

Golden Gardens eNews

www.californiagardenclubs.com

June 2023 Vol. 11- 15

Member:

**National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**

President Lynne Batchelor

cgcpresident@cagardenclubs.org
President Elect.....Carol Vallens
2nd Vice President.....Adele Kelly
3rd Vice President Marlene Kinney
Recording Secretary .. Gail Vanderhorst
Corresponding Secretary ..Milly Benson
Financial SecretaryRita Desilets
Treasurer George Perko
Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski
Communications Director Kathy Taylor

Golden Gardens eNews

goldengardens@cagardenclubs.org

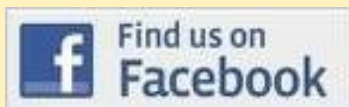
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In this issue:

President’s Message.....1
Calendar2
Presidents Project2
Valley Lode District.....3
NGC Consultants3
Awards update3
Giving Tuesday, Smokey Bear4
President Tree at Big Basin.....4
Convention Wrap Up5
Penny Pines6
Announcements6

Award Winning—Golden Gardens eNews

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



Best wishes for a fabulous 4th of July,

Thank you to Palm to Pines and Humboldt Districts for your invitations to visit in May and especially to my wonderful hosts, Pat Claves, Ron Lang and Maria Kreneck. I attended our every decade dedication of a CGCI President’s Tree in Big Basin which was ably organized by Rosa Radicchi and Judy Unrine. Thanks so much to them and to my host Roseann Costabile. I have attended two great conventions in the past month: NGC in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia and CGCI in Thousand Oaks. Rita Desilets produced a fun-filled, high energy, informative, collegial convention including a tour of the Reagan Library. Thank you to Southern California Garden Club for hosting!



I have had an amazing two years as your CGCI President; thank you so much for entrusting our great organization to my care. My favorite part of this job was visiting clubs and districts to meet members and hear about the great things happening state-wide. I was lucky to visit via Zoom or in person with 3/4ths of the districts; thank you for your invitations. 2021-2023 accomplishments were making organizational changes to increase our effectiveness including conducting monthly Touch Base meetings for the Executive Committees, holding monthly meetings of the Bylaws & Policy and Strategic Planning Committees, making it easier to change policy, redesigning the Directory, changing the way the Nominating Committee is elected and the process for choosing their chairman, holding half of our state board meetings via Zoom, initiating two new state projects, redesigning and printing a new membership brochure, changing the percentages to increase the host’s share of convention profits, increasing state recognition for leaders, establishing a Technology Committee, producing two up-to-date specific sets of procedures for hosting state board meetings and for hosting conventions, initiating the “open space” program at meetings, increasing the effectiveness of the Bylaws & Policy Committee by allowing chairing by the Parliamentarian, establishing two new scholarships, dividing the duties of the Communications Director, reorganizing the duties of the Corresponding Secretary, specifically inviting Club Presidents and Treasurers to attend board meetings and providing targeted workshops for them, increasing the Circle of Poppies, and changing standing rules and bylaws to streamline the change process for governance documents making us more nimble in responding to new developments. A pivotal change was the major redesign of our website, making it ADA compliant, and producing guidelines for clubs for ADA website compliance.

We educated members by sponsoring a state flower show, Flower Show Symposium, Gardening School, Landscape Design School, Environmental School, Tri-Refresher, and by producing monthly Golden Gardens eNews, daily Facebook posts and website updates. We provided training on insurance, group tax exemption, Parliamentary Procedure, fundraising, taxes, membership, floral design and leadership lessons on mentoring, consensus building, conflict resolution, website use and finding future leaders.

Continued on page 2

CGCI Calendar

californiagardenclubs.com/calendar

- **Fall Board**
Sept 18-20, 2023
Harris Ranch, Coalinga
- **Winter Board—Virtual**
January 29-31, 2024
- **Flower Show School**
September 23-25, 2023
Modesto—Contact: Judi Picinini,
jpicinini@aol.com
- **Environmental School**
Nov 4-5, 2023
Jan 6-7, 2024
Feb 3-4, 2024
Mar. 2-3, 2024
Modesto - Contact: Berni Hendrix
DistDirVLD@gmail.com

CGCI Schools Chairmen

- Environmental:** Bette Tang
Bette.y.tang@gmail.com
- Flower Show:** Sandra Graff
sandgrf@sbcglobal.net
- Gardening:** Greg Pokorski
gregpokorski@earthlink.net
- Landscape Design:** Alexis Slafer
aslafer@ca.rr.com

Lynne's message continued

Not only did we plant an official Arbor Day Tree (thanks to Chuck Goodwin, Bernie Hendrix and Valley Lode district), we planted approximately 5,000 trees and in addition purchased almost 400 Penny Pines Plantations.

