



CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Winter Board Meeting

The Dana, San Diego, CA

January 8-10, 2010

President: Maryanne Lucas

Host: Palomar District

EXCUSED: Aminian; Biggins; Bonham; Bramhall; Chan; Crowell; Davies; Dean; Dedini; Doerfling; Durgerian; Hart; Hooper; Jackman; Laird; Lucido; Mahshi; Mellen; Michaels; Nielsen; Noth; Paul; Picinini; Reid; Rogers; Roton; Schuler, H. and R.; Smith, G.; Tebo; Thorne; Tjosaas; Unrine, G. and J.; Walker; Walter; Wixon; Zarnowski; Zimmerman

President Lucas called the meeting to order at 1:33 P.M.

The Recording Secretary, Greg Pokorski, was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America was led by Helen Gates, Board Meeting/Convention Design Exhibit Coordinator and Circle of Poppies Member.

The inspiration was given by Marjorie Johnson, Amenities and Protocol Chairman.

President Lucas presented CGCI Officers, former CGCI Presidents, NGC Board Members, Pacific Region Board Members, Pages and Timekeeper.

George Speer, Zip Code Services Chairman, moved the adoption of the Winter Board Meeting Program as printed. **ADOPTED**

Jane McKee, Winter Board Meeting Registrar, presented the credentials report (voting strength of 82).

ADOPTED BY GENERAL CONSENT

Jane McKee, Winter Board Meeting Registrar, gave the registration report (168 registered) for information only.

President Lucas declared a quorum present.

President Lucas announced that the Rules of Order for Board Meetings were accepted at the Organizational Meeting in June, 2009 for the entire term and are found beginning on page 39 of the CGCI *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*.

Jane McKee, Palomar District Director, presented the welcome to the district.

President Lucas expressed thanks to the district for hosting the Winter Board Meeting and asked members of the district to stand and be recognized.

President Lucas introduced special guests, Justin Frisco and Kurt Cecconi, Senior Financial Representatives from Principal Financial Group, who addressed the group.

President Lucas introduced Chet Wilson, Luther Burbank District Assistant Director, attending in place of District Director Bev Davies, and introduced first-time attendees.

The minutes of the 2009 Fall Board Meeting in Concord were adopted as distributed.

President Lucas appointed, without objection, the committee to approve the minutes of this meeting: Mary Lou Goodwin, Landscape Design Council Chairman, as Chairman, and members Nancy Johnson, Montana de Oro District Director, and George Speer, Zip Code Services Chairman.

Financial Reports:

Ed Dempsey, Treasurer, presented the financial report. (See Attachment A)

Joelle Holford, Financial Secretary, reported, asking that requests for reimbursement be submitted by May 1, and advising that Webmaster Lynne Hansen will post line item number on the Forms page of the website.

Correspondence: Carolyn Johnson, Corresponding Secretary, reported that there was no correspondence, but gave her report at this time. (See Attachment B)

Bob Gordon, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, presented a special report regarding establishing endowments for scholarships and planned giving.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Greg Pokorski, Recording Secretary, presented the following recommendations:

RATIFICATIONS:

1. Ratify the appointment of Barbara Dodge, California State Parks Chairman. **PASSED**
2. Accept with regret the resignations of Carol Mayo, Awards Finance Chairman, and Debbie Chan, Sacramento River Valley District Co-Director. **PASSED**
3. Ratify the dates for Symposium (Sacramento), April 7-9, 2010. **PASSED**
4. Ratify the dates for the CGCI Standard Flower Show (Sacramento), April 8-11, 2010. **PASSED**
5. Ratify the dates for the 2010 Fall Board Meeting, September 15-17, 2010 in Palms to Pines District. **PASSED**
6. Ratify the dates for the CGCI Weekend Encounter: Wildflower Conference, April 1-3, 2011. **PASSED**
7. Ratify Convention 2010 Personnel: Jean Reiley, Chairman; Beverly Brune, Co-chairman; Betty Rohan, Treasurer; Tanya Caligiuri, Registrar and Credentials Chairman. **PASSED**
8. Ratify the Convention 2010 registration fee of \$35 on/before postmark of May 13/ \$60 after May 13. **PASSED**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

