

Golden Gardens eNews

www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org

July-August 2023, Vol. 1-16

California Garden Clubs, Inc.

A member of

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

and

Pacific Region

Garden Clubs, Inc.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope everyone is having a fun summer and staying cool as our state experiences excessive heat in most areas. We had a successful 2023 Convention at the beginning of June and all those in attendance had a great time. Installation night was special and with my family and friends in attendance it made it even more memorable for me. A special thank you to Robin Pokorski for kicking off my President's Project with a special installation and auction of the floral arrangements that were used to install each officer. I would also like to thank all the designers who helped pull off this surprise and to all who purchased one of the arrangements to support my President's Project, "Growing the CGCI Scholarship Fund." Remember the theme for my term is "Planting the Seeds of Tomorrow, Today." It is never too early to plant the seed and watch and see what can grow tomorrow. You would be amazed how our CGCI Scholarship Fund has helped many students over the years and now they are innovators in many different fields of horticulture.

The week following convention, I attended Naples Islands Garden Club's 50th Anniversary and the San Fernando Valley District Meeting. I also attended the San Diego County Fair and helped at Palomar District's booth where members talked about joining a garden club, floral design, growing dahlias and much more. A fun time was had by all, and of course I had to partake in some classic fair food, especially the deep-fried Oreos.

OFAD is having its annual seminar from August 3-6. OFAD stands for Organization of Floral Art Designers and is a member of CGCI. Several members of CGCI's Board of Directors will be attending, including your President.

The Fall Board Meeting will take place from September 18-20, 2023 at the Harris Ranch Resort in Coalinga. We are trying something new this time and will only have two full days of meetings on September 19 and 20 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and meals will be on your own. The theme for this meeting is "Round-Up at the Ranch." I am looking forward to seeing all members of my Board of Directors there. If you are interested in joining the CGCI Board of Directors and having fun, please reach out to me — we all have a great time and learn so much. I have made so many new and wonderful friends since I joined the board. I encourage all of you to consider becoming a member.

Thank you for being part of a garden club.

Fondly,
Carol

OFFICIAL CALENDAR

Check the CGCI Calendar of Events for links to brochures, flyers, registration forms, etc. For schools in other states, check the [NGC website](#). See CGCI [Calendar](#) Member Special Events for club, affiliate, associate plant society and district "special" events which are open to the public.

2023

- September 18-20, CGCI Fall Board Meeting, Harris Ranch, Coalinga. Hosted by CGCI Executive Committee
- September 23-25, Flower Show School, Course 4, Modesto. Sponsor: Valley Judges Council. Contact: [Judi Picinini](#)
- November 4-5, Environmental School, Course 1, Modesto. Sponsor: Ceres Garden Club. Contact: [Berni Hendrix](#)

2024

- January 6-7, Environmental School, Course 2, Modesto. Sponsor: Ceres Garden Club. Contact: [Berni Hendrix](#)
- January 29-31, CGCI Winter Board — Virtual
- February 3-4, Environmental School, Course 3, Modesto. Sponsor: Ceres Garden Club. Contact: [Berni Hendrix](#)
- March 2-3, Environmental School, Course 4, Modesto. Sponsor: Ceres Garden Club. Contact: [Berni Hendrix](#)
- May/June, CGCI Convention, Sacramento, CA (Dates TBD)
- June 2-5, NGC Convention, Westminster, Colorado
- August 20-23, PRGC Convention, Anchorage, Alaska
- Dates TBD, CGCI Fall Board Meeting, Hosted by Humboldt District

BOARD RATIFIED PROJECTS

See the CGCI [website](#) for information about these CGCI projects and how to donate.

- Black Point Historic Garden – Chairman [Julie West](#)
- Blue Star & Gold Star Families Memorials – Co-Chairmen [George Unrine](#) (South) & [Maria Krenek](#) (North)
- Conejo Valley Botanic Garden – Chairman [Shelley Sparks](#)
- Endowment Funds – Board of Trustees Chairman [Julie West](#)
- Golden Legacy Society – Chairman [George Perko](#)
- President's Project 2023-2025 – Chairman [Terri Taylor](#)
- Sempervirens Fund – Co-Chairmen [Judy Unrine](#) & [Kathy Taylor de Murillo](#)

Membership Chairmen

- Membership: [Nina Blonski](#)
- Life Membership: [Linda Travis](#)

Committee Chairmen

- Advisory Council: [Lynne Batchelor](#)
- Awards : [Pat Clayes](#)
- Board of Trustees: [Julie West](#)
- Budget & Finance: [Rita Desilets](#)
- Bylaws & Policy: [Greg Pokorski](#)
- Golden Gardens eNews: [Pat Clayes](#)
- Nominating: [Lynne Batchelor](#)
- Strategic Planning: [George Speer](#)
- Website: [Jane McKee](#)
- Youth Activities/Youth Awards: [Lisa Cosand](#)

Program Chairmen

- Group Tax Exemption Program: [Sue Bennett](#)
- Liability Insurance: [Launa Gould](#)
- Penny Pines: [Terry Sampson](#)
- Scholarship: [Martha Smyser](#)

Schools Chairmen

- Environmental: [Cynthia Jackson](#)
- Flower Show: TBD
- Gardening: [Greg Pokorski](#)
- Landscape Design: [Alexis Slafer](#)

Awards, Honors & Recognition Chairmen

- Awards Program: [Pat Clayes](#)
- Business Commendations, Long-Service Certificates & Member Award of Distinction: [Judy Bates](#)
- California Consultants Council: [Sue Bennett](#)

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- ◆ Submit articles by 20th of July, September, November, January, March, and May.



