



CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

77th Annual Convention

June 6-8, 2008

Hilton Woodland Hills, CA

President: Robin Pokorski

Hosts: San Fernando Valley District

Business Meeting #1

President Robin Pokorski called the 77th annual convention of California Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 8:30 A.M. The Recording Secretary was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jerry Thirloway, Palomar District Director

The Conservation Pledge was led by Kay Wolfe, Recycling Chairman

The Inspiration was given by Madelyn Jameson, President, West Valley Garden Club

President Pokorski introduced the Executive Committee seated at the head table; former CGCI Presidents Mary Lou Goodwin, JoAnn Gould, Beverly Brune and Elisabeth Tufo; Pages Sharon Archibald, Alexa Moss and Deedee Speer and Timekeeper, Martha Ann Walter.

President Pokorski introduced the convention's special guest, NGC President Barbara May escorted by former CGCI President Robert Gordon.

Legislation/Government Committee Chairman, Chuck Goodwin asked to be recognized for the good of the organization and made a special presentation to President Pokorski.

Mary Fler, Credentials Chairman read the first Credentials report and moved to adopt: 138 voting members registered. **PASSED**

President Pokorski declared a quorum was present

Carol Sexton, Registration Chairman gave the first Registration Report: 272 registered.

Carol Sexton, Parliamentarian read the Convention Rules and moved to adopt. **PASSED**

Rita Desilets, Convention Chairman moved to adopt the Convention Program. **PASSED**

President Pokorski thanked San Fernando Valley District for hosting the 2008 Convention.

Maryanne Lucas, Chairman of the Minutes Review Committee, moved to approve the Minutes of 2007 Convention Meeting as distributed. **PASSED**

A Memorial Service was conducted by Paddee Neff and Sharon Smith

Financial Reports: Financial Secretary, Joelle Holford reminded all of the procedures for requesting reimbursement and reporting income.

Flag ceremony: Elisabeth Tufo, George Speer, Ed Dempsey and Gayle Davis conducted an emboxing ceremony for the flag flown over capitol in celebration of CGCI 75th anniversary.

President Pokorski introduced Curt Cecconi, Principal Financial Group.

Recording Secretary Jane McKee read the following Executive Committee recommendation:

- To endorse Robin Pokorski as candidate for NGC Recording Secretary. **PASSED**

President Pokorski announced President's Winners: Jim Bathgate, Marjorie Johnson, and Judy Picinini

Officers Reports:

Parliamentarian: no report

Golden Gardens Editor: no report

Treasurer: no further report

Financial Secretary: Joelle Holford reported that *Golden Gardens* revenue exceeded expenses for this fiscal year.

Corresponding Secretary: Pat Clayes reported that the Call to Convention was sent to a majority of recipients electronically saving substantial postage and copy fees. In March an updated list of all club presidents and district directors was sent to National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Recording Secretary: Jane McKee reported that minutes of all Conventions and Board Meetings, with attachments (financial reports and summaries of Chairmen and District Director reports), are sent to Board members via e-mail or US Mail and are posted on the CGCI website so that any member has access. Address changes (electronic or US Mail) should be reported to the Recording and/or Corresponding Secretaries to be distributed to appropriate recipients.

Jane McKee moved to ratify the following calendar items:

February 26-28, 2009	Flower Show School, Course II, Encinitas, CA
	Sponsor: Palomar District (date change)
Date TBD	CGCI Convention 2010 – Co-Chairmen: Jean Reiley & Bev Brune
Oct 23-24, 2008	CGCI Water Conference, Sepulveda Garden Center, Encino, CA
Oct 25-26, 2008	Landscape Design Studies, Series 22, Course III, San Andreas, CA