9. Approve the payment of \$184.67, the balance due for the Awards booklets distributed at the Awards Banquet in San Mateo. **PASSED**
10. Approve the payment for Member Award of Distinction pins in the amount of \$279.90. **PASSED**
11. Approve the payment of Yearbook Chairman-distribution and mailing additional expense of \$35.75. **PASSED**

Chuck Goodwin, IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption Chairman, moved to ratify the following clubs for 501 (c) (3) Group Exemption:

Linden Community Garden Club
McCloud Garden Club

PASSED

Pat Claves, 2nd Vice President, reported that the 2010 Fall Board Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Palm Springs from Wednesday, September 15 to Friday, September 17, and that she will serve as Chairman. Robin Pokorski moved to ratify Pat Claves as Fall Board Meeting Chairman. **PASSED**

President Lucas announced that CGCI is entitled to twelve delegates to the Pacific Region Convention, April 22 – 24 in Spokane, Washington. Shirley Craver expressed the intention to attend and willingness to serve. Robin Pokorski moved to elect Shirley Craver as CGCI delegate to the Pacific Region Convention. **PASSED**

President Lucas announced that CGCI is entitled to twelve delegates to the NGC Convention, May 14 – 16 in Atlanta, Georgia. Carolyn Johnson expressed the intention to attend and willingness to serve. Robin Pokorski moved to elect Carolyn Johnson as CGCI delegate to the NGC Convention. **PASSED**

Convention 2010 Co-chairmen Jean Reiley and Beverly Brune presented the invitation to convention at the Hyatt in Westlake Village, Thursday, June 3 to Monday, June 7. (See Attachment E)

The meeting was recessed at 2:47 P.M.
The meeting was reconvened at 2:58 P.M.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Shane Looper, District Director Liaison, introduced the Directors. (See Attachment C)

The meeting was recessed at 3:14 P.M.
The meeting was reconvened on Saturday, January 9 at 8:35 A.M.

DISTRICT DIRECTORS' REPORTS continued.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Parliamentarian – Chuck Goodwin reported. (See Attachment B)

Golden Gardens Editor – Lynne Hansen reported. (See Attachment B)

Recording Secretary – Greg Pokorski reported. (See Attachment B)

The meeting was recessed at 9:27 A.M. for Palomar District members to adjourn to their district meeting. The meeting was reconvened at 9:34 A.M.

3rd Vice President – Rita Desilets reported. (See Attachment B)

Rita Desilets moved to ratify the following new groups:

2 Garden Clubs:

Calimesa Community Garden – Palms to Pines District – 28 members, Cathy Serianni, President

Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society – Orange County District – 100 members, Vince Basta, President

4 Affiliates:

Coronado Floral Association – Palomar District, Leslie Crawford, President

Friends of the Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden – CGCI Affiliate, Debra Barrad, President

San Diego County Orchid Society – CGCI Affiliate, David Brown, President

San Diego Botanic Garden – CGCI Affiliate, Julian Duval, President/CEO

PASSED

Rita Desilets moved to allocate an additional \$1,000.00 from the general fund to line code 1803 to print more membership materials this year. **PASSED**

The meeting was recessed at 9:48 A.M.

The meeting was reconvened at 3:50 P.M.

Jane McKee expressed thanks from Palomar District for being able to have the district meeting in conjunction with the CGCI Winter Board Meeting and presented a check to benefit the President's Project, Kids Growing Strong.

OFFICERS' REPORTS continued.

2nd Vice President – Pat Clayes reported. (See Attachment B)

1st Vice President – Julie West reported. (See Attachment B)

President – Maryanne Lucas reported. (See Attachment B)

STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advisory Council – Robin Pokorski reported. (See Attachment D)

Awards – Nancy Lee Loesch reported.

