



CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC. BUSINESS MEETING

Saturday, June 3, 2006
Sunday, June 4, 2006

Convention, Double Tree Hotel, Ontario
President: Elisabeth A. Tufo

CONVENTION 2006 BUSINESS MEETING #1

- 1) Amenities and Protocol Chairman, Marjorie Johnson presented President Elisabeth A. Tufo who called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M. Recording Secretary Rita Desilets was present.
- 2) Ruth Angevine conducted the Memorial.
- 3) The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jackie Jackman.
- 4) President Tufo introduced the members of the Executive Committee, Pacific Region Director Beverly Brune, Official Timekeeper, Glenn Burroughs and the Pages.
- 5) Credentials Chairman Hoberley Schuler gave the First Credentials Report -140 voting members of a total 168 registered.
- 6) The Chair declared a quorum was present.
- 7) Convention Chairman, Marcie Beller reported the following changes in the Convention Program:
 - Page 4, June 2 – Youth meeting location changed to Cajon Peak
 - Page 5, Official Opening in Lake Gregory and Lake Silverwood
 - Page 8, June 4 – Schools Breakfast – Myrtle Findley will give the Inspiration
 - Page 9, Guide Dog program changed to Sally Lynes and BonnieMarcie Beller moved to adopt the Convention Program as corrected. **PASSED**
- 8) Robin Pokorski reported that the minutes of the 2005 Convention in Sacramento were approved as distributed.
- 9) President Tufo appointed members of the Minutes Review Committee (Business Meetings only)– Mary-Jo Noth, Chairman, Gayle Davis and Marilyn Oberti
- 10) President Tufo asked that the order form for the Diamond Jubilee ornaments be corrected to read: \$12 a piece for 12 or more.
- 11) Recording Secretary Rita Desilets read the **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**
 - **PERSONNEL –ALL APPROVED AT PRE-CONVENTION MEETING**
 - 1) Accept with regret the resignation of:
 - Marcie Beller – *Golden Gardens* Circulation
 - Maryanne Lucas – Diamond Jubilee Committee
 - Beverly Ann Miller- Photography Chair
 - Robin Pokorski – Strategic Planning Committee
 - 2) Approve the appointment of:
 - Edris Edgar – Photography Chair
 - Joelle Holford – *Golden Gardens* Circulation
 - Maryanne Lucas – Strategic Planning Committee
 - Jane McKee – National Garden Week Chair
 - Marilyn Oberti – Diamond Jubilee Committee
 - Judy Unrine – Habitat for Humanity
 - David West – Board of Trustees (2006—2012)
 - Judy Picinini – Diamond Jubilee Committee
 - 3) District Directors:
 - Karin King – Humboldt District
 - Sheila Newell & Dorothy Peterson – Sacramento River Valley District
 - **RECOMMENDATIONS**
 - 4) To approve \$600 to pay for T-shirts for the 2007 Wildflower Conference. Monies to come from the Wildflower Conference Account. **PASSED AT PRE-CONVENTION MEETING.**

- 5) To approve \$350, for a \$2000 deductible policy for Directors and Officers insurance Coverage. Monies to come from the CGCI Insurance Fund. **PASSED.**
- 6) To approve \$750 for the Membership Chairman, monies to come from the General Fund. **PASSED.**
- 7) To approve a \$500 loan to Golden Foothills District to sponsor a Bi – Refresher Event. Monies to come from the Education Schools Fund. **TABLED** until the Organizational Meeting.
- 8) To close the Youth Conference Fund – Restricted containing \$572.66 and the Youth Gardener Grant – Restricted Fund containing \$900 and transfer the monies to the General Fund. **PASSED AT PRE-CONVENTION MEETING.**
Lorraine Ornelas moved to reconsider #8 regarding the Youth Conference Fund at the Organizational Meeting. **PASSED.**
- 9) To take orders for the Diamond Jubilee ornaments for \$15 each, \$12 each for orders of one dozen or more. **PASSED.**
- 10) To register the CGCI logo and *Golden Gardens* logo at a cost of \$70 each by June 6, 2006, effective to 2016, monies to come from the General Fund.
PASSED AT PRE-CONVENTION MEETING.
- 11) To approve \$460 for the printing of 17,000 full-color membership cards, cost to be underwritten by Emerisa Gardens, monies to come from the General Fund. **PASSED.**
- **RATIFICATIONS – ALL RATIFIED AT THE PRE-CONVENTION MEETING**
- 12) To ratify Gloria Aminian and Judy Unrine as CGCI Delegates to the NGC Convention in Orlando.
- 13) To ratify the appointment of Robert L. Gordon as the alternate to the NGC Nominating Committee
- 14) To ratify the appointment of Robin Pokorski as the Alternate to the Alternate to the NGC Nominating Committee.
- 15) To ratify Jean Reiley as a delegate to the 2006 Pacific Region Convention in Boise.
- 16) To ratify Helen Gates as a member of the Circle of Poppies.