PASSED

3rd Vice President: George Speer

- As of May 31, 2008 CGCI has 271 clubs with 15,038 members, Associate Plant Societies reported 4281 members for a total membership of 19,319 and Affiliates reported 9826 members
- Banners can be customized for club, district, school, society, affiliates etc. These are a good way to promote CGCI and NGC
- Zip code finder program should be active on the website within two weeks.
- Posters, Cards, bookmarks, rack cards etc are still free but District Directors need to provide number to be ordered
- District rosters are due July 1
- Presented certificates:
“Small but Mighty”
Crestmoor Garden Club - (5 members, 50 years old),
“Natural Growth”
Paradise Garden Club 34% increase in membership
Folsom Garden Club – 84% increase in membership
It’s Garden Thyme Garden Club – 94% increase & NGC certificate for largest increase in membership
- Announced NGC contest to increase membership (net increase). The winning state will get to name a new canna cultivar. To encourage CGCI participation, the Club and District with largest percentage increase and the highest actual number increase will have cake served by CGCI President and 3rd Vice President at their meeting/location.
- Moved to ratify the following new clubs:
California Center for Urban Horticulture (Affiliate)
Caroline Park Endowment Fund – Palms to Pines District, 7 members
High Desert Garden Club – San Fernando Valley District, 30 members
Naples Island Garden Club – Costa Verde District, 122 members
Orange County Chrysanthemum Society – Orange County District, 28 members
San Diego Garden Club – Palomar District, 10 members
Sogetsu Bay Area Branch – APS, 60 members

PASSED

2nd Vice President: Julie West

- **Award Finances:** All sponsors for 2007-2008 have remitted payments for the awards presented at 2008 Convention. Approximately 54 sponsors fund 87 awards totaling \$4,350.
- **Policy:** The committee continues to develop policies related to CGCI’s website and final report should be available at Convention 2009.
- **Participating Sponsors:** There are 54 Participating Sponsors, a gain of 9 over the past year.
- **Publicity:** A publicity guide is available on the CGCI website. June 26-29 CGCI will have a display table with membership information for both CGCI and NGC at the 8th Biennial Members meeting of the North American Butterfly Association. There is an active link from the NABA.org website to CGCI’s website.

- **Strategic Planning:** The Committee recommended that a special committee of past Convention and Board Chairman be formed to investigate reorganizing Conventions/Board meetings to increase revenues for hosts and enhance the experience for members. Suggested topics of review include reducing the number of days/number of reports, making the Chairmen more accessible, eliminate redundancy, provide more educational opportunities. This Special Committee will meet for the first time at this Convention. Members are Mary Lou Goodwin; Shane Looper; Judi Picinini; Linda Riddle and Pat Claves. Also the Strategic Planning Committee will host a workshop on Saturday and all convention attendees are invited to attend.
- **CGCI 75-Year History Book:** As reported at Winter Board, *The Golden Years* covering CGCI's first 50 years has been data entered. Various portions of this book were referred to over 30 people asking their assistance to update a particular section. Those updates have now been data entered.

1st Vice President: Maryanne Lucas

- Moved to ratify the following for 501c(3) group exemption:
 - Ferndale Garden Club
 - Friends of Heirloom Flowers
 - Morro Bay Garden Club
 - Hermosa Garden Club
 - Toluca Lake Garden Club
 - Naples Island Garden Club
 - San Diego Garden Club
 - Ripon Garden Club

PASSED
- Vista has to surrender their 501c4 status before they can be added, but there are now 89 clubs and districts in the program
- Coming soon:
 - Website: Clubs/Districts will be able to use CGCI web space at no charge. Each entity will be responsible for maintaining its own space.
 - Blogs established for clubs/districts. This feature will include restricted pages for District Directors and Committee Chairs.
 - Calendar – members will be given password and allowed to post their own info.

President: Robin Pokorski reviewed the past year:

- CGCI President attended 95 events, visited 33 clubs and 19 districts including 13 official visits, and with various members of the Membership Committee greeted thousands of people at events in San Diego, Sacramento and San Francisco
- There is a new look for the website and a new design for banners and bookmarks. Additional publicity tools available to clubs and districts include rack cards and a Fact Sheet posted on the website,
- The process to update CGCI's 75 year history is underway,
- Parliamentary Workshops were conducted at state meetings and over 75 board members, club members and some non-members participated,
- Education: one Tri-Refresher course followed the 2007 Fall Board Meeting and another is planned for September 2008, a water conference will be held in October and two Flower Show, two Landscape Design, one Gardening Study and one Environmental Studies Schools are on the calendar,
- Landscape Design Council commendation certificates were presented at nearly every district visited,
- The first full-color yearbook, presented in a 3-ring binder for easy page addition and replacement was introduced,
- A District Director Training Workshop was held,
- A no-annual fee credit card to secure hotel deposits for CGCI meetings was obtained,
- Principal Financial Group agreed to underwrite the cost of membership cards and provided \$2,000 for grants for the purchase of Blue Star Byway Markers. Principal has indicated that this program may be renewed for 2009 in California,
- Donations for the reforestation of California National Forests have increased substantially,
- The President's Project, the Trail of Trees, is in the second stage of planting specimen trees on the previously barren hillside and a picnic table with a plaque has been installed.

