CA Judges Council activities. A summary of Judges Council programs, speakers, projects, support of Flower Show Schools and Symposiums, plus Special Awards, etc. was submitted. A favorable response was received from the committee for CA Judges Councils.
5. The Judges Council of S. CA will host the 2014 Convention Judges Council Banquet
6. The Symposium will be held in Auburn, CA from August 3-5, 2014.

### **Gardening Study School, Greg Pokorski**

Series 24, Nevada City, concluded with Courses III (September) & IV (October) – 6 new Consultants & 10 new Provisionals. Reached a total of 154 consultants before 7 lapsed 12/31. Fourteen must refresh this year or lapse. The only 2014 GS refresher opportunity scheduled is the Glendale Convention Tri-Refresher (June 6 & 9). No further GSS scheduled. Seeking a Series 25 to begin this year. District Directors and club presidents, know, recognize and utilize your Gardening Consultants. Some might assist with programs, workshops, writing articles etc. Articles have been written for the *Council Thymes*, *The National Gardener* and *Keeping in Touch*. Let this chairman know that you want to sponsor this important NGC educational opportunity.

### **Golden Gardens eNews, Pat Clayes**

*Golden Gardens eNews*, the national award winning publication, is improving with every issue! See more new changes in the March-April 2014 issue! Chairmen are urged to write articles. District Directors, Presidents and members are welcome to contribute articles also.

### **Group Tax Exemption Program, (GTEP), Bev Davies**

Since Fall Board 2013, GTEP renewal packets were mailed to 106 clubs and six districts. Three clubs have yet to submit their renewal. Roseville Arrangers Guild renewal packet was returned and noted it had disbanded June 30, 2013. Crown Garden Club of Coronado, Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society and Organization of Floral Art Designers were ratified for GTEP membership bringing the total to 108 clubs and six districts. Four applications for GTEP membership were either declined or withdrawn for lacking complete information.

This chairman responded to clubs' inquiries on complying with CA Registry of Charitable Trusts notices; the filing of the IRS 990-N; and information on GTEP applications. With the help of CGCI Communications Director, added the *Organization Information Sheet* in the GTEP handbook on the CGCI website.

### **Habitat for Humanity Landscaping, Sara White**

This is a project that will assist Habitat for Humanity with their landscaping needs all around the state. It is being funded by donations from clubs, Districts and individuals and since June 2013, \$1950 has been collected.

Clubs and Districts can apply to CGCI for a grant of up to \$250 to cover or augment their funds for their planned landscape. Some projects are single-family homes, others are multiple-family homes; only the front yards are landscaped by volunteers. Some may have specific requirements such as height, drought-tolerant, or native plantings.

The Donation Form and the Grant Application can be found on the CGCI website.

Our first grant award of \$250 has just been issued to the Walnut Creek Garden Club, so we have a current balance of \$1700.

### **Home Grown, Myrtle Findley**

Three entries for HT-4 Home Gardening Photography Award and eight entries for HT-3 Best Green Recipe Award have been submitted.

The evaluation sheet for HT-3 was not brought up to date and corrected as submitted. Those entering are not following instructions carefully. The updates and corrections will be made on this Award in 2014.

### **Landscape Design Schools, Alexis Slafer**

This Chair is pleased to report Luther Burbank District is sponsoring the 26<sup>th</sup> Landscape Design School, beginning on October 23, 2014. There will be a Tri-refresher sponsored by the CCC at the 2014 Convention in Glendale and a LD Refresher on May 3<sup>rd</sup> sponsored by Colfax Garden Club.

There were nine consultants whose credentials lapsed at the end of 2013. This Chair is available and eager to assist clubs and district members with sponsoring a new school in 2014. There is plenty of time.

### **Operation Wildflower, Merrilee Ray**

Time is growing near for the CGCI's Wildflower Conference April 6-8, 2014 in Tehachapi, CA. Come in on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> for registration from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the La Quinta Inn, 500 E. Steuber Road in Tehachapi, CA. Monday April 7<sup>th</sup> will be a very busy day. The speakers will begin at 9:00 am, and will include topics covering Exotic Feline Conservation, How to Attract Hummingbirds and Butterflies, Desert Riparian Restoration and Invasive Species Management, Capturing Ephemeral Beauty: A Celebration of California's Wildflowers, California Indian Uses of Wildflowers and Other Native Plants, What's Growing on with California's Native Plants and "Herbally Yours, Growin' Wild". From 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm you will enjoy dinner and entertainment. On Tuesday follow a lead car to "Field of Dreams Alpaca Ranch." The deadline for the special room reservation rate is March 20, and the conference registration deadline is April 2, 2014, Registration fee is \$90.00. Registration form is on the CGCI website.

Questions: contact Merrilee Ray, Chairman, at merrileeray@yahoo.com or 760-382-6546.