Your generosity provided approximately \$10,000 to our state projects and \$23,000 to scholarships. I am overjoyed and humbled by your response to my President's Project. It will make such a difference in the lives of thousands of children and provide excellent publicity for GCCI. Please visit Grant Park in San Diego! Your total contributions are almost \$45,000! Thank you sounds so inadequate to express my profound gratitude.

I appreciate you helping me to carry out my theme: Celebrate! Cultivate! Commemorate! We *Celebrate!* being together, our clubs surviving and thriving despite covid, our many accomplishments, the beauty we created, and our new skills/knowledge. I hope your club celebrated with a new activity/program and that you shared a skill you learned during covid. We *Cultivate!* our leaders and members, knowledge of club/district events, great ideas, opportunities for in-person meetings, floral and horticultural workshops, scholarships, creativity, and friendship. I hope your club cultivated an alliance with another organization and that you brought a friend to a meeting. We *Commemorate!* our veterans, first responders/health care providers/essential workers, and the lives of those we lost. I hope your club did a covid commemorative planting and that at your home you planted a remembrance area.

Thank you for my parting gifts, cards, good wishes and for naming a geranium *Lovely Lynne* for me. I am so grateful to everyone for your tremendous support during my term, your hard work and dedication, your incredible generosity for my President's Project, and for the honor and privilege of representing the clubs, districts and members of CGCI. You provided me with two of the happiest years of my life and an opportunity to make a difference in the world!

Xoxo, *Lynne*

2021 – 2023 President's Project – San Diego's River Center at Grant Park

We surpassed our original goal of \$25,000 and set the bar a little higher because of price increases. Then we reached the new goal of \$35,000. So, as you might imagine, we set the bar EVEN HIGHER!!! You all are AWESOME!!

Together we raised almost \$45,000!

A big **THANK YOU** to those who have supported the President's Project. A total of 38 Table/Benches have been sold and the last three will be delivered soon.

Generous Donors:

Lynne Batchelor Pat Claves Ward & Cher Habriel Susan Heavilin Maria & Tom Krenek Shirley Lipa David & Lydia Nolte Rosa Radicchi Frankie Raymond	Ronni Russell Schroeder Family Janyce Smith George & Deedee Speer Carol Vallens Gail & Hank Vanderhorst Anne Van Zandt Bonita GC Cherry Blossom GC	Ramona GC Redding Wonderland GC Riviera GC San Clemente GC Santa Rosa GC Humboldt District Pacific Region Garden Clubs Fallbrook GC Palomar District
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Table/Bench Donors:

Amy Darvish Donna Payton Carolyn Pohlner

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

CGCI Programs & Projects

Go to californiagardenclubs.com for details

- **Membership**
Chairman: Marlene Kinney
 315 Windmill Canyon Place
 Clayton, CA 94517-1904

- **Insurance**
Chairman: Launa Gould
 1212 Avenida Buena Suerte
 San Clemente, 92672-2348

- **Group Tax Exemption Program**
Chairman: Sue Bennett
 7560 Shelborne Drive
 Granite Bay 95746-8617
gtp@cgardenclubs.org

- **Penny Pines**
Chairman: Nina Blonski
 Checks to US Forest Service
 Online form [Penny Pines](#)

- **President’s Project 2021-2023**
Chairman: Robin Pokorski
[President’s Project](#)

- **Scholarship Applications**
Chairman: Martha Smyser
[CGCI Scholarship Fund](#)

- **Black Point Garden**
Interim Chairman: Julie West
[Black Point Garden](#)

- **Donations** to the following projects can be made online or mailed to:
 California Garden Clubs
 P.O. Box 823
 San Fernando, CA 91341-0823
[Anza-Borrego Desert State Park](#)
[Black Point Garden](#)
[Blue Star & Gold Star Memorials](#)
[CGCI Endowment Funds](#)
[CGCI Scholarship Fund](#)
[Conejo Valley Botanic Garden](#)
[Sempervirens/Big Basin Funds](#)

Adel Kelly is Honored Guest

Valley Lode District Meeting



Above, Adele Kelly greets the Valley Lode District

The Valley Lode District was thrilled to host Adele Kelly, CGCI 2nd Vice President at the district wide meeting on May 9. Adele Kelly was honored with a small reception the afternoon before to meet and greet with club presidents.

Adele assisted in the presentation of Awards of Recognition for those 20 members who had provided distinguished service to the district. Distinguished Member for the term was awarded to Barbara Hawkins.

Supporting the programs and objectives of CGCI, the Valley Lode District presented a CGCI LIFE MEMBERSHIP to director Berni Hendrix. A second CGCI LIFE MEMBERSHIP was presented to Christine Hingley, president Escalon Farmington Community Garden Club.