Committee Reports:

Advisory Council: No report

Awards: Nancy Lee Loesch noted the committee is preparing for next year and reminded members to follow the instructions carefully and especially adhere to deadlines. Comments/suggestions may be sent to chairman.

Board of Trustees: No report

Budget & Finance: The committee has met and the budget will be presented at the Organization Meeting.

Bylaws: Mary Jo Noth moved to adopt the following amendments:

- **Article V. Section 4 (a)**

The Recording Secretary shall: (a) keep minutes of meetings and distribute copies to the ~~board of directors~~ **appropriate recipients** within six weeks of each meeting.

(Rationale: clarifies recipients, i.e. executive committee receives minutes of executive committee meetings, but board of directors does not.) **ADOPTED**

- **Article XI Section 8**

Convention, registration and credentials chairmen and treasurer, who ~~shall~~ **may** be members of a club in the host district(s), ~~shall~~ **may** be appointed by the president upon recommendation from the host district(s) following the selection of the convention locale.

(Rationale: allows current CGCI chairmen for Registration and Credentials to serve.) **ADOPTED**

- **Article XII Section 5**

~~Net proceeds from conventions shall be placed in the General Fund.~~

Half of the net proceeds from conventions shall be placed in the General Fund and the remaining half may be retained by the Host District(s) or Host Club(s).

(Rationale: specifies distribution of proceeds from conventions.)

Elisabeth Tufo moved to table the amendment until the Boards/Conventions Committee makes a recommendation. The motion was seconded and **PASSED**

- **Article XII Section 7**

The following are budgeted from the General Fund: (a) president's ~~allowance~~ **reimbursement** of up to ~~\$3000.00~~ **\$5000.00** annually for verified expenses incurred for state travel and office expenses including mileage reimbursement in accordance with the current IRS business mileage rate, (b) president's ~~allowance~~ **reimbursement** of up to \$5,000.00 annually for verified expenses incurred in attending two meetings of NGC and one Pacific Region meeting, (c) president-elect's ~~allowance~~ **reimbursement** of up to \$1,500.00 for verified expenses incurred in attending one meeting of NGC and (d) ~~an allowance~~ **reimbursement** of up to \$1,500.00 annually for verified expenses when the Pacific Region director is from California.

(Rationale: current allowance in subsection (a) is insufficient; the increase will allow for reimbursement of more of the CGCI president's official expenses. The increase was proposed by the Board of Trustees and the Advisory Council. Other changes: "reimbursement" is the procedural term, not "allowance".) **ADOPTED**

Winter Board Meeting 2008, Redding: Kathy Bramhall, Cascade District Director, reported 142 registered attendees and net revenue of \$3719.21. Cascade District donated \$500 to the CGCI President's Project.

Nominating: Bob Gordon reported that the committee has started the interviewing process for the 2009-11 term.

Tours: Bob Gordon announced that there will be a "Southern Comfort" tour of Charleston and Savannah gardens in the spring of 2009. The display in exhibit room has details. A minimum of twenty participants are required and a refundable deposit can be made by October 1, 2008.

Youth Team: Beverly Switzer

- The Girl Scout pilot project has been delayed due to a reorganization of Girl Scouts USA. Once the state program has been realigned the CGCI project will resume.
- Eleven essays were received and certificates presented to all entrants
- Three CGCI scholarships have been awarded and a Scholarship Committee co-chairman named,
- There are 21 poster contest winners; five forwarded to Pacific Region
- Three new awards have been established
- Four new youth groups were ratified during 2007
- Moved to ratify Special Education Diggers, sponsored by Riviera Garden Club, Costa Verde District

PASSED

President's Project: Bev Brune

- The second phase is underway and a picnic table is ready to be installed.
- Three Landscape Design Council certificates have been awarded to the garden and the project.
- First year goal of \$10,000 has been met.
- Fundraising at this convention: Silent auction for 2 trees, baked goods for sale and wine bags for sale with proceeds to project.