CGCI DUES BECOME DELINQUENT ON OCTOBER 1

Dues were due on July 1. Dues become delinquent on October 1.



If dues are not paid by October 1, clubs and associate plant societies (APS) become ineligible for liability insurance and participation in the awards program. In addition, clubs also become ineligible for the Group Tax Exemption Program. Forms can be found on the CGCI website under [Membership & Dues](#). Questions? Contact Membership Chairman [Nina Blonski](#). If your club or APS has not done so already, please complete the [Contact Information Form](#) that is found on the CGCI website under [Forms and Publications](#).

CGCI INFORMATION FOR YEARBOOKS

President: Carol Vallens, 19448 Blackhawk Street, Porter Ranch, CA 91326-2910

Email: CVallens57@gmail.com

Cell: 818-378-1313

Theme: "Planting the Seeds of Tomorrow, Today"

2023-2025 President's Project: "Building CGCI's Scholarship Fund"

Publication: *Golden Gardens eNews*

Website: <https://www.californiagardenclubs.com>

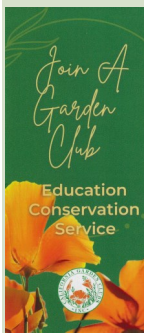
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaGardenClubsInc>

2023-2025 Meeting Dates:

- 2023 Fall Board Meeting: September 18-20, 2023, Harris Ranch, Coalinga, CA
- 2024 Winter Board Meeting: January 29-31, 2024 (Virtual)
- 92nd Convention: May/June 2024, Sacramento, CA (Dates TBD)
- 2024 Fall Board Meeting: Humboldt District (Dates TBD)
- 2025 Winter Board Meeting: January 27-29, 2025 (Virtual)
- 93rd Convention: May/June 2025 (Dates and Place TBD)



CGCI PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS



New Brochure

Start your new club year out right by ordering CGCI promotional materials! A variety of materials is offered to promote CGCI and your organization.

This term, CGCI has a new modern brochure that will appeal to everyone! Also offered are book-marks and rack cards. These include a space on the back to add your organization's name and contact information. Place these professionally designed promotional materials in local libraries, florist shops, nurseries, and garden centers to attract and interest new members. Have them available at flower shows, county fairs, plant sales, etc. to give to prospective members.

To order: Complete and submit the [order form](#). Your order will be given to your District Director at Fall Board or Convention (while supplies last) unless otherwise instructed. If order is mailed directly to you, you will be responsible for the mailing costs to be determined by the size of your order. The CGCI Membership Chairman [Nina Blonski](#) will contact you regarding the cost of postage.



Book-mark



Rack Card

2023 FALL BOARD MEETING

The **2023 Fall Board Meeting** will be held at **HARRIS RANCH RESORT** in Coalinga. The meeting will be hosted by the CGCI Executive Committee. More information to come — check the CGCI [Official Calendar](#) on the website.



CGCI PRESIDENT'S PROJECT 2023-2025

SCHOLARSHIPS



Building the CGCI Scholarship Fund

The purpose of the President's Project 2023-2025 is to raise funds to increase the scholarship dollar amount awarded per recipient and/or to increase the number of scholarships awarded beginning in 2024. The cost of attending a four-year college full time, including tuition, fees, and room and board, has increased 180% annually since 1978. CGCI has more scholarship applications from well-qualified and worthy students than funding available for the scholarship program. The project will add to the Scholarship Donations/Life Membership Fund (Line Code 31513) and correct the imbalance between the growing need and CGCI's ability to meet the need.

Donations can be made online or via mail. The [forms to donate](#) can be found on the [website](#). Questions? Please contact the President's Project Chairman [Terri Taylor](#). Thank you so much for your generosity.

SCHOLARSHIPS

By [Martha Smyser](#), Scholarship Chairman

At the 2023 Convention, the Scholarship Chairman Martha Smyser announced the following scholarships that were given to our California students:



California Garden Clubs, Inc.

Robert L. Gordon \$2,000 Scholarship: Jillian Eymann
Charlene Looper \$2,000 Scholarship: Sara Jessica Groban
Alberta Thiry \$2,000 Scholarship: Chloe Janay Raines



Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.