Above, Adele Kelly, right, announces award presented to

Attention NGC Consultants

All National Garden Clubs Environmental, Gardening and Landscape Design Consultants **may refresh** their Consultant status once each calendar year and **must refresh** their Consultant status at least once every five years. Refresher credit may be obtained in any NGC-approved Tri-Refresher and some of these are now offered on Zoom, providing the convenience of attending these educational events from your own home. Those who are not Consultants may also attend to benefit from the educational information provided. Ohio is offering a Zoom Tri-Refresher on July 21 & July 22. See the NGC website, Multiple Refreshers page - <https://www.gardenclub.org/school/multiple-refreshers-courses>

This should be of particular interest to the eleven California Gardening Consultants who will lose that status if they do not refresh by December 31.

Notify the applicable CGCI Schools Chairman if you sign up for this or any NGC Zoom course so that we can provide the Form 7 that you need in order to receive NGC credit and so we can keep our records up to date.

- Environmental Schools – Cynthia Jackson
- Gardening Schools – Greg Pokorski
- Landscape Design Schools – Alexis Slafer

NGC has changed the due date for FS-1 Calendar Arranger of the Year to **August 15**. Entries are to be sent to Nancy Voyles, 2926 Hwy. 75, Parkin, AR 72373, ngcvob@gmail.com. See NGC Awards Manual at [awards-handbook.pdf](#) (gardenclub.org).



The CGCI Awards Program is “Going Green”!

All award submissions* for the 2023 Awards Year will now be via electronic submissions — no more paper or postage! Only Word documents or pdf files will be accepted.

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW IN THE NEXT
Golden Gardens eNews.

*Not sure about yearbooks yet

Awards, Honors & Recognition

californiagardenclubs.com/forms

- **Awards Program**
Chairman: Pat Clayes
• californiagardenclubs.com/awards
- **Business Commendations,**
- **Long-Term Certificates, and**
- **Member Award of Distinction**
Chairman: Judy Bates
jlbates5900@sbcglobal.net
Online request forms
- **California Consultants Council**
Chairman: Sue Bennett
Sue_c_bennett@att.net
- **Life Memberships**
Chairman: Carlotta Wixon-Welker
lifemember@cagardenclubs.org
Online request form



National Garden Clubs, Inc.

President 2021-2023

Mary Warshauer

Theme: "Plant America-Play Outdoors"

NGC Headquarters:

St. Louis, MO

Telephone: 314-776-7574

Fax: 314-776-5108

Email: headquarters@gardenclub.org

Publication: *The National Gardener*

Website: gardenclub.org

NGC Convention May 2-5, 2023

White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia



Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.

Director: 2021-2023

Lana Finegold

Email: PacRegGardenClubs@gmail.com

Publication: *WACONIAH*

Website: PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

Aug 2024 Alaska

April 2025 Arizona

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

If not, you can subscribe here

californiagardenclubs.com/cgcnewsletters

Mark Your Calendars

GIVING TUESDAY 2023

By Board of Trustees Member Pat Clayes

Please join **CGCI** in participating in **GivingTuesday**, the global day of generosity that will take place on **Tuesday, November 28, 2023**. The Board of Trustees would like you, your club and/or your district to consider participating in this twenty-four hour global event. Once again, the CGCI Endowment Fund and the CGCI Scholarship Endowment Fund will be focused. **GivingTuesday 2022** generated \$300 for the Endowment Fund and \$600 for the Scholarship Endowment Fund — for a total of \$900. Let's break that total this year! Let's aim for a total of \$1500 or more! For more information on the Endowment Fund and the Scholarship Endowment Fund:

[Endowment Funds - California Garden Club \(californiagardenclubs.com\)](http://californiagardenclubs.com)



The link to the donation form will be available on the home page of the CGCI website (www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org) on November 27 and stay active until December 31. Donations of any size will have an immediate impact. Clubs and Districts may wish to add **GivingTuesday** donations to their budgeted items for their fiscal years. Thank you for your generosity.

Smokey Bear at the California State Fair

By Charlotte Tucker, CA State Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Chairman

Many of you might not realize that our CGCI top 15 Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl posters are on display in Camp Smokey at the CA State Fair each year.

AND . . . the student artists are given free CA State Fair tickets for their family along with a free parking pass for the July 19th, 2023 Director's Day events and ceremony.

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

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

Big Basin Redwoods State Park

2011-2021 CGCI President Tree Honoring:

Julie A. West 2011-2013

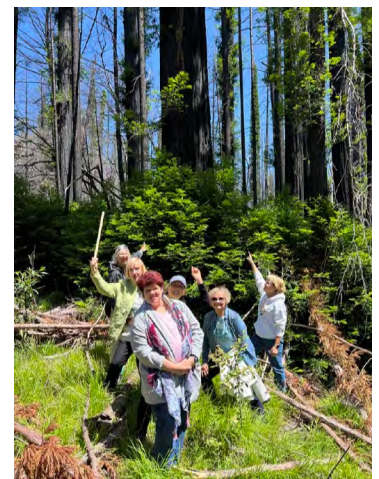
Rita M. Desilets 2013-2015

Susan (Sue) C. Bennett 2015-2017

Krystal K. Migliore 2017-2019

Charlene (Shane) Loper 2019-2021

More details and photos next eNews.