President Pokorski announced a recess at 11:30 A.M.

Business Meeting #2: Sunday, June 08, 2008

President Pokorski reconvened the meeting at 8:35 A.M.

President Pokorski introduced the Executive Committee seated at the head table and former CGCI President Virginia Bennetts.

President Pokorski announced two President's Winners: Gail Vanderhorst and Marie Zimmerman

President Pokorski announced that each donor to "The Trail of Trees" project would receive a miniature Christmas tree decorated by Marie Zimmerman and the It's Garden Thyme Club.

The Inspiration was given by Gina-Belle Smith, Mendo-Lake District Director

Mary Fler read the interim credentials report – 151 voting members, 248 total registered and moved to adopt.

PASSED

District Directors Reports: Maryanne Lucas introduced the District Directors (See Attachment B)

Committee Chairmen & Team Reports: Greg Pokorski introduced the Chairmen (See Attachment C)

President Pokorski announced a recess at 11:25 A.M.

Business Meeting #3

President Pokorski reconvened the meeting at 2:20 P.M.

The Inspiration was given by Doris Nagy, Stationery Chairman

Bev Brune, President's Project Chairman, announced that the donations to the project collected during the convention totaled \$2000.

Committee Chairmen/Team reports continued.

Life Memberships: Carlotta Wixon announced that 24 CGCI, 3 NGC and one Pacific Region life memberships have been received during the past year. She moved to ratify the following:

- **CGCI:**
 - Joan Berg
 - Katherine Frost
 - Rita Gilbert
 - Janie Lindell
 - Mary Shull
 - Roberta Elliott
 - Bettie Ries
 - Frank Nielsen
 - Kathleen Hotchkiss
 - Patricia Flint
 - Ann Zahner
 - Agnes Mayes
 - Elizabeth Lorch
 - Judy Byorum
 - Jayne Buscho
 - Doris Weir
 - Barbara Hills
 - Carol Amenta

- **Pacific Region:**
Jane Gordon
- **NGC:**
Pat Zarnowski
Shirley Duenckel

PASSED

Penny Pines: Pat Claves moved that \$136 collected at Youth Luncheon be used to purchase 2 plantations in honor of Rita Desilets and Pat Zarnowski, convention co-chairman. The motion was seconded. **PASSED**

President Pokorski announced a recess at 4:15 P.M.

President Pokorski reconvened the meeting at 9:40 P.M. Presidential Citations were presented to Rita Desilets and Pat Zarnowski for their work as Convention Co-Chairmen.

President Pokorski adjourned the meeting at 9:45 P.M.

Submitted

Jane McKee
CGCI Recording Secretary

District Director Reports

Arboretum: Members made “friendship bracelets” as fundraiser and networking project and joined Friends O’ Garden Club in tree planting memorial to long-time member. Monrovia and It’s Garden Thyme clubs plants and flowers from Trader Joe’s to use for fundraisers and distribute to nursing and convalescent homes and libraries.

Bay Bridges: District bylaws have been updated, a new District Director was elected, District awards were announced and scholarships to two Merritt College horticulture students were awarded.

Bay Ocean: District will co-host 2009 convention; several groups sponsored successful garden tours and two Smokey Bear poster contest winners came from this District.

Buttes: No report filed

Cascade: Hosted CGCI Winter Board meeting 2008; held awards workshop; updated the speakers directory; selected two Women of the Year; clubs purchased 22 Penny Pines plantations.

Channel Islands: Hosted CGCI President, Robin Pokorski; one club member received a CGCI Landscape Design commendation; clubs support their communities by providing weekly floral arrangements to a post office, maintaining a museum garden, maintaining a church forecourt, providing docents for a Hospice garden tour, holding a standard flower show, manning an Earth Day booth and holding senior workshops at day care facilities; club fundraisers include; wreath making, garden tours, plant sales, garage sales and a Tea.

Costa Verde: District has started writing its 74 year history; held a District horticulture show at South Coast Botanic Gardens; welcomed one new club – Naples Island Garden Club and one Special Education club; celebrated 50th anniversary of The Gardeneers and 80th anniversary of San Pedro Garden Club.