12) President Tufo called for the Executive Committee Reports.

- **Diane Charbonneau**, *Golden Gardens* Editor, thanked the *Golden Gardens* staff and requested suggestions and ideas. A subscription problem is being corrected; Joelle Holford is the new Circulation Chairman. The increase in subscription rate will start with the August 2006 issue.
- **Mary-Jo Noth**, Corresponding Secretary, read correspondence from
 - a) NGC President, Kitty Larkin, thanking CGCI for hosting the NGC Winter Executive Committee Meeting.
 - b) NGC – The Trustees for Permanent Home and Endowment Fund stating Elsie Mae Nicholson has been included in the Book of Remembrance.
 - c) Note from Sharon Thorne, Gold Honor Book Chairman acknowledging Honor Book gifts in memory of Claudia Davis, Luella Zamzow and Edith Puckett.
 - d) Letter addressed to Dolores Moffat from Charleen Costello, 2006 San Francisco Flower and Garden Show Chairman.
- **Rita Desilets**, Recording Secretary filed her report.
- **Wilma Parker**, Parliamentarian, read the CGCI Convention Rules.
- **Julie West**, Third Vice-President needs District Directors' Rosters. Publicity from San Francisco Flower and Garden Show was shared. Certificates were presented to River Valley Garden Club, Sacramento River Valley District and Ramona Garden Club, Palomar District, for increases in membership. CGCI Jubilee/Membership posters and card flyers are free to clubs. Longevity certificates are available; allow four weeks for delivery.
- **Maryanne Lucas**, Second Vice-President, has three Awards manuals: CGCI, Pacific Region, and NGC. *Fine Gardening* magazine is donating part of the subscription price to NGC's "Greening the Gulf Coast". Please use the order form on the CGCI website. A one-page list of the awards has been prepared. Blue Ribbon Club certificates are in District Directors' boxes.

- **Robin Pokorski**, First Vice-President, as Convention/Board Meeting Chairman – Winter Board 2009, Luther-Burbank, Carol Mayo Chairman. Need location for Fall Board 2009 and Convention 2009.
 - **Robin Pokorski**, First Vice-President, as Personnel Chairman requested those interested to complete personnel forms.
 - **Robin Pokorski**, First Vice-President, as Official Calendar Chairman, expressed thanks for newsletters and invitations. The current Official Calendar will be on the CGCI website. Robin Pokorski moved to ratify the dates. **PASSED. SEE ATTACHMENTS (A)**
 - **President Elisabeth A. Tufo** reminded Bay Ocean District to register the Environmental Schools with NGC. President Tufo has enjoyed her visits to Districts. News from the 2006 NGC Convention was shared. Because of concerns over the financial situation, Julie West has been investigating increasing CGCI dues.
- 13) Maryanne Lucas presented the Member Award of Honor to Jeanny Graham.
- 14) President Tufo presented citations to: Barbara Stevens; Patricia Clayes; Carolyn Villi; Marilyn Oberti; Dolores Moffat; Shane Looper; and George Perko.
- 15) Chairman of Wildflower Conference 2007, Merrilee Ray will show a film, Living History (The Bristlecone Pine), at the Schools Breakfast on Sunday. A Wildflower Conference T-shirt was presented to President Tufo.
- 16) Robert Gordon, Diamond Jubilee Committee Chairman reported on the Jubilee plans. The September 27 Washington D.C. Tour was discussed.
- 17) President Tufo suspended the meeting at 11:00 A.M.