Board of Trustees/Scholarship – Bob Gordon reported. (See Attachment D) Evelyn Broaddus reported scholarship selection results. (See Attachment E)

Bob Gordon moved, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, and endorsed by the Budget and Finance Committee, the Advisory Council and the Executive Committee, that on the behalf of CGCI the Board of Trustees pursue charters to establish two endowment funds – one for scholarships and one for potential planned giving.

PASSED

The meeting was recessed at 4:32 P.M.

The meeting was reconvened at 4:40 P.M.

Budget and Finance – No further report.

Nominating Committee – Dolores Moffat reported. (See Attachment D)

OTHER COMMITTEES

Three-year Calendars – Robin Pokorski, Shane Looper and George Speer reported. Proceeds benefit the President's Project, Kids Growing Strong.

Shane Looper presented a check for \$500.00 to President Lucas (from the proceeds of the Convention 2009 workshop sponsored by Founders Council of Judges).

Garden Tour of Greece – George Perko reported on the tour, scheduled for July 12-22, 2010.

California State Flower & Garden Show – Shane Looper and Dolores Moffat reported on the Standard Flower Show, scheduled for April 8-11, 2010.

Symposium – Shane Looper read Gloria Aminian's report on the Symposium, to be held in Sacramento April 7-9, 2010, in conjunction with the State Flower and Garden Show. (See Attachment E)

Fall Board Meeting 2009 (Concord) – Jane Berger reported (See Attachment E)

Life Membership – Rita Desilets read Carlotta Wixon's report. (See Attachment E)
Rita Desilets moved to ratify the following new life members:

CGCI

- Rice, Linda - Desert Crossroads G.C. - Roadrunner District
- Martin, Rose - Tuolumne Co. G. C. - Valley Lode District
- Doran, Linda - Lafayette G.C. - Diablo Foothills District
- Hicks, Linda - Floral Design Study - Montana de Oro District
- Keitha De Mara - Lafayette GC - Diablo Foothills District
- Blewett, Gwen - None (honorary gift)
- Malotte, Pat - Redding Wonderland G.C. - Cascade District
- Hall, Betty - Cayucos G.C. - Montana de Oro District
- Craig, Phyllis - Cayucos G.C. - Montana de Oro District
- Parker, Wilma - Ramona G.C. - Palomar District
- Hall, Catha - Woodside Hills G.C. - Bay Ocean District
- Wegner, Walter - Sherman Oaks G.C. - San Fernando Valley District

PACIFIC REGION

- Carol Alstot - La Casa G.C. - Sequoia Foothills District

PASSED

Rita Desilets moved on behalf of the Executive Committee to purchase 100 life membership pins, one to be given with each life membership purchased, cost not to exceed \$300, monies to come from the general fund.

PASSED

CHAIRMEN and TEAM REPORTS

Julie West introduced the Chairmen and Team Liaisons. (See Attachment E)

The meeting was recessed at 5:38 P.M., Saturday, January 9, 2010.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:03 A.M., Sunday, January 10, 2010.

Jolene Adams moved that Wilma Parker be added to the Circle of Poppies. **PASSED**

Elisabeth Tufo reported the history of the Circle of Poppies and announced that Wilma Parker is the newest member.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Lucas reminded District Directors to pick up information from the "mail" boxes.

President Lucas presented Helping Hands awards (gloves) to Joan Blankenship, Deedee Speer, Jane McKee, Pat Claves, and Helen Gates.

Doris Nagy announced that the Norwegian church in San Pedro is very happy to receive our recycled stamps and sends them on to a church in Norway.

CHAIRMEN and TEAM REPORTS continued.