Desert Empire: Held District Flower Show in April; Desert Planters planted two trees at Mesquite High School; Desert Rose Garden Club completed the California City median project; Oasis GC celebrated its 50th anniversary and Boron Garden Club had educational display at the Conservation Resources Farm Poppy Festival.

Diablo Foothills: Hosted CGCI President, Robin Pokorski; Markham Arboretum Society received CGCI Landscape Design commendation; member Karen Mahshi received Award of Merit in Landscape Architecture; a Blue Star Byway marker dedication is planned for 2008.

Golden Foothills: Held 2nd Annual District Garden Extravaganza with vendors, educational exhibits and demonstrations and District Garden Party and Hat Parade with guest CGCI President, Robin Pokorski.

Greater Los Angeles: No report filed

Humboldt: The African Violet Society held a Mother’s Day Plant Sale; The Eureka Sequoia Garden Club raised money for the District by selling plants at the North Coast Garden Event in Trinidad; The Ferndale Garden Club held a Spring Tea; the Fortuna Garden Club held a Standard Daffodil show; Patrick’s Point Garden Club held a North Coast Garden Event; and the Southern Humboldt Garden Club held its 57th annual flower show. Additionally Humboldt District is sponsoring a landscaping project at the County Animal Shelter.

Luther Burbank: Received permission to install Blue Star Memorial Marker at Santa Rosa Veterans’ Memorial Building; sponsored trip to UC Davis Botanical Greenhouses; increased District membership; Petaluma and Santa Rosa Garden Clubs co-sponsored a standard flower show; Cloverdale Garden Club made aprons to wear at their plant sale and Santa Rosa Men’s Garden Club awarded six \$1000 scholarships.

CGCI Convention 2008 – Attachment B

Mendo-Lake: One club has a Garden Therapy program in which members do flower arranging for the Adult Day Care programs around the communities. The club members sign up months ahead then, one or two members donate the flowers (fresh picked from the garden) and supply containers; the District has had a successful Award year due to our Award Chairman who held workshops for clubs, made a presentation at every District meeting, and prepared a display board to show and tell about how simple the procedure can be.

Montana de Oro: Clubs held garden tours and plant sales, staffed a precinct on Election Day; the District held a flower show in conjunction with a classic car show using that as the theme for various design classes.

Orange County: No report filed.

Palms to Pines: Clubs participated in various civic projects such as the Atrium restoration, Highland Library Rooftop Gardens, school gardens and recognition of Veterans.

Palomar: Clubs had eight flower shows, several garden tours, installed and dedicated four Blue Star Memorial markers; one club received \$62,500 from state of California for school gardens; District will sponsor Flower Show School in August and Landscape Design School in September and has offered to host Winter Board 2010 and Convention 2013.

Roadrunner: Hosted CGCI President, Robin Pokorski; increased membership; Desert Crossroads Garden Club dedicated 25 trees in their Water Awareness garden; all clubs participated in the Annual Garden Party held by the City of Victorville.

Sacramento River Valley: Clubs increased membership, spearheaded the drive to establish a Blue Star Memorial at a new national cemetery and participated in the Sacramento Home and Garden Show.

San Fernando Valley: Hosted 2008 CGCI convention; sponsored fundraising tour to Maloof Foundation for the Arts and Crafts and emphasized environmental responsibility through its programs and speakers.

Santa Clara Valley: No report filed.

Sequoia Foothills: Clubs held garden tours, plant sales and awarded scholarships; La Casa Garden Club celebrated its 55th anniversary; Four Seasons Garden Club had an Arts and Crafts Faire; Caruthers Garden Clubs had a “rose food” sale; Hanford Garden Club replanted the Court House rose garden; Porterville Garden Club holds an annual card party for Penny Pines and the District sponsored the Smokey Bear poster contest.

Top o’ the State: No report filed.

Valley Lode: Flower Show School and Landscape Design Consultant’s school were completed; District has offered to host the 2010 CGCI Fall Board meeting and a Club President’s luncheon in June will offer the opportunity to ask questions and share ideas.

Yosemite Gateway: Clubs held flower shows and garden tours; District continues to work with the San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery to process the approval for the Blue Star marker.