### **Penny Pines, Pat York**

The Penny Pines Program continues to be one of the popular programs of the CGCI. Our California clubs really like to collect their pennies, dollars really, to send to our many California forests to help in their reforestation after a devastating forest fire. And the only other thing that these clubs like more is seeing their name in print in our *Golden Gardens eNews* Clubs have been great in their continued support of this very worthwhile project. District Directors please let your clubs know how much this financial support helps to keep California green and beautiful.

### **Post Office Box, Julie A. West**

The IRS list of CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program members was received in January and delivered to the GTEP Chairman. The September and December quarterly statements from Principal Financial for the two endowment funds were forwarded to the Board of Trustees



Chairman. Verification of nonprofit status from clubs, districts and associate plant societies continues to be received and tallied. 182 responses had come to the post office box as of February 8, 2014.

### **Project Mission Blue, Shane Looper**

This is our third year in our commitment to the Mission Blue Butterfly. Please remember to let your clubs know that this is a five year commitment. These funds are needed to continue CGCI's work in helping Golden Gate National Parks in increasing the lupine diversity by propagating in order to support the butterfly populations and to allow these populations to increase over the long term. This is our gift to the Mission Blue Butterfly so that we can continue to see this endangered species. All donations are welcomed and with each \$100.00 donation the donor will receive a mission blue butterfly pin. Donations should be sent to this chairman.

### **San Francisco Flower & Garden Show Liaison, Sue Swackhamer**

The San Francisco Flower & Garden Show will be held at the San Mateo Event Center from March 19-23, <http://www.sfgardenshow.com/>. The format of the Show is different this year, and CGCI will have less of a presence. This chairman has spoken with both Maryanne Lucas (part owner of show) and Debra Prinzing (Floral Stage Curator for the floral education program). The emphasis is on California grown flowers. CGCI will have six designs instead of our usual 20+. Nearby design clubs have been asked to provide designs. Those who volunteer will receive a free entrance ticket. Every day has a different theme: March 19 - San Francisco Style, March 20- Meet the Flower Farm, March 21- Succulently Yours, March 22 - Meet the Experts/Authors and March 23 - D.I.Y. bouquet designs.

### **Scholarships, Albert Chang**

This Chairman would like to thank clubs that have increased the number or amount of scholarships they offer, and he congratulates those who have voted to begin a scholarship program this year. This chairman requests notification of changes in scholarship programs. And that photos and names of all scholarship winners for this club year, 2013-2014 be sent by email or snail mail so that they can be posted on the CGCI website. The winner's college or university should also be listed if possible.

The Scholarship Committee has selected Chris Hewes, a graduate student in environmental sciences from UC Santa Barbara as the winner of the Robert L. Gordon Scholarship, and the committee selected Hung Doan, a graduate student in plant pathology from UC Davis as the winner of the Julie A. West Scholarship.

For those clubs who do not offer scholarships, consider making a donation to the CGCI Scholarship Fund. Scholarship money is a wise investment in our future which will bring a bountiful harvest to all of us.

### **Sempervirens Fund, Rosa Radicchi**

This Fund has been Preserving Redwood Forests Since 1900. Sempervirens Fund protects redwood forests in the Santa Cruz Mountains at Big Basin State Park. Fun facts: 1) They almost as old as dinosaurs; they've been around for about 240 million years; 2. The oldest living coast redwood is at least 2,200 years old; 3) It can grow to 300 feet or more; the tallest tree on Earth; 4) It grows only one place on Earth - on the Pacific Coast, from Big Sur to southern Oregon. Thank you for your continued support.

### **Shrubs & Trees, Linda Smith**

It's time to prepare for California Arbor Day which is Latin for "Tree Day". It is an environmental holiday where citizens and groups are encouraged to plant trees and care for the already existing trees. In California, it is not only Arbor Day, it is recognized as Arbor Week, March 7-14, 2014. It is the perfect time to unite our members, cities, businesses and educate Californians the value that trees provide to build healthy cities and neighborhoods. Join in community events. Help teach our youth. Try and make a difference. **PLANT A TREE!**

### **Vermiculture/Composting, Paul Vander Werf**

The theme for 2013-2014 is "Elephants and Worms" (EW – pronounced EwWWw)

#### **SHORT-TERM GOALS**

1. Support the Habitat for Humanity Project
2. Develop CGCI digital best practices
3. Visit 50 clubs this year
4. Seek new clubs and members
5. Develop a low-cost continuous flow vermicompost machine to increase efficiency

#### **LONG-TERM GOAL**

1. Host an annual West Coast Vermiculture and Vermicompost conference in 2016
2. Develop a Plant/Worm Map for the state of California (similar to a TreeMap)
3. Develop a Demonstration Project for the Eastern Sierra Nevada corridor