Beverly Switzer, reporting for the Youth Team, moved to ratify these 6 youth groups:

1. Luther Burbank District is sponsoring "The Sierra Youth Center" junior gardeners- which is a RESIDENTIAL facility for troubled teen girls-Joelle Holford is providing hands on guidance to these 15 girls.
2. The Diablo View Student Garden Project is made up of 25 physically or mentally challenged young people-Clayton Valley Garden Club is sponsoring this group.
3. In the Roadrunner District-the Desert Crossroads Garden Club is sponsoring 85 FFA (Future Farmers of America) students at this Lucerne Valley High School. Linda Riddle will be working with this group.
4. 123 junior gardeners in grades 1-5 will be known as the Gratton School garden-sponsored by Modesto Home and Garden Club in Valley Lode District.
5. San Clemente Garden Club in Orange County District is sponsoring "The Learning Through Nature"- Concordia Junior Gardeners.....638 strong.
6. Another Roadrunner District-youth garden club-is being sponsored by the Cactus Wren Garden Club-these 30 young people will be known as the SITTING BULL GARDENERS.

PASSED

Mary Lou Goodwin moved to include her full Landscape Design Council report in the minutes. **PASSED** (See Attachment F)

Chuck Goodwin moved to adopt the State Parks position paper. **PASSED**

The meeting was recessed at 10:15 A.M.
The meeting was reconvened at 10:27 A.M.

Chuck Goodwin moved to include his full IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption and Legislation/Government reports in the minutes. **PASSED** (See Attachment G)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Lucas announced that a committee including Chuck Goodwin and Julie West Was appointed to review the Slosson fund and frame another response to Mr. Dooley. Elisabeth Tufo volunteered to serve on the committee and was appointed.

Jane McKee reported that Palomar District's bank (Wells Fargo) advised that all banks are starting to enforce that the pay to line on business accounts must exactly match the name on the account.

BYLAWS & POLICY

George Speer moved to consider all bylaws changes in their entirety. **DEFEATED**

On behalf of the committee, Julie West moved to submit the following bylaws amendments to the voting membership at convention:

1. **ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES** (page 128)

Sec. 1. The membership of this corporation shall consist of 5 classes: garden clubs, associate plant societies, affiliates, life members and all categories of youth gardeners. Voting memberships shall be garden clubs **and** associate plant societies **and affiliates**. Nonvoting memberships shall be all categories of youth gardeners, **affiliates** and life members.

Rationale: Some clubs appear to be looking for ways to avoid belonging to districts and paying district dues by becoming affiliates. Moving affiliates to nonvoting membership removes one incentive to change.

PASSED

2. ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES (page 128)

Sec. 3. All dues are payable on July 1 and delinquent on ~~November~~ **October** 1. Dues shall be payable to CGCI and mailed to the membership chairman who shall transfer the funds promptly to the treasurer. **(a)** Garden Clubs and Associate Plant Societies shall pay annual dues of two dollars twenty-five cents (\$2.25) per capita which shall include dues to NGC, effective July 1, 2008. **(b)** The per capita dues of any new club or associate plant society shall accompany application for membership. Clubs or associate plant societies shall forward dues on a quarterly basis for new members accepted during the previous quarter to the membership chairman. **(c)** Affiliates shall pay annual dues of fifty dollars (\$50.00) regardless of size. **(d)** New clubs **and** associate plant societies **and affiliates** joining CGCI between January 1 and June 30, ~~which are due July 1 and delinquent November 1.~~ They shall be ratified at the winter board meeting or the pre-convention meeting and shall be entitled to representation at the convention. **(e)** If dues are not paid by ~~November~~ **October** 1, clubs and associate plant societies become ineligible for CGCI liability insurance and participation in the CGCI awards program. **In addition, clubs also become ineligible for the CGCI 501(c)(3) IRS Group Exemption.** **(f)** All categories of youth gardeners shall pay no dues to CGCI. Membership dues to NGC, including dues for youth gardeners, and dues to Pacific Region shall be paid annually from the general fund. **(g)** Life memberships are honorary and require a onetime contribution of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Life membership contributions after June 1, 1997 will not include *Golden Gardens*. A club or associate plant society shall pay state dues for all members, including life members.

Rationale: Changing the date to October 1 shortens window to 90 days past date of July 1 when dues become delinquent. Still allows plenty of time for clubs to remit their dues. Liability insurance bills are typically mailed at end of October or first of November so no overlap of delinquent dues vs. eligibility for liability insurance will occur as it does today.