2023 CGCI Convention Wrap-Up

Special Award Winners announced
 Lifetime Achievement: **Charlotte Tucker**
 Lifetime Service: **Judy Unrine**
 Person of the Year: **Sharon Tooley**
 CGCI Member Award of Honor: **Martha Smyser**
 Award of Merit: **Donna Kaplan**
 Award of Merit: **Jane McKee**
 Award of Merit: **Hank Vanderhorst**
 Gardener of the Year: **Gloria Barry**
 Youth Leader of the Year: **Joelle R. Kohn**



Hank and Gail Vanderhorst preparing for Convention



Outgoing President Lynne Batchelor sharing a laugh with incoming President Carol Vallens



Gail presenting gift to Lynne



Boutique shoppers find some treasures



Horizontal design for George by Brad



District Directors installed



2023-2025 President, Carol Vallens installed during a lovely ceremony



Shirley Lipa, Greg Pokorski and installing officer, Robin Pokorski



Nina Blonski, Chairman
 pennypines@cagardenclubs.org
[Penny Pines](#)
 Year to date \$12,920

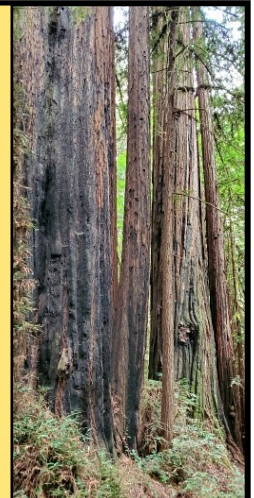
District	Club / Donor	Honor or Memory / To Whom	Amount	
Bay Bridges	Eden GC	Honor Marci Zimmerman, Martha Melendez	\$136.00	
Bay Ocean	Garden Study Club of the Peninsula		\$136.00	
Buttes	Lake Oroville Area GC	Honor Doris Lithgow	\$68.00	
Buttes	Garden Club of Colusa County		\$68.00	
Diablo Foothills	Clayton Valley GC	Honor Ann Dadami	\$68.00	
Orange County	San Clemente GC	Honor Carol Glasheen, Bill Schafer, Bob Luetz, Mike Gould	\$272.00	
Orange County	San Clemente GC	Memory Jerry Mohr	\$68.00	
Palomar	Fallbrook GC, Inc	Memory Shane Looper	\$68.00	
Sacramento River Valley	Shibui Arrangers Guild	Honor Robin Hutchings	\$68.00	
Sacramento River Valley	Gardeners of the Grove		\$68.00	
San Fernando Valley	Cherry Blossom GC		\$68.00	
Valley Lode	Ripon GC	Mona Restuccia	Memory Janice Ruth Brown, Helen Taylor Daniels	\$136.00
Valley Lode	Ripon GC		Honor Ripon Chamber of Commerce	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ripon GC		Honor Gayni Trotter	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ripon GC	Marilyn Graves	Memory Shirley Graves	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Foothill GC		Memory Kenneth McCoy	\$68.00
Valley Lode	Ceres GC		Honor Barbara Hawkins, Stephanie Pino, Guest Presenter	\$204.00

Coastal Redwood: Sequoia Sempervirens

By Judy Unrine and Kathy Taylor de Murillo, Co-Chairmen

Although Arbor Day is over, we would like to encourage you to continue considering a donation to the Sempervirens Fund. To save a tree is as important as planting one. Your donations to the Sempervirens Fund can help save a Redwood from the developers bulldozer or restore burned habitat. Please check the CGCI website under donations. You can specify a person, club anniversary, Arbor Day, or any other occasion.

As the club year ends for many we would like to give a big THANK YOU to all who have donated this year and in past years. Thanks to **Walnut Creek Garden Club** and the **South Valley Fleurs Garden Club** for their recent donations. "Sempervirens Forever!"



*To the many members who kindly sent me their condolences and good wishes.
 Thank you so much.
 Elisabeth Tufo*

The End:

My time as *Golden Garden eNews* Editor has come to an end and I look forward to a new look and Editor. Thank you for submitting your articles and sending me your newsletters. I especially want to thank the proofreaders, Jane McKee, Robin Pokorski and Nancy Compton for putting the finishing touches on every issue and making this an Award Winning Newsletter. Please send your articles and newsletters to the new Editor, Pat Claves at PatClaves@aol.com