CONVENTION 2006 BUSINESS MEETING #2

- 18) President Tufo resumed on Sunday, June 4 at 9:01 A.M. A quorum was present. Recording Secretary Rita Desilets was present.
- 19) ByLaws Committee Chairman, Nancy Lee Loesch presented the Bylaws Committee's recommendations:
- Article IV, Sec. 3 (C) MEMBERSHIP AND DUES. **PASSED.**
 - Article V, Sec. 10 OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES. **PASSED.**
 - Article VII, Sec. 1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Was amended to read: (f) members of bylaws committee. **PASSED AS AMENDED.**
 - Article VII, Sec. 5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS. **PASSED.**
 - Article XI, Sec. 11 ANNUAL MEETINGS. Beverly Brune moved to strike "CGCI" **PASSED AS AMENDED.**
 - Article XII, Sec. 7 (a-d) FINANCES **PASSED.**
 - Article XII, Sec. 7 (a-d) FINANCES (Second Proposed Change) **PASSED.**
 - Article IV, Sec. 1 MEMBERSHIP & DUES
Mary-Jo Noth moved to add "and life members" following "youth gardeners."
PASSED
 - Article IV, Sec. 2 MEMBERSHIP & DUES
- George Speer moved to deal with housekeeping amendments in total without reading. **PASSED**
Article IV, Sec. 3 (b) MEMBERSHIP & DUES, Article IV, Sec. 3 (e) MEMBERSHIP & DUES
Article V, Sec. 5 OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES, Article V, Sec. 7 OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES
Article VII, Sec. 3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, Article IX, Sec. 6 DISTRICT & DISTRICT DIRECTORS
Article XI, Sec. 4 ANNUAL MEETINGS, Article XI, Sec. 5 ANNUAL MEETINGS, Article XI, Sec. 6 ANNUAL MEETINGS, Article XII, Sec. 3 FINANCES, Article XIV, Sec. 2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Article XIV, Sec. 3 BOARD OF TRUSTEES, Article XIV, Sec.5 BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Article XV ADVISORY COUNCIL, Article XVI, Sec. 1 LIABILITY INSURANCE
- 20) Robert Gordon, Diamond Jubilee Committee Chairman, resumed the discussion on Jubilee plans. A press release and sponsor letter is included in District Directors' packets.
- 21) Gloria Aminian requested pictures promoting public gardens be sent to her for the Pacific Region Unified Project – Pacific Region Director's Project, "*Embracing Our Public Gardens.*"
- 22) Shirley Craver, Youth Committee Chairman moved for ratification of one youth group:
- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| DISTRICT | SPONSOR | CLUB |
| Sacramento River Valley District | Davis Garden Club | Las Margaritas |
- PASSED.**

- 23) Dorothy Roton, Nominating Committee Chairman recognized the committee. Need names of people willing to serve. Forms distributed.
- 24) Greg Pokorski, Gardening Study Courses Chairman, presented Gardening Consultant cards to Myrtle Findley, Rosalie Hooper and Julie West.
- 25) President Tufo called for **Chairman's Reports**.
Greg Pokorski, Chairman Coordinator, introduced the Chairmen reporting.
SEE ATTACHMENTS (B)
- 26) Robin Pokorski, Official Calendar Chairman, moved to ratify a Landscape Design School in Murphys, October 13-14, 2006 sponsored by Calaveras County Garden Club. **PASSED.**
- 27) President Tufo suspended the meeting at 11:00 A.M.

CONVENTION 2006 BUSINESS MEETING #3

- 28) The meeting resumed at 2:14 P.M. with **Chairman's Reports**.
- 29) Carlotta Wixon, Life Membership Chairman, moved to ratify 17 State Life Members, one Pacific Region Life Member, and three National Life Members. **PASSED. SEE ATTACHMENTS (C)**
- 30) Maryanne Lucas moved \$86 be paid to George Speer for an easel to hold the Visibility sign. Monies to come from the General Fund. **PASSED.**
- 31) President Tufo called for **District Director's Reports**.
Hoberley Schuler, District Director Coordinator, introduced the District Directors reporting.
- 32) President Tufo adjourned the meeting at 4:15. P.M.

Submitted,

Rita Desilets
CGCI Recording Secretary

Convention 2006 – Attachments

A. Official Calendar Dates for Ratification, Robin Pokorski, CGCI 1st Vice-President Environmental Studies Schools

San Mateo, Course II, August 5-6, Sponsor: Bay Ocean District, Chairman: Mary Crowell
Bi-Refresher – Landscape Design & Gardening Study, August 26, Loomis,
 Chairman: Myrtle Findley & Patsy Jeffrey

B) Chairmen Reports:

Associate Plant Society Chair, Dorothy Dempsey

In March this chairman started making phone calls and sending emails to presidents or treasurers of each Associate Plant Society to check if the information had for them was correct. It was surprising how many of the presidents had changed. The people talked to were very interesting and wanted to talk about their societies. Many of them were having problems with people being reluctant to take office, with their busy lives. The roster of 57 societies is correct at this time with a total of 4630 members.