Also, removes affiliates from paying one-half the annual dues (\$50) if they join CGCI between January 1 and June 30. \$50 dues is membership fee regardless of when they join.

In addition, need to make it clear that if a club fails to remit dues on time, the club is not eligible to participate or continue participating in CGCI's 501(c)(3) IRS Group Exemption program.

PASSED

3. ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES (page 129)

Sec. 2 (c) appoint the parliamentarian, all chairmen of standing and special committees ~~(~~except the nominating committee, board of trustees, **advisory council, budget and finance**), and fill vacancies on the board of trustees.

Rationale: Article XV states the immediate past president shall act as chairman of the Advisory Council and Article XII Sec. 6 (a) states the financial secretary shall serve as the chairman so they are not appointed by the President and need to be added as exceptions.

PASSED

4. ARTICLE VI – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS (page 130)

Sec. 2 d (3). At the Fall Board Meeting, in odd-numbered years, the committee shall notify all board members of offices to be filled, such notice to be published in ~~the following issue of~~ *Golden Gardens*.

Rationale: Depending on the publication schedule of *Golden Gardens*, the notice could possibly be published in the "summer" issue since all offices, except that of President, are in fact "open."

PASSED

5. ARTICLE IX - DISTRICTS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS page 132)

Sec. 6. Board meeting chairmen may be appointed by the president upon recommendation from the host district following selection of the Board meeting locale. (new Sec. 6 with renumbering of remaining sections.)

Rationale: This wording is similar to Article XI – Annual Meetings. Sec. 8. The President needs to be able to work with the Board Meeting Chairmen and have him/her ratified which is the same process for Convention chairmen. Eliminates inconsistencies of sometimes ratifying a board chairman and sometimes not.

PASSED

6. **ARTICLE X – CHAIRMEN AND COMMITTEES** (page 133)

Sec. 1 There shall be such standing committees as are necessary for the operation of the corporation. The president shall appoint chairmen subject to ratification by the board of directors.

Sec. 2 Special committees shall be appointed as needed subject to ratification by the board of directors.

Strike and replace with:

Sec. 1 There shall be such standing and special committees as are deemed necessary for the operation of the corporation. The president shall appoint chairmen (except the nominating committee, board of trustees, advisory council, budget and finance), subject to ratification by the board of directors.

Rationale: Combines two sections into one and notes those chairmen the President does not appoint as provided for elsewhere in the bylaws (Article VI Sec. 2 (d) 2; Article XIV Sec. 2; Article XV and Article XII Sec. 6).

PASSED

7. **ARTICLE XII – FINANCES** (page 134)

Sec. 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 shall be retained by the Host District(s) or Host Club(s).**

Rationale: Change specifies distribution of proceeds from conventions. This was proposed previously. It was tabled and a special committee was formed; however no recommendation was made or report provided by that committee.

Robin Pokorski moved to **refer back to the committee. PASSED**

8. **ARTICLE XII – FINANCES** (page 134)

Sec. 6. The finance and budget committee shall: (a) **include** consist of the financial secretary, who shall serve as the chairman, first vice-president, treasurer, chairman of the board of trustees, and **one person up to three members** who shall be appointed by the president, (b)...

Rationale: By allowing the President to appoint additional people to serve on the Budget & Finance Committee, some or all of the vice presidents may be included so as to become familiar with CGCI's finances, various members of the Board of Trustees, as well as members from the assembly at large.

PASSED AS AMENDED

9. **ARTICLE XII – FINANCES** (page 134)

Sec. 7. The following are budgeted from the General Fund: (a) president's reimbursement of up to ~~\$5,000~~ **\$10,000.00** 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 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 reimbursement of up to \$1,500 for verified expenses incurred in attending one meeting of NGC, and (d) a reimbursement of up to \$1,500 annually for verified expenses when the Pacific Region director is from California.