CCGI Committee Chairmen Reports

Chairman Coordinator: This Chairman's role is to serve as liaison between chairmen and the Executive Committee and District Directors, provide direction & information to chairmen, and answer questions re what chairmen do and how they may assist District Directors, clubs, and others; the District Director Coordinator and this chairman joined forces to produce the second edition (pre-Convention) of a newsletter for all board members distributed by e-mail to most and by snail mail to 20. A Chairmen's Forum was held June 6 with at least 50 in attendance. Chairmanships, including summaries of duties of each position and contact information, are listed in the CGCI Yearbook and posted on the website under Procedure Books.

Amenities/Protocol: No report filed

Arbor Day: Reported activities of one club's project and reminded all to submit information to this chairman.

Arboreta/Botanic/Gardens of California: No report filed

Associate Plant Societies: There are 57 APSs with a membership of 4267.

Awards: No further report filed.

Awards Finances: No further report filed.

Blue Star Memorials: Seven clubs applied for funds for landscaping existing new or existing memorial sites; nine new markers were ordered during the year and four have been dedicated; cost for markers increased June 1 and information is available from this chairman.

Civic Development: No report filed

Conservation Team

Air: No report filed

Birds: Audubon California is working to safeguard colony of Tricolored Blackbirds; 95% of world's population of these birds is in California.

Butterflies: No report filed

CA Native Plants: Discussed the types and varieties of asclepias native to California.

Composting: No report filed

Endangered Species: Reported the effect of global warming on the polar bear population.

Insects: No report filed

Recycling: Clubs and members asked to participate in NGC's inkjet/laser cartridge and cell phone recycling project. Details reported in Spring 2008 *The National Gardener*.

Stamps: Used stamps are collected and forwarded to a church in San Pedro for recycling and sale in Norway.

Vermiculture: No report filed but provided name of a website where one can opt out of catalog mailings: www.GreenDimes.com

Water: Described the problems resulting from climate change.

Wildflowers: No report filed

Conventions/Board Meetings:

Convention 2008: Many member-hours were spent in preparing gift bags, favors and boutique items and each club was assigned a set of responsibilities.

Educational Encounters: No report filed

FAST: Reported successful participation in the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show 2008; plant material and display materials were donated; sale of 3-year calendars generated enough revenue to purchase permanent signs and deposit \$1000 to the FAST account.

Flower Show

Awards: Fourteen shows registered in 2007; four were forwarded to NGC for judging and six received CGCI awards; thirteen shows have been processed for 2008 and a workshop on creating a book of evidence is being held during this convention.

Schedules: Eleven schedules were submitted for judging and one forwarded to Pacific Region.

Judges Credentials: There are 131 active judges; nine students advanced to Accredited status in November 2007 and five judges went Emeriti.

Judges Council: No report filed

Symposia: No report filed

Garden Therapy: No report filed

Golden Gardens

Angels: No report filed

Circulation: No report filed

Season's Greetings: No report filed

Dateline: No report filed

Honor Books: Forms for donating to the books may be obtained from the chairman or the CGCI website.

Horticulture Team

Horticulture: The theme is "New Cultivars". Discussed issues facing agriculture including fuel and water costs and availability.

Container Gardening: No report filed

Fruits/Nuts: No report filed

Herbs: Provided a list of good herbs for the garden: African Blue Basil, Pesto Perpetuo Basil, Almond Verbena and Tanner's Sumac.

Invasive Plants: Discussed various invasive plants that may have positive uses.

New Cultivars: Introduced Elderberry "Black Lace Eva" and several new tomato varieties.

Roses: Provided a list of roses good for landscaping

Succulents/Cacti: New chairmanship; will be submitting articles to *Golden Gardens* on appropriate plants for native and water-wise habitats.

Trees: New tree cultivars – Podocarpus elongates 'Monmal' and Mandarin hybrids 'Tahoe Gold', 'Yosemite Gold' and 'Shasta Gold.'

Reported that over 47,000 trees have been planted by clubs in California and reminded all Districts to submit the tree report.

Vegetables: No report filed

Insurance: 239 Clubs and 53 Associated Plant Societies participate in the insurance program.

Legislation/Government: Non-profit organizations with annual gross receipts under \$25,000 and now required to electronically their tax information; reported on new initiatives to improve air quality, increase use of renewable resources and reduce electricity use.