\$1,000 Scholarship: Sara Jessica Groban



National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Ellamae Fehrer \$3,800 Scholarship: Jillian Eymann
Mary Louise Michie \$3,800 Scholarship: Sara Jessica Groban
Cordelia Gray Brumby-Hazel Dillingham \$3,800 Scholarship: Bryan Looney

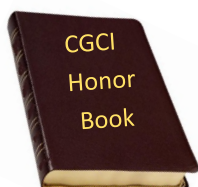
GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

By [Launa Gould](#), General Liability Insurance Chairman



Good news for those clubs that apply for General Liability Insurance through CGCI! The fee will remain same as last year — \$1.25 per member. Budget the expense for December as a late fee of \$25 is charged after January 15.

For more information about the General Liability Insurance Program, see the [CGCI website](#) or contact the General Liability Insurance Chairman Launa Gould.



HONOR BOOK

Give the perfect gift! A gift that you do not have to water, prune, dust or put together. Give the gift of a place in the Honor Book to remember or honor that special person. Donations are used, *inter alia*, for the monetary awards of first place winners of the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest.

For Honor Book recognition "In Memory of" or "In Honor of," send your check payable to CGCI in any amount to CGCI Honor Book Chairman [Betty Langford](#). See the CGCI website for the [donation form](#) under Forms and Publications. The honoree will receive a card, and the donor will receive an acknowledgement card. For a memorial, a card will be sent to the next of kin.

CGCI'S FACEBOOK PAGE

The CGCI Facebook Page is filled with important information from California Garden Clubs, Inc., Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Garden Clubs, Inc. It also contains articles from club and district newsletters from all over California. It is a good way to get some inspiration for projects, etc. and learn about horticulture, gardening, flower design, etc. from around California and beyond. Also included are poems and jokes to brighten anyone's day. The Facebook Administrator updates the page daily.

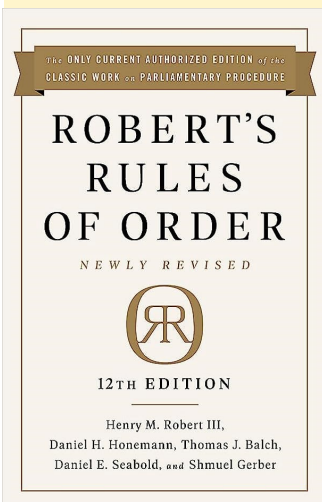


One does not have to have a Facebook account to view the posts. Just go to the CGCI website and click on the "F" at the bottom right of the home page: www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org. If one is a Facebook member, just search for California Garden Clubs or type the link: <https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaGardenClubsInc> Recommendation: Please "like" the posts and leave positive comments. If anyone has anything to share (photos, stories, poems, etc.), please send to patclayes@aol.com.

MESSAGE FROM THE PARLIAMENTARIAN

Your Input is Invited Regarding Changes to CGCI's Bylaws

By [Greg Pokorski](#), Parliamentarian



All CGCI members can participate in the ongoing process of updating and fine-tuning CGCI's bylaws, standing rules and policy. Standing rules and policy can be amended throughout the year. Bylaws changes require recommendation by the Bylaws & Policy Committee to the Board of Directors at each Winter Board Meeting, and then recommendation by the Board to the Membership (represented by the convention body) at each annual convention. Therefore, proposed bylaws changes for the 2023-2024 garden club year need to be submitted to the Bylaws and Policy Committee by **November 1** (Article XX, Section 2).

Please use the Bylaw, Standing Rule, Policy Amendment [Request Form](#) to submit your suggestions. This is a webform on the CGCI website – found under [About CGCI/Governance](#).

Your 2023-2025 Bylaws and Policy Committee looks forward to reviewing your suggestions.

“The measure of intelligence is the ability to change”

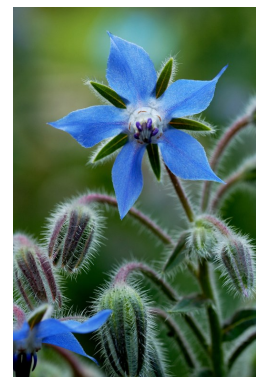
— Albert Einstein

HERBIE THE HERBALIST

Herbie has found another wonderful herb: BORAGE (*Borago officinalis*)

Borage is an annual herb in the flowering plant family *Boraginaceae*. It is native to the Mediterranean region and has naturalized in many other locales. It grows to a height of 2 to 3 feet and is bristly or hairy all over the stems and leaves.

Also known as the starflower, Borage is the herb of courage, and it is a wonderful specimen to have in your garden. The young leaves and flowerheads have a light cucumber-like taste and make an excellent addition to your salad. Borage is very high in potassium, and it is a noted companion plant to repel tomato worms. This herb will make a nice cup of tea.