PASSED AS AMENDED

10. **ARTICLE XII – FINANCES** (page 134)

Sec. 10. ~~The financial secretary, treasurer, liability insurance chairman and Golden Gardens finance chairman shall be bonded in equal amounts.~~ **A crime policy that includes Employee Dishonesty coverage** Bonds to **will** be furnished by CGCI **and paid from the General Fund.**

Rationale: CGCI has not had a fidelity bond for named positions in several years. The current coverage is provided by a crime policy with blanket Employee Dishonesty coverage and is not restricted to those four chairmanships.

PASSED

11. **ARTICLE XIV - BOARD OF TRUSTEES** (page 135)

Sec. 2. Immediately following the post-convention meeting in an odd-numbered election year and immediately following the pre-convention meeting in an even-numbered, non-election year, the president shall call a meeting of the board of

trustees to elect a chairman and secretary who shall serve for one year and may be reelected for ~~an~~ **one** additional **one-year** term. Four members shall constitute a quorum. If the chairman is unable to represent the trustees at board meetings, the secretary may act as alternate. The board of trustees shall meet upon call of the chairman, or secretary acting in absence of the chairman.

Rationale: Clarifies the original intent of a one-year term followed by one additional one-year term as the maximum time served as Chairman and Secretary.

PASSED

***Golden Gardens* Editor Proposed Bylaw Amendments**

PROVISO: All bylaw amendments relating to the *Golden Gardens* Editor including Article V Sec. 1; Article V Sec. 8; Article VI Sec. 1 b(3); Article VII Sec. 1; Article VIII Sec. 1; Article XIII Sec. 1; Article XIII Sec. 3 and Article XIII Sec. 5 shall take effect at the close of the CGCI Convention May 18, 2011. NOTE: If the amendment to Article V Sec. 1 (Item #12) were to fail, the remaining proposed bylaws amendments as respects *Golden Gardens* Editor will not be presented for consideration.

On behalf of the committee, Julie West moved to submit the following bylaws amendments to the voting membership at convention:

12. ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES (page 129)

Sec. 1. **(a)** Elected officers shall be president, first vice-president, second vice-president, third vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, financial secretary **and** treasurer ~~and *Golden Gardens* editor~~. **(b)** The appointed officer shall be the parliamentarian.

Rationale: Subscriptions for *Golden Gardens* have declined to approximately 3,700 subscribers of which CGCI purchases 375 complimentary subscriptions for club presidents, APS presidents, affiliate presidents and district directors. In addition, individuals who became life members before June 1, 1997 receive subscriptions paid by CGCI. Position does not appear to warrant inclusion on the Executive Committee and could be handled by making the position a Standing Committee Chairmanship under Article VII – Board of Directors.

PASSED

Jane McKee moved that the seven following proposed amendments be treated as a whole. **PASSED**

On behalf of the committee, Julie West moved to submit these seven bylaws amendments (#s 13-19) to the voting membership at convention. **PASSED**

13. ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES (page 129)

~~Sec. 8. The *Golden Gardens* editor shall supervise publication of *Golden Gardens*.~~
Move this to Article XIII – *Golden Gardens* and renumber #9 to #8.

14. ARTICLE VI – NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS (page 130)

Sec. 1 b (3). The **treasurer**, recording, corresponding and financial secretaries, ~~treasurer and *Golden Gardens* editor~~ only shall be eligible for two two-year terms. No officer shall serve longer than four years in any one position except that eligibility restrictions shall not apply to the appointive office of parliamentarian.

Rationale: Removes *Golden Gardens* editor as being limited to two terms since position no longer subject to election.

15. ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS (page 131)

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

Rationale: Adds editor and members of the *Golden Gardens* committee to be members of the board of directors under Article VII and clarifies all committee chairmen (including both standing and special committees) are members of the board of directors.

16. **ARTICLE VIII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (page 132)

Sec. 1. Executive committee of the board of directors shall consist of the president, vice-presidents, recording, corresponding and financial secretaries, treasurer, ~~Golden Gardens editor~~ and parliamentarian. A majority shall constitute a quorum.