Life Membership: No further report filed

Mailbox: Reminded Officers, Directors and Chairmen to pick up items in their folders or arrange for someone to do so in their absence.

Memorial Gardens: No report filed

National Garden Week: Chairman reminded members to submit books of evidence for 2008 programs/projects.

NGC-Member Services: Free materials from NGC are displayed at all CGCI meetings and can also be reviewed on the NGC website; Chairman has NGC "Native Plant" pins and proceeds will benefit the President's Project.

NGC-Principal Grants and CGCI Special Grants Project:

- Twenty-two NGC/Principal grant applications received and six grants totaling \$2850 were awarded to California clubs: Arrowhead Garden Club - \$1000, CGCI Blue Star Restoration State Project - \$500, Lake Forest Garden Club - \$350, Le Grand Garden Club - \$350, Redlands Horticulture Society - \$350, Westlake Village Garden Club - \$300, Interim Reports must be submitted by September 15, 2008 (or sooner, if projects have been completed) and all projects must be finalized by May 2009.
- Sixteen clubs were awarded \$250 each from CGCI's special Grant Program for civic development projects. An Interim Report will be due by September 15, 2008. (or sooner if projects have been completed). Recipients are: Calaveras County Garden Club, Chicago Park Garden Club, Davis Garden Club, Hillside Gardeners of Montclair, Modesto Garden Club, Orland Friendly Garden Club, Redbud Garden Club, Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club, San Clemente Garden Club, San Fernando Valley Garden Club, Santa Rosa Garden Club, Sea Isle Garden Club, The Palms Garden Club, Trinity Garden Club, Vista Garden Club.

Operation Wildflower: The 2009 conference will be April 8-10 in Ridgecrest, CA.

Penny Pines: Due to the 2007 wildfires there has seen a significant increase in donations. Reminded members not to send checks to her but directly to the forest service office.

Permanent Files: No report filed

Photographer: Clubs have submitted photos from many events and a display montage is being prepared.

President's Project: No further report filed

Procedure Books: No report filed

Reforestation: The fund stands at \$3360 and the chairman is actively looking to identify a project for the first award.

Roommate Coordinator: Chairman is available to assist in finding roommates.

Schools/Councils

Finance Chairman: No report filed

Flower Show School: Nine student judges passed the 2007 exam and became accredited. Two sessions will be held in 2008: Course II, April 15 in Modesto and Course I, August 21 in Encinitas.

Environmental Studies School: Bay Ocean District will host Series 3 Course 3 in November; Environmental Consultant credentials presented to David West, Julie West, Pat Clayes, Greg Pokorski, and Robin Pokorski.

Environmental Consultants Council: No report filed

Gardening Study Schools: Twenty-eight attended Gardening Study School, Course I sponsored by Orange County District. This is the 20th series of this NGC program presented in California. Course II will be August 1-2. The Registration Form is posted on the CGCI website. Eligible Consultants may refresh at Course II or at the Fall Board Meeting Tri-Refresher in Grass Valley. Gardening Consultants should contact this chairman for information about their status or records. Anyone interested in sponsoring a GSS should contact this chairman. Consultant Certificates were presented to four new Consultants (G. Davis, S. Looper, D. Moffat, D. West), and five Refresher Certificates were presented (H. Behrens, B. Brune, G. Pokorski, R. Pokorski, G. Speer).

Gardening Consultants Council: Council has 45 members; the Council presents the HT-1 Horticulture Award and Certificates for Beautiful Gardens recommended by clubs; a tri-refresher is planned for Fall Board 2008.

Landscape Design Study Program: There are 17 new Landscape Design Provisional Consultants; 42 attended Series 22-2 in San Andreas; combined Courses 1 and 2 will be held in Temecula in September 2008 and there are two opportunities to refresh in 2008.

Landscape Design Council: Certificates were presented to eight groups or individuals for their landscape design projects.

Sales: No report filed

Sempervirens Fund: Hosted visit by CGCI President Robin Pokorski.

Stationery: Has standard letter size as well as note cards, large and small envelopes; all are available at conventions and board meetings.

Website: No further report.

Workshops: No report filed

Yearbook, Manual & Roster: Over 600 yearbooks have been distributed; requests for yearbooks should be given to the District Director by August 1, 2008.

Youth Activities Team: No further report.