LIFE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

By [Linda Travis](#), Life Membership Chairman

CGCI, PRGC and NGC Life Memberships may be purchased as an honorarium, or individuals may purchase their own. Application forms are available on the [CGCI website](#). Donations support the CGCI and PRGC Scholarship Programs. Thank you for supporting the Life Membership Programs. The following received Life Memberships from January through June 2023:

CGCI LIFE MEMBERSHIPS:

Bay Ocean District

Carolands Garden Club

Lenore Karp

Costa Verde District

Long Beach Garden Club

Jane Kaylor

Luther Burbank District

Santa Rosa Garden Club

Kathleen Reynolds

Carol Weisker

Orange County District

San Clemente Garden Club

Kim Neal

Patricia Holloway

Betsy Dunn

Palomar District

La Jolla Garden Club

Ginger Taylor

Roadrunner District

Desert Crossroads Garden Club

Jon Bush

San Fernando Valley District

Southern California Garden

Club

Linda Travis

Valley Lode District

Ceres Garden Club

Berni Hendrix

Escalon Farmington

Community Garden Club

Christine Hingley

Manteca Garden Club

Paula Elias

Ripon Garden Club

Deb Travaille

PRGC LIFE MEMBERSHIPS:

Buttes District

Lake Oroville Area Garden Club

Carol Jauregui

San Fernando Valley District

Southern California Garden

Club

Natalie Bloxham

2011-2021 PAST PRESIDENTS' TREE DEDICATION

at Big Basin Redwoods State Park

by [Judy Unrine](#) & [Kathy Taylor de Murillo](#), [Sempervirens Fund](#) Co-Chairs



It has been a CGCI tradition to honor its past presidents with the dedication of a Coastal Redwood tree in Big Basin Redwoods State Park. On June 2, 2023, another dedication ceremony was held at the newly reopened Big Basin Redwoods State Park honoring the following CGCI past presidents: Julie West (2011-2013), Rita Desilets (2013-2015), Susan "Sue" Bennett (2015-2017), Krystal Migliore (2017-2019), and Charlene "Shane" Looper (2019-2021).

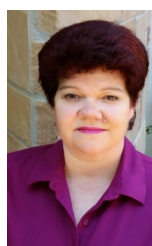
Attendees gathered at the site of a beautiful, mature Redwood tree located in the CGCI grove. Eleven people attended, including CGCI President Lynne Batchelor, Past President Sue Bennett, Past Sempervirens Chairman Rosa Radicchi, Santa Clara Valley District Director Roseanne Constable, a few club presidents and garden club members, and the Sempervirens Fund's Director of Tributes & Legacy Fund Amanda Krauss and her associate. Donations to CGCI's [Honor Book](#) supplied the funds for the tree's purchase.



Julie West



Rita Desilets



Sue Bennett



Krystal Migliore



Shane Looper

**"A late summer garden has a tranquility
found no other time of the year."**

— William Frank Longgood

AWARDS

By Awards Chairman [Pat Claves](#)

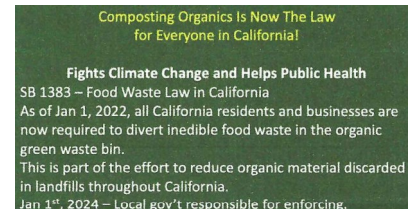
A lot has happened over the late spring/early summer regarding the Awards Program. Actually, editing started in January! So, here is what has taken place:

- ◆ The new CGCI [Awards Manual](#) has been finalized and placed on the website.
- ◆ The [Application Cover Sheet](#) (formerly called the Application Form/Cover Sheet) has been updated for the 2023-2025 Awards Years.
- ◆ The actual three-page entry is now called the “Award Application.”
- ◆ All [evaluation forms](#) have been updated. Be sure to look at the corresponding evaluation form for your award as lots of changes have been made. Also, take a look at a new document entitled “[Helpful Information and Suggestions for Creating an Award Application](#)” before you start typing your Award Application. There are some new terms on the evaluation forms which might not be familiar to you, e.g., “scope of project,” “comprehensiveness of work,” “evaluation of goals”. We have included the definitions of these terms and examples to help you successfully complete your Award Application. [These terms were taken from NGC’s scoring sheets.]
- ◆ Applicants will no longer have to submit evaluation forms with their entries. But, be sure to look at these to see what is required in your Award Application — the evaluation form is what the judges use to score your entry.
- ◆ Samples of a correctly completed [Application Cover Sheet](#) and an Award Application are on the website. The [sample Award Application](#) will help you with the new terms on the evaluation forms.
- ◆ There is a new form entitled “[Release for Publication and Website](#)” that must accompany any application containing photographs of people (including children). Note: NGC requires this form, and now so does CGCI.
- ◆ ALL ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY — EVEN FLOWER SHOW BOOKS OF EVIDENCE. This does not apply to Youth Contests. See *Awards Manual* and evaluation forms for name of person to send email and email address.
- ◆ When emailing, most entries require three attachments: (1st Attachment: Application Cover Sheet; 2nd Attachment: Award Application (one to three printed pages (front sides only)); and 3rd Attachment: Release for Publication and Website for each person if application contains photos of people and/or children).
- ◆ NGC/PRGC/CGCI information for your yearbooks is on the [website](#) and included in this issue of *Golden Gardens eNews*.
- ◆ Flower Show award questions can be sent to the Flower Show Awards Chairman [Emily Troxell](#).
- ◆ Youth award questions can be sent to Youth Awards Chairman [Lisa Cosand](#).
- ◆ All other award questions can be sent to Awards Chairman [Pat Claves](#).