Rationale: Position does not appear to warrant inclusion on the Executive Committee and could be handled by making the position a Standing Committee Chairmanship under Article VII – Board of Directors.

17. **ARTICLE XIII - GOLDEN GARDENS** (page 135)

Sec. 1 ~~CGCI shall publish an official magazine, Golden Gardens.~~
Strike and replace with:

Sec. 1 The official publication of CGCI shall be Golden Gardens, electronic or print.

Rationale: Allows flexibility for future of *Golden Gardens*.

18. **ARTICLE XIII – GOLDEN GARDENS** (page 135)

Sec. 3. **The Golden Gardens editor shall (a) supervise publication of Golden Gardens, (b) keep the cost of publication within the budget adopted by the board of directors. Any additional expenditures shall be presented to the executive committee for approval prior to incurring indebtedness, (c) be chairman of the Golden Gardens Committee and (d) report to the board of directors at all board meetings and conventions. (re-number remaining sections)**

Rationale: Incorporates Sec. 8 from Article V, defines the editor's role and requires the reporting necessary as a permanent Standing Committee of the Board of Directors.

19. **ARTICLE XIII – GOLDEN GARDENS** (page 135)

Sec. 5. Changes in advertising rates shall be recommended by the editor **to the executive committee** and ratified by the board of directors.

Rationale: Establishes communication from editor to Executive Committee to board of directors.

On behalf of the committee, Julie West moved to amend the following Standing Rules:

~~70. Membership chairman shall send, by July 1, copies of the current (June 1) district rosters and a list of associate plant societies to the following: corresponding secretary, yearbook chairman, Golden Gardens circulation chairman, liability insurance chairman and youth activities chairman. (pages 140-141)~~

Strike and Replace with:

70. Membership chairman shall send, by July 1, a list of all clubs, associate plant societies and affiliates with names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of the presidents, treasurers and youth gardener leaders to the CGCI President, Vice Presidents, Corresponding Secretary, Yearbook Chairman, Golden Gardens Circulation Chairman, Liability Insurance Chairman, Website Chairman and Youth Activities Chairman. The list should follow the format of the state roster.

Rationale: Rosters need to be routed to the website chairman for posting with courtesy copies provided to the President and Vice Presidents and is customary practice today. In addition, this reinforces Article IX Sec. 6 in the bylaws, utilizing the same description of what the "list" is to include that is to be distributed by the CGCI Membership Chairman.

PASSED

~~74. An associate plant society shall (1) be a member of a permanent statewide or national plant society, (2) be entitled to representation at annual meeting by its president or alternate, and delegates as specified in Article XI, Section 5. (3) pay annual dues according to Article IV, Sec. 3(a), (4) not belong to a district, and (4) be eligible to apply for liability insurance and (5) not be eligible to apply for 501(c)(3) IRS Group Exemption Program. In addition, an associate plant society may also belong to a district. (page 141)~~

Rationale: Clarifies that associate plant societies are not eligible to participate in CGCI's 501(c)(3) IRS Group Exemption program because they are members of permanent statewide or national plant societies.

PASSED

76. A club shall pay CGCI annual per capita dues, belong to a district **and be eligible to apply for** CGCI liability insurance **and 501(c)(3) IRS Group Exemption Program**. ~~An associate plant society, which chooses to belong to a district, shall be classified as a club.~~ (page 141)

Rationale: Clarifies that only qualifying clubs are eligible to apply for liability insurance and CGCI's 501(c)(3) IRS Group Exemption program.

PASSED

There being no further business and no objection, the 2010 Winter Board Meeting of California Garden Clubs, Inc. was adjourned at 11:43 A.M.