Birds/Butterflies – Jane Troutman

Received a Jubilee Grant and is proceeding with plans for a Butterfly garden and Monarch Haven at the Vet's Garden at the Veteran's Hospital in Los Angeles. The Garden Club is growing the larval plants and the Vet's Garden is a large commercial garden full of nectar plants. Native plants are being grown by the Club and will be planted adjacent to the large screened area set aside for the butterflies. Local schools will be invited to visit as well as the general public. We will all learn how to grow butterflies!

Blue Star Memorials, Ruth Angevine

There are nine markers that have been ordered for future dedications. There has been an influx in orders throughout the nation due to support of the Armed Forces, causing a backlog at Sewah Studios. Eight weeks is now needed for delivery from the time that Sewah receives the order, not from the time the order is sent to this chairman. Do not plan your dedications until assured of delivery. Sewah also requests that club members not phone their company asking that their orders be rushed. There will be a price increase effective January 1, 2007. Highway markers and large markers increase to \$1130 and the by-way marker increases to \$360.

Board of Trustees, Greg Pokorski

The Board met at this convention (and at the Fall and Winter Board Meetings) and will follow up to obtain additional information regarding several items discussed. Members will coordinate with the Scholarship Chairman during the summer to make revisions to the 2007 Scholarship Application. Virginia Bennetts was elected Chairman and Hoberley Schuler elected Secretary for the next year. Greg Pokorski and Beverly Brune, having completed their six-year terms, will be leaving the Board at the end of convention. Robert Gordon and Dave West will be joining the Board following convention.

California Gardens, Rita Desilets

One of this chairman's goals was to update the list of important botanic gardens in California and have it available on the CGCI website. To encourage appreciation of the beauty and diversity of our California Gardens, this chairman sponsors the **G-10 Photography Award** given for a photograph taken of a planting at a public garden. CGCI members should support public gardens through donations, volunteering, tours and by becoming a member. Free or discounted admission to over 100 gardens in the United States and Canada is available through the **American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program**. Articles on Botanic Gardens appeared in *Golden Gardens* and the WACONIAH.

CGCI Official Calendar, Robin Pokorski

Open meetings: Winter and Fall Board 2009 and Convention 2009. The calendar is available via email or snail mail. Official calendar dates are kept updated on the website under "Official Calendar under "Club Services." This Chairman thanks the clubs and districts that send newsletters. They are read and enjoyed. This chairman also extends her gratitude for the many invitations to meeting and special events. The very best part of garden clubbing is meeting YOU! Thank you.

CGCI President's Project, Carolyn Villi

The grand total donated to President Elisabeth Tufo's President's Project was \$10,200. The applications for the Jubilee Grant totaled 24 with so many worthy projects it became difficult for judges to leave any out. After much discussion it was decided that every applicant should qualify, amount funded, judged for size of project, type, and need. The checks have been mailed and the projects are on their way. Every member who donated to this very worthwhile project should be proud to have helped MAKE CALIFORNIA BLOOM!!!

Convention 2006 – Attachments (cont.)

Chairmen Coordinator, Greg Pokorski

Newsletters were prepared and sent (by e-mail whenever possible) to all CGCI chairmen prior to the Fall and Winter Board Meetings and this convention. Chairmen Forums were held at Fall and Winter Board Meetings and at this convention. This chairman facilitates presentation of chairmen's reports at state meetings. The purpose of this chairmanship is to provide information to chairmen to help them perform their jobs, and to serve as liaison between chairmen and the Executive Committee. Chairmen are encouraged to ask questions, seek information, and share ideas for the betterment of CGCI and its member clubs.

Environmental Studies Schools, Carol Ford Benson

Environmental Studies Schools Chairman Carol Ford Benson has certified a total of 25 new Environmental Consultants for accreditation by National Garden Clubs, Inc. The new ESS Consultants bring Tri-Star NGC certifications to enhance the knowledge of California Garden Clubs and certifications of members of the public to satisfy our 501c3 educational mission. Five graduates had no prior contact with CGCI. The chairman thanks professors Jim Xerogeanes and Ray Williams, former CGCI President Virginia Bennetts, Sharon Thorne, Dolores Moffat, Brenda Shields, Doris Todd Brown, Pat Clayes, Lois Bennett, Greg Pokorski and especially Dorothy Copeland for the gifts of time and treasure.