This has been an extremely challenging time for your Awards Chairman, but the Awards Program has now come into the 21st Century with all electronic submissions and coordinating our evaluation sheets with NGC’s scoring sheets. Hopefully, we will all be able to adjust and come out winners! Members of the Awards Committee want to assist you in any way we possibly can. Please do not hesitate to contact us, and we thank you for your anticipated patience during this transition period.

2022 NGC AWARD CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION WINNERS

Los Osos Valley Garden Club won a Certificate of Commendation from NGC for Award EC-2 for Conservation Education (CGCI Award #28). The Club held a Zoom Community Program on “How to Deal with Household Waste and Improve Your Garden” to increase awareness of the new California food waste law. The program accessed many different sources of information and presented it in a half-hour format that included short videos and discussions.



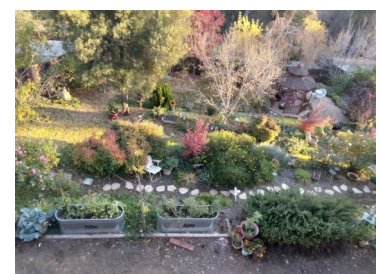
Page from the Presentation



Example of Container with Planting Materials

Gay Lynne Trumm of Lake Oroville Valley Garden Club won a Certificate of Commendation from NGC for Award GC-1 for Container Gardening (CGCI Award #22). Gay used the lasagna layering method to fill two containers with soil, steer manure, compost and brown and green materials, watering lightly between each layer. She planted three varieties of tomatoes (yellow pear, sweet 100s and baby beefsteak), bell peppers from plant starts, seed potatoes, and slips of sweet potatoes.

Two Containers in the Front of Gay’s Beautiful Garden Area





PENNY PINES

PENNY PINES DONATIONS JULY 2023 REPORT

Total donations to date: \$19,672.00

H = In Honor of
M = In Memory of

By [Terry Sampson](#), Chairman**ARBORETUM DISTRICT****It's Garden Thyme GC**

H: Evelyn Ade, Eva Delgado, \$272
Sondra, Shanahan, Norm & Candy
Nakanishi

H: Betty Dagen, Margaret \$204
Loughner, Gloria Estabrook

Year Around GC

H: Eleanor Costello, Mario \$204
Flores, Lupe Pedraza

H: Evelyn Ade, Suzie LePrince \$136
H: Debbie Hatrick, Erika \$204

Timmons, David Twing
H: Irmgard Siglind (Sigi) Williams \$272
(3), Mirana Espinosa

BAY BRIDGES DISTRICT**Eden GC**

H: Robin Rees \$68
M: "Wild Bill Noble" \$68

Friends of Heirloom Flowers

M: Lynn Trostad \$68

Hillside Gardeners of Montclair

H: Sharon Bettinelli, Carol Heard, \$272
Janice Cantu, Barbara Goldenberg

H: Sandy Jaeger, Pat Payne, Reenie
Raschke, Mary Anne Urry \$272

Pinole GC

H: Adila Araya \$68

BUTTES DISTRICT**Paradise GC**

M: Laurel Pine \$68

COSTA VERDE DISTRICT**Riviera GC**

H: Julia Black \$204

DIABLO FOOTHILLS DISTRICT**Discovery Bay GC**

H: Jane Perry \$68

Livermore-Amador Valley GC

H: Jeri Stark \$68

HUMBOLDT DISTRICT

Fortuna GC \$680

MENDO-LAKE DISTRICT

H: Diane Cerutti, Penny Seaman, \$204

James Xerogenes

M: Sandra Spencer \$68

Potter Valley GC

M: Jim Awtrey \$68

MONTANA DE ORO DISTRICT**Cayucos GC**

H: Ron Clark \$68

ORANGE COUNTY DISTRICT**Anaheim GC**

H: Margaret Purtell, Connie \$204
O'Leary, Evelia Govea

H: Candy Nakanishi, Gail Mitchell \$136

Laguna Beach GC

H: JoAnn DeYonker, Mary Jones, \$272

Trudy Josephson, Cheryl Czyz

H: Wendy Caufield, Lois Zeller, Dee

Perry, Susan McGill \$272

H: Marcia Forsyth, Perry Stampfel \$136

Lake Forest GC

M: Loydele Kehler \$68

Newport Hills GC

M: Beryl Richmond \$68

PALOMAR DISTRICT**Fallbrook GC**

H: Lynne Batchelor \$68

H: Save Our Forests \$68

H: Joanne Ferguson \$68

Temecula Valley GC

H: Barbie Lickness \$68

H: Sharon Johnson \$68

H: Bob Boyd \$68

H: Susan Puma \$68

H: June Cianfrana \$68

H: Carol Guerard \$68

H: Sue Cobb \$68

M: Melvin Wons, Jr. \$68
M: Kenny and Robin Morsk \$68
Vista Garden Club \$204

SACRAMENTO RIVER VALLEY DISTRICT

Sacramento Elementary ECO Club \$340

H: Cousin Connor-Bennett, Parents
Mr. & Mrs. Villanueva, Mom Keon,
Pluto Avery, Generous Families of
Sunrise Elementary

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY DISTRICT**Southern California GC**

M: Leah Imamura \$68

H: CGCI Pres. Carol Vallens \$68

West Valley GC

M: Charles Russell \$68

SEQUOIA FOOTHILLS DISTRICT**Sequoia GC**

H: Rosalie Powell \$68

VALLEY LODGE DISTRICT**Ripon GC**

H: Colonel Michael A. Fugett \$68

H: Adrian John (Jim Sr.) Aartman,

Michael John Van Unen \$136

H: Harrison Gibbs \$68

River Valley GC

H: Gail Bullen \$68

YOSEMITE GATEWAY DISTRICT**Le Grand Community GC**

H: Billie Walker \$68



Developing Pine Cone

ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL



Mark your calendars for **November 4-5, 2023** to attend Course 1 of NGC's Environmental School! **Ceres Garden Club** of Valley Lode District will sponsor the school held in Modesto.

The mission of the Environmental Schools is to teach environmental literacy to cherish, protect and conserve the living earth. The courses teach participants environmental literacy, appreciation of the natural world, encourages action for sustainable development and appreciation for the interrelation of all natural things. Land conservation, water conservation and air quality is particularly emphasized.

In Course 1, you will learn an overview and introduction to Ecology, Plants - Biodiversity, Environmental Science, Environmental Issues, Backyard and Wildlife Habitat, Networking and Outreach, Historic Environmental Actions and Leaders, and Sustainability.

Course 2: January 6-7; Course 3: February 3-4; Course 4: March 2-3. Contact [Berni Hendrix](#) for more information and registration form.

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL



The **Valley Judges Council** is sponsoring an NGC's Flower Show School. Course 4 will be held on September 23-25, 2023 in Modesto. Registration fee is \$165.

Learn about Collections and Displays; the Botanical Arts Section of a flower show; Abstract Design, etc. Anyone can attend. If interested, contact the Chairman [Judi Picinini](#) or the Registrar [Jen Waite](#).

GARDENING SCHOOL

Learn about horticulture and the art of gardening. After successful completion of four courses, a member may become an accredited gardening consultant. Objectives are to stimulate an interest in horticulture and to further the art of gardening.



A series of four courses may be sponsored by a member club, a group of member clubs, or a district. If interested in sponsoring a Gardening School, contact Gardening School Chairman [Greg Pokorski](#).

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

Did you know that NGC offers courses in Landscape Design (LD) to garden club members and the public?

Here is what you will learn:

- ◆ Course 1: Your Ecosystem; Space, Design & People; Principles & Elements of LD; Developing Your Garden Plan; Basics of Site Plan; Color in the Landscape; Design for the Environment; Development of LD - Ancient Times to 1840; Xeriscaping.
- ◆ Course 2: Designing for Pollinators & Wildlife; Plants in the Landscape; Accessible, Enabling & Therapeutic Gardens; Structures in the Landscape; Redesign of Areas; Development of North American LD; Preservation of Historic Sites & Structures; Over-used, Often Invasive Plants & Native Alternatives.
- ◆ Course 3: Woody Plants in the Landscape; Herbaceous Materials in the Landscape; LD with Maintenance in Mind; Graphics Interpretation; Creating Your Own Home Garden Landscaping Plan.
- ◆ Course 4: Contemporary LD Trends; Community Participation in Landscaping Projects; History & Development of Community Gardens; Suburban Design; Guidelines for Evaluating Landscape Designs; Evaluation of Landscape Designs.



Currently, there are no LD schools scheduled to be held in California. Why not think about sponsoring a school? Contact LD Schools Chairman [Alexis Slafer](#) to find out how clubs and districts can sponsor an LD school. For more information, go to the [LD School page](#) on the CGCI website.

FLORAL DESIGN

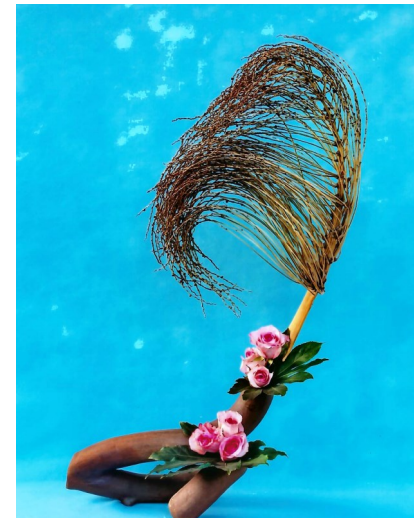
2022 Floral Arranger of the Year Award Winners



**1st Place: JEANNE WALKER,
SHIBUI ARRANGERS GUILD**



**2nd Place: BARBARA WEILER,
DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB**



**3rd Place: LISA AYALA,
FURYU ARRANGERS GUILD**

To enter in the 2023 competition, submit a photograph of a flower design created by a club member. Complete an Application Cover Sheet. In the Application (one to three printed pages/front sides only) describe container, accessories, mechanics, background, and plant material. Design to be made and photographed during the awards year (January – December). Limit is five (5) entries per applicant. Each photo requires an Application Cover Sheet and Application. Email Deadline is December 1 to Flower Show Awards Chairman [Emily Troxell](#).