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS:

Judges Council, Jeanny Graham

There were only nine applications for Flower Arranger of the Year, four for High School Arranger of the Year and only seven applications for the J-12 Award. We have 263 Garden Clubs, 93 Affiliate and Associate Plant Societies and 253 youth groups. If only one member of each group took responsibility to enter one candidate from each group, we would have more applications than we could handle. Wouldn't that be wonderful? This is a challenge to each CGCI member.

Judges' Credentials Chairman, Kathy Bramhall

California currently has 123 Flower Show Judges, 41 Accredited, 6 Life and 76 Master. We also have a reported 23 Student Judges. In this first year of my chairmanship I have learned my job by trial and error. I've sent out notices to judges who needed to renew at the October 2005 Symposium and the Symposium to be held in San Mateo in July. I've answered hundred's of questions via phone, e-mail and snail mail. I completed approvals for 48 renewals in 2004 and 18 so far this year. Now I really know why the Handbook tells us to register 3 months early; the paperwork is a long and necessary process.

Symposia, Sandi Lord

The 45th CGCI Symposium was held in Carlsbad, October 20-22, 2005. The planned venue was changed to the Olympic Resort Hotel. The Symposium was attended by 79 people. All judges who took the examination passed. For the first time at a Symposium, CGCI offered a hands-on design workshop. The 46th Symposium will be held at the San Mateo Marriott Hotel July 27-29, 2006. Instructors will be Lola Stark, Horticulture, and Bobbi Heenan, Design. The design workshop will be led by Ms. Heenan. The 47th Symposium will be in Palm Springs in October 2007.

Gardening Consultant Council, Myrtle B. Findley

Our Council has established a certificate and placed it on our Website to be downloaded by any member, director, or president to fill out and make presentations to owners of beautiful gardens. We have in addition, created a certificate to be presented by our Council at State Board and conventions to owners of beautiful gardens. We will make our first presentation at the 2006 Convention in Ontario. Our by-laws have been update to reflect the new year of July though June. We continue to hold schools for students to become Gardening Consultants.

Gardening Study Schools, Greg Pokorski

Course IV, Series 18 (July 2005) in Claremont completed that series, producing five consultants. This chairman was pleased to assist the NGC Gardening Study Committee in producing a new Handbook, now available from Member Services, which should facilitate sponsoring/conducting a GS School. This chairman worked with the Luther Burbank District committee to conduct a well-attended Course I of Series 19 in Santa Rosa in April. Course II will be October 3 & 4. This chairman is working with Golden Foothills District in presenting a refresher symposium on August 19, and with Dos Valles Garden Club on a November refresher event.

Habitat for Humanity, Judy Unrine

This chairman would like to thank Elisabeth Tufo, members of the Executive Board, and the Board of Directors for the honor of ratification of the Habitat for Humanity chairmanship. I will be exploring duties required by this chair. A description of the chairmanship, Habitat for Humanity, will be written for the 2006-2007 Yearbook. Information from District Directors and club presidents about Habitat for Humanity projects would be greatly appreciated.

Convention 2006 – Attachments (cont.)

Honor Books, Sharon Thorne

Entries were made in the Honor Book in memory of Jo'n Bell by San Pedro Garden Club; Claudia Davis, National Garden Week Chairman; Luella Zamzow, Sacramento River Valley DD; Edith Puckett; and Jack Jameson by Jo & Jerry Shaul. Entries were made in honor of Joyce Marlin, Sequoia Foothills District Director by Elisabeth Tufo; Gina-belle Smith, Pres. Clear Lake Trowel & Trellis GC by Josephine Shaul; Evelyn Broaddus, Co-Director Mendocino Lake District by Mendocino Lake District. There have been no names submitted to the Copeland Fund.

HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE: Gudrun Kimmel

This chairman and a panel of judges, judged seven books of evidence for the HT-1 and the HT-5 Award. In the past few months I also presented three design programs to clubs. While designing I always talk to the audience about the plant material, how to grow it and how to condition it. In a District program the members were asked to bring unusual horticulture and then it was discussed by this chairman, the grower and two other horticulture experts.

Container Gardening, Mary Crowell

In case some of you have missed it, this chair has been writing container gardening articles for the *Golden Gardens* since the inception of this chairmanship, hope they have been helpful and that you are pointing them out to your clubs. There have been just a few questions that have come in that have been fielded to this chair, most from other states asking about what grows well here in pots. Because this is the first year I have been in this chairmanship, I want to at least let people know that this chair does exist and I am available for questions and hopefully answers in the future. It would be helpful to me to know what you are interested in hearing about in the future.