Inspiration given by Former CGCI President Rita Desilets at the 2023 CGCI Convention in Thousand Oaks:

THE WOMAN WITH THREE HAIRS

There once was a woman who woke up one morning, looked in the mirror, and saw that she had only three hairs on her head. "Great," she said, "I think I'll braid my hair today." So, she did and had a wonderful day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and saw that she had only two hairs on her head. "Hmm," she said, "I guess I'll part my hair down the middle." So, she did and had a wonderful day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and saw that she had only one hair left on her head. "Wow," she said, "today I get to wear my hair in a ponytail." So, she did and had a wonderful, wonderful day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and saw that there wasn't a single hair on her head. "Thank God!" she exclaimed. "I was running out of things to do with my hair!"

Attitude is everything! Let's be grateful for the things God has given us and have a wonderful day!

First Place — NGC FD-1A
Calendar Arranger of the Year,
Hetty Shurtleff of OFAD and
Las Floralias

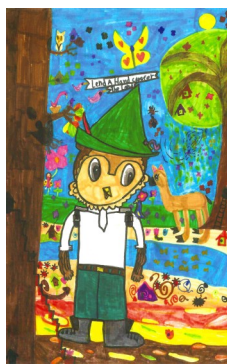


YOUTH

2022/2023 Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Winners



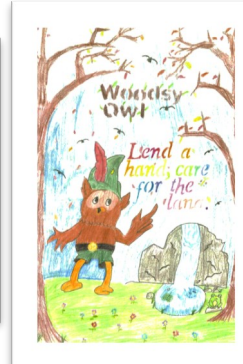
FIRST GRADE



SECOND GRADE



THIRD GRADE



FOURTH GRADE



FIFTH GRADE

2023/2024 Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Update

Attn: Club Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Chairmen

In 2023/2024, in honor of Smokey Bear's 80th birthday, we will only be accepting posters with Smokey Bear depicted. No Woodsy Owl posters will be accepted.



It is time to start thinking about the poster contest now as you will need to hit the ground running by the end of August to make sure your posters are completed and back to your club's poster chairman before the schools close for the Christmas holiday. All posters must be reviewed to make sure they conform to all rules before they can be judged at your club level. After judging, make color copies of your top four winning posters from each grade before forwarding them to me, your CGCI Poster Chairman, **Charlotte Tucker**, 18047 Lime Kiln Road, Sonora, CA 95370. Making clear color copies of your winning posters is VERY important as you might not get them back. **I need them in my hands by January 24, 2024 at the latest!** I'm here for you, so if you have questions, contact me at ctucker@mlode.com or 209-533-9300. All rules are on the CGCI website under [Awards](#).



2022/2023 Pollinator Contest Winners

For complete rules regarding the 2023/2024 Pollinator Poster Contest, see the CGCI website Under [Awards](#).



2023/2024 Youth Poetry & Essay Contests

Poetry Contest Theme: **"I SPY WITH MY LITTLE EYE, SOMETHING GREEN OUTSIDE — CELEBRATING OUR GREEN WORLD"**

Junior Essay Contest Title: **"THE LIVES OF PLANTS"**

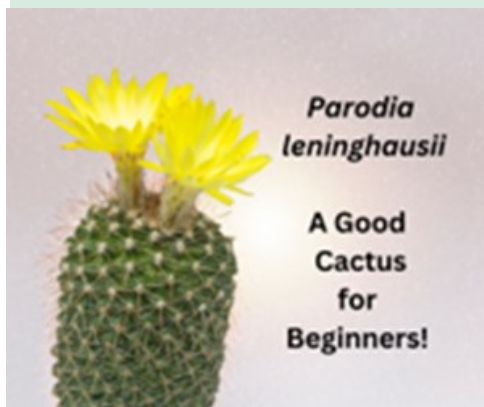
Complete rules can be found on the CGCI Website under [Awards](#).

AND DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE YOUTH SCULPTURE CONTEST! See contest rules on the website under [Awards](#).

HORTICULTURE

PARODIA LENINGHAUSII A GOOD CACTUS FOR BEGINNERS

From the [Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society](#)



This is a plant found in most general collections and is easy to find in garden shops. It is not difficult to grow and puts up with a lot of abuse.

First described in 1895, it has been in cultivation for a long time. Most of us old-timers in the hobby have known it as *Notocactus leninghausii*, but it has undergone a number of name changes over the years. Native to southern Brazil, it has a light green body with 30-40 ribs and many closely set areoles which bear twisty golden spines. The plant is globular for its first 4-5 years, then becomes columnar with the head tilting toward the light. The citron-yellow flowers appear in mid-summer from the lower side of the head. This is a large growing species, getting up to three feet tall and prefers a large pot or free root run. Mature specimens offset freely from the base.

Parodia leninghausii is closely related to other species also native to southern Brazil: *claviceps*, *magnifica*, *nigrispina*, *schumanniana* and *warasii*.