New CA Cultivars, Carol Ford Benson

As an experimental environmental high altitude gardener, your chairman is particularly searching for plants with the greatest zonal diversity, and for those few that thrive all the way from USDA Zone 4 to 9. At the higher, colder, shorter season gardening areas of California it is difficult to introduce color in perennials for pots (container gardens) and garden landscape. Blueberry foliage and stems are a great adjunct. The color of blueberries in season is subtle, intense, and cloudy with the "bloom" that makes them appear luminous.

Trees, Angela Michaels

An annual report of the number of trees planted by members of CGCI during the calendar year. Not a new chairmanship yet not understood by a number of our clubs. We count Penny Pines Plantation (350 trees), orchards, home gardens, whether we actually planted them or provided trees or funds for planting. Report requests a total number of trees, due March 1 by email, snail mail. California reported 46,066 trees, although no reports from eleven districts and only one club in each of seven other districts. Only 43 replied to 435 report sheets. Wonder how many more trees were really planted?

Liability Insurance, Gloria Aminian

Did you know that your insurance is not in effect if your State and District dues are not paid? One form can be used for a garden tour. All sites can be typed on a separate sheet. Make sure the mailing address is the same as the location. Oh the troubles it can cause if the address is not right! All events, board and regular meetings, flower shows, whatever held at one site can be listed on one application. Feel free to ask any question concerning CGCI's insurance. That is what I am here for!

Jubilee Grants Program, Marilyn Oberti

The Jubilee Grants Program is a special grant program established by our President, Elisabeth Tufo, and was designed to coordinate with President Tufo's President's Project. It is a new idea. It is different and it has been received with great approval and success. In February, 24 CGCI grant applications were received and judged. The 24 approved projects were funded to the respective clubs by our treasurer, Carol Sexton. The clubs have until May 2007 to complete their projects at which time a final completion report will be required. This program is a perfect example of how California Garden Clubs gives back to its clubs. Jubilee projects throughout California will BLOOM!

Landscape Design Council, Jill Coleman

Council meetings were held at fall and winter boards. Applications for B-3 awards were judged. Newsletters were published in January and June. Awards included commendations in Granite Bay and in Sacramento and an award of Merit in Landscape Architecture at UC Davis. In September two Certificates of Appreciation, one Landscape Design Commendation, one Certificate of Recognition, and one Award of Merit in Landscape Architecture were presented relative to the Oso Creek Trailhead and Character Garden, City of Mission Viejo. In January, the CA Dept. of Transportation was honored with a Landscape Design Commendation in recognition of superior land use solutions in the San Diego area. Our goal, going forward, is to continue to promote availability of the various awards and certificates offered by the Council.

Convention 2006 – Attachments (cont.)

Legislative/Government, Dave West

At present the following items are going through the legislature and are of potential interest to CGCI members: 1) Rule changes in the National Parks Service Management, 2) Endangered Species Act revisions, 3) Allowing of synthetics in food labeled organic, 4) Potential for oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska. It is the opinion this chairman that these subjects are very political in nature and CGCI should not support or oppose them. At best, all we could do is suggest that our members make themselves aware of both sides and make their own decision.

Memorial Gardens, Ruth Brooker

This chairman is in charge of two Memorial Garden books which have a collection of pictures and text that many clubs have sent to past chairmen. In my job as chairman I will carry on by putting into these books new information that is sent to me. The books are on display in the Exhibit Room. Please look at them for ideas and pick up an application form to use when your club submits a Memorial Garden. It is a point of pride to plant a garden in your community for people, birds, and butterflies to enjoy.

Membership, New Clubs, Joelle Holford

March was a very busy time for Membership with our involvement in the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show. My thanks to all the Club Presidents in the state that shared their meeting information with me so that I was able to document the day they meet, time and where their meeting is held. This has helped both Julie and I with referrals for clubs throughout the state. In April I met with the following new clubs: Moreno Valley GC, Marina Tree and GC, Vaca Valley GC, Caruthers GC, and Butterfly GC.

NGC Project - "Let Freedom Ring", Marilyn Oberti

\$11,200 - for 10 California Garden Clubs - all funded in February 2006 for outstanding civic development projects funded by the NGC/Principal Financial Group Grant Program, "Let Freedom Ring." These projects are successfully progressing. Some have already been completed and some are barely getting started, due mostly to adverse weather conditions or city government delays; however, all are expecting to be completed on schedule by May 2007. All projects are making a desirable impact on their communities and good work is being accomplished as evidenced on the interim reports so far received by this chairman, due June 1, 2006. Watch for details of these worthwhile projects in *Golden Gardens*. LET FREEDOM RING!

NGC Project, Patriotic Trees, Angela Michaels

CGCI has planted three trees as of June 2, 2006. The first was a *Laurus nobilis*, the sweet bay tree in Conejo Valley Botanic Garden, Thousand Oaks on September 15, 2005. Next, a *Tipuana tipu* dedicated on January 27, 2006 in San Diego. The third at Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, Riverside was a *Grevillea robusta* on June 2, 2006. All of the trees dedicated by CGCI were in honor of firefighters. San Clemente Garden Club planted a Western Redbud at their Marine Monument on November 12, 2005.

Native Plants, Wanda Hewett

Due to the extra amount of rainfall that fell on the eastern slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountains this season, we were blessed to see a spectacular display of our native vegetation. One of which was the purple sage (*Salvia dorrii*) with its lovely purple blue blossoms on a silvery gray foliage shrub about two feet in height that has leaves that turn down on the tips and up on the sides. It grows along our foothills as well as many other places. The purple sage is one of the native plants that plays host to the Indian Paint Brush, which is a partially parasitic plant. When the two bloom together, it makes a very pleasing sight.

Operation Wildflower, Merrilee Ray

This chairman will present as part of her report a video entitled "Living History; The Ancient Bristlecone Pines", to be shown on Sunday June 4th at The Schools Breakfast. The film was produced, written and directed by John Louth, who will lead the tour to the Bristlecone Forest during the Wildflower Conference. This feature will hopefully whet your appetite to attend the Wildflower Conference to be held in Bishop, CA May 8-10, 2007. Many educational programs are planned, as well as some fun and entertainment. The registration for the Wildflower Conference is \$65 per person. Also available are beautiful T-Shirts and Sweatshirts.

Penny Pines Program, Art Loesch

CGCI clubs contributed over \$35,000 to the USDA National Forest Service Penny Pines Reforestation Project 2005. The needs of our National Forests far exceed the available funds. This chairman made the following proposal at the 2005 Convention: To expand the CGCI Reforestation Programs to include a CGCI Reforestation Fund that CGCI clubs can contribute to. The fund will be used toward Special USDA Forest Service Projects that support reforestation. Donations to this fund would be credited toward the Conservation Awards C-2 Section A and Section B. This fund could be used to respond to special needs such as the San Bernardino National Forest Green House Projects.

Convention 2006 – Attachments (cont.)

Publicity, Myrtle Findley

The graphics on newsletters has improved to where final judging is in close competition. Entries must be careful and judge their own newsletter by the evaluation sheet in order to not make errors on **content**. Let's have more entries for one page newsletters, and for District newsletters. Entries are needed for those who write articles for publication. Read Sections 3 and 4 in the PR section of Awards.

Seminars/Study Groups, Betty Taylor

Several interesting seminars were enjoyed by those attending the 2006 Convention. All six were educational and well attended. The subjects were as follows: Backyard Habitats, Bats, Creating Blue Ribbon Yearbooks, Organic Soils and Fertilizer, Patio and Small Area Landscaping and Penny Pines.

Sempervirens Fund, Rosa Radicchi

Celebration 106 years preserving redwood lands in California. June 2005-May 2006, we collected \$2,304 in grove donations and donations in memory of garden club members, families and friends. We are also pleased to announce that Grove 9, dedicated January 13, 2004 was recently completed. Donations for this Grove totaled \$15,000, and we have \$750,000 towards Grove 10. Currently, minimum donations for a grove is \$25,000 and consists of 2.5 acres. The nine existing groves are located in the 1st 4,000 acres of the original Big Basin Redwoods State Park. Thank you for your participation and support of the Fund which has been preserving Redwood lands since 1900!

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest, Pat York

The 2005-06 Contest is nearly history for this year, but we will be back in the fall. The theme this year, "The Invaders" was a little hard for the children to understand, but they did come through with some winning posters. I received a couple of winning posters that really made me smile. Thanks to all who entered this year's contest – congratulations to the winners, and will see with new information on the next year's contest.

Roommates, Mary Crowell

This chair has managed to put quite a few people together in a roommate situation, though I have failed a few, so sorry about that. Let me know if I can get the word out in the future for roommate accommodations.