CALIFORNIA CONSULTANTS COUNCIL (CCC)

By Chairman [Sue Bennett](#)



The California Consultants Council, created in 2013 from the two Councils that previously existed (Landscape Design and Gardening), celebrates its 10-year anniversary!

The CCC objectives are to protect the environment, to increase knowledge in horticulture and to promote excellence in landscape design. Meetings are held three times each year during regularly scheduled CGCI meetings (Fall Board, Winter Board and Convention). Check the CGCI Official Calendar for dates and times.

Membership includes accredited **Environmental, Gardening and Landscape Design Consultants** (including provisional and emeritus) who are members of NGC affiliated clubs. Member participation is critical to making the CCC viable. Please share your ideas and accomplishments, both individual and club related, with other CCC members.

Members may act in an advisory capacity serving on local and state committees in addition to promoting the study of the

environment, gardening, and landscape design by encouraging and promoting sponsorship and attendance at NGC Environmental Schools, Gardening Schools, Landscape Design Schools, and refreshers.

Qualified members pay dues of \$20 for a two-year term, usually July 1; or when the member joins. Dues help with speakers, tours and CGCI Horticulture Awards #4 and #24 sponsored. In addition to these CGCI awards, various Certificates of Recognition including an Environmental-Friendly Commendation, Outstanding Private Garden Award; Award of Merit in Landscape Architecture; Landscape Design Commendation; and Landscape Design Certificate of Appreciation/Recognition/Achievement are available. Commendation applications can be found on CGCI's website: <https://www.californiagardenclubs.com/californiaconsultantscouncil/>

In honor of the CCC's 10-year anniversary, our goal is to issue TEN commendations during the 2023-2025 term. Now is your time to get out there, take some pictures and nominate someone, an organization or neighbor. The CCC NEEDS YOUR PARTICIPATION – thus allowing more recognition to be handed out to the community.

THEY SING IN THEIR DREAMS

In a study done at the University of Chicago in 2000, scientists concluded that songbirds sing in their sleep. Scientists monitored the brain activity of zebra finches, both awake and asleep. The patterns of activity were similar in both groups. Scientists believe that the birds were singing in their sleep as a way of tuning their voices.



NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (NGC) & PACIFIC REGION GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (PRGC)



Welcome to our new NGC President Brenda Moore

President: Brenda Moore, Oak Hill, West Virginia

Email: BMoore@gardenclub.org

Theme: "Go Green - Plant America" / Project: "Plant America, Feed America"

NGC Headquarters: 4401 Magnolia Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110-3406 / Telephone: 314-776-7574

Email: headquarters@gardenclub.org / Publication: *The National Gardener*

Website: <https://gardenclub.org> / Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NGCSOCIALMEDIA>

2023-2025 Meeting Dates:

- 2023 Fall Board Meeting: September 21, 2023 (Virtual)
- 93rd Convention: June 2-5, 2024, Westminster, Colorado
- 2024 Fall Board Meeting 2024: September 24, 2024 (Virtual)
- 94th Convention: May 19-23, 2025, Omaha, Nebraska



**NGC President
Brenda Moore**

Plant America Community Project Grants



PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants help enhance and beautify our public areas and community gardens. Project grants to NGC member clubs help educate adults and children about the joys of gardening and create a pride throughout the community. Grants may be used for physical landscaping or environmental projects, or for horticultural or educational opportunities for the community. Grants have been awarded to NGC member clubs since 2017. More than 250 grants have been awarded, totaling more than \$225,000. Grants are awarded in amounts up to \$1,000.

Plant America Community Project Grant applications are open to NGC member clubs from **April 1 through October 15** of the calendar year to fund new or continuing projects carried out during the following year. For more information: [Plant America Community Project Grants | National Garden Clubs, Inc.](#)

Welcome to our new PRGC Director Carol Norquist

Director: Carol Norquist, 3734 W. 35th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99517-1557

Email: PacRegGardenClubs@gmail.com / Telephone: 907-248-9563

Theme: "Unleash the Wild – Bring Nature Home"

PRGC Project: "Unleash the Wild – Bring Nature Home" / Publication: *WACONIAH*

Website: <https://pacificregiongardenclubs.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PacificRegionGardenClubs>

2023-2025 Meeting Dates:

80th Convention: August 20-23, 2024, Anchorage, Alaska / 81st Convention: April 2025, Arizona



**PRGC Director
Carol Norquist**

WACONIAH — The Official Publication of PRGC

Did you know that *WACONIAH* stands for the first letters of the names of the states that comprise PRGC: Washington, Arizona, California, Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, Alaska, Hawaii? To subscribe to *WACONIAH*, go to [Home \(pacificregiongardenclubs.org\)](https://pacificregiongardenclubs.org) and see the link to subscribe. It's FREE.

PRGC Director's Project: "Unleash the Wild – Bring Nature Home"

Read all about the PRGC Director's Project on the PRGC website. The link is: [Director's Project | Pacific Region Garden Club, Inc. \(pacificregiongardenclubs.org\)](#)