Water Conservation, Donna Thomas

If you want to check your water conservation efforts there is a website Water Calculator provided by the National Wildlife Federation. It is www.nwf.org/getgreen/watercalculator.cfm. The state average for gallons of water use per day for a person on public water supply is 122 gallons. The average for a person on well water is 75 gallons per day. You may want to check out your water usage and the suggested tips for ways to save water and money. This chairman has copies of the latest information from the Water Education Foundation regarding arsenic regulation for drinking water affecting small water systems. EPA is considering implementing a waiver or exemption for small systems.

Website, Ed Dempsey

The CGCI website is now about eight years old now. What do we all think about it? Does it do what we want it to do? We have email boxes for anyone that wants one. There are a lot of people looking at our site, about 3500 per month. Are we the ones using it and are we getting any new members because of the site? To keep the site up-to-date we need all of your help. Please let us know what you would like to see on the site. This chairman needs all your help to keep the pages current. If you want to have club sites linked or pictures of events that you had and think people would be interested in just send them to us. Email or snail mail. We can get most anything uploaded. The CGCI website is yours. Let's make it something that we go to to get the information we all need to make our clubs be the best in the nation.

Yearbook Distribution Chairman, Shirley McKelvey

In 2005 approximately 800 yearbooks were printed based on distribution figures for 2004. In June, 2005 order forms were sent to all CGCI District Directors to order yearbooks for their district.

At the Fall 2005 CGCI Board, yearbooks were distributed to Districts; complimentary copies to chairmen, Membership Chairman, and Advisory Council; other copies sold to interested participants at \$5 each. Additional copies mailed to Associate Plant Societies, NGC President, NGC Headquarters, The Nature Conservancy & Forest Service. We took in \$1230 cash less expenditures for mailing and envelopes of \$155.81 leaving a balance of \$1074.19. This figure does not include costs of printing yearbooks which I do not have at this time. One change next year: Yearbooks will be given directly to Associate Plant Societies Chairman for distribution.

Convention 2006 – Attachments (cont.)

YOUTH ACTIVITIES, Chairman, Shirley Craver

The forming of new youth clubs has been slow this past year. It is renewal time for the youth chairman to complete club information. Please send me your renewal forms. The poster contests were well received. This chairman would like to have all the youth chairmen send their correct phone and email address. Some Districts do not have youth chairmen, and I would like those District Directors to let me know so they can be added to the records. Youth Chairmen are urged to report to me about special projects and their progress.

Girl Scouts, Pat Tjosaas

Since the Winter Board Meeting, six garden clubs participated in the CGCI/GS patch program: Temecula Valley, Oasis, San Clemente, West Valley and affiliate San Fernando Valley Iris Society. Girl Scouts received CGCI/GS patches after providing documentation by photos/newspaper articles. I hoped to finish the final paperwork to the 19 California Girl Scout Councils that completes the link between Districts, garden clubs and Councils. The Girl Scout leadership does not have the patch program guidelines yet. By fall, they will be aware and the patch program should pick up speed.

C) Carlotta Wixon; Life Membership Ratifications

CGCI

NAME	CLUB	DISTRICT
Hari Multani	Southern California GC	San Fernando Valley District
Wanda Church	Desert Planters of Ridgecrest	Desert Empire District
Linda Reagan	San Clemente GC	Orange County District
Mary Merritt	Santa Rosa GC	Luther Burbank District
Jane Harper	Santa Rosa GC	Luther Burbank District
Beverly Davies	Petaluma GC	Luther Burbank District
Linda Smith	Hanford GC	Sequoia Foothills District
Judy Merritt	Hanford GC	Sequoia Foothills District
Robert Brune		Channel Islands District
Mary Duke Ramsey	Arrowhead GC	Palms to Pines District
Pat Lowe	Pleasant Valley GC	Channel Islands District
Bart O'Brian	none	none
Edith Fodrea	Sherman Oaks GC	San Fernando Valley District
Shirley Clemmons	Desert Crossroads GC	Roadrunner District
Win Archibald	Petaluma GC	Luther Burbank District
Lucille Apcar	Butterfly GC	Yosemite Gateway District
Suzanne Paul	Walnut Creek GC	Diablo Foothills District

PACIFIC REGION

NAME	CLUB	DISTRICT
Pat Zarnowski	Southern California GC	San Fernando Valley District

NATIONAL

NAME	CLUB	DISTRICT
Joan Berg	Southern California GC	San Fernando Valley District
Carol Alstot	La Casa GC	Sequoia Foothills District
Judy Unrine	Rivera Garden Club	Costa Verde District