Submitted

Greg Pokorski, Recording Secretary

Date

Includes transactions through 1/11/10 per Treasurer, Ed Dempsey

CGCI ACCOUNT-Selected Accounts

1/11/10

CGCI Net Worth Report
As of 12/31/09

Page 1

Acct	12/31/09 Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
BofA CD 06854-[11/01/2010 2.10%]	60,722.32
Business Max Acct 4096-[1.25%]	50,409.05
CGCI BofA 12962-Checking Account	64,962.51
Luther Burbank CD 53899-2-[7/13/10 1.90 %]	91,841.63
US Bank 353405897664-[04/08/2014 4.00%]	81,859.83
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	349,795.34
Other Assets	
Golden Gardens BofA 06688-Checking Account	29,748.24
PREPAID DEPOSITS-Hotel & Meeting Deposits	1,000.00
TOTAL Other Assets	30,748.24
TOTAL ASSETS	380,543.58
LIABILITIES	
Other Liabilities	
Awards-Restricted	8,837.34
Blue Star Memorial-Restricted	2,615.30
Donor Christy Fitz Mem. Fund-Donor Restricted	910.01
Donor Copeland Fund-Donor Restricted	11,975.04
Donor Eleanor Miller Fund-Donor Restricted	3,250.00
Donor Helen Minor Mem. Flr. Sc-Donor Restricted	4,713.65
Educational Schools Fund-Restricted	7,825.00
FAST-Restricted	1,000.00
Flower Show School-Restricted	620.79
Gardening Consultants Coun.-Restricted	885.65
Gardening Study-Restricted	2,116.26
Honor Book-Restricted	8,596.09
Judges Council-Restricted	969.47
Landscape Design Council-Restricted	1,618.21
Landscape Design Study Program-Restricted	3,931.31
Liability Insurance-Restricted	76,105.95
Reforestation Fund-Restricted	500.00
Scholarship Fund-Restricted	60,620.98
Symposium Reserve-Restricted	18,126.07
Wildflower Conference-Restricted	12,197.96
Youth Fund-Restricted	2,416.98
TOTAL Other Liabilities	229,832.06
TOTAL LIABILITIES	229,832.06
OVERALL TOTAL	150,711.52

Parliamentarian, Charles F. Goodwin, Jr.

Changes to the **Standing Rules** which were approved at FB 2009:

1. A new Standing Rule #15 was adopted which states that each Chairman has the responsibility of maintaining an updated Procedure Book.
2. Standing Rule #37 was amended changing the date to June 1 to submit bills for reimbursement.
3. Standing Rule #41 was amended regarding the distribution of the CPA audit/review.
4. A new Standing Rule #42 was adopted requiring separate EINs for special CGCI committees.
5. Standing Rule #73 was amending regarding Affiliates.
6. Amendments to Standing Rules #74 and #76 were referred to Committee and will be before this body at 2010 Winter Board for consideration.

Corresponding Secretary, Carolyn Johnson

- Completed correspondence for the signature of the president.
- Notified NCGI of updates of club and associate plant society presidents to receive *The National Gardener* and *Keeping in Touch*.
- Updated APS and affiliates for Call to Convention, and club presidents for Call to Board Meetings and Convention as directed by the 3rd Vice President.
- Sent Call to Winter Board Meeting. Request that every member of the Board of Directors respond that they have received the call the first time it is received.
- Request that each member of the Board of Directors email or mail a procedure for each chairmanship to the corresponding secretary. These will be posted on the CGCI website and be kept in a binder for distribution to future chairmen. Please detail the goals and objectives of the position and how accomplished. Due date: March 1, 2010.

Golden Gardens Editor, Lynne Hansen

1. *Golden Gardens* has decreased its circulation since June 2009 by 132, but there are new clubs that now have 100% subscription. Economy is mostly the cause of this.
2. *Golden Gardens* Proposal from Black and White to Color July 2010
Proposed Changes:
4 quarterly issues in full color

Proposed price changes:
From \$1.25 to \$1.50 per issue = \$6.00 per year
100% Clubs from \$1.00 to \$1.25 a year.
The small cost increase plus 1 less issue per year will help pay for the color printing.
3. We always need articles that inspire others. Any pictures need to be at least 300 dpi resolution. I need to commend the people that are always there for *Golden Gardens* with great articles. They are:
Maryanne Lucas
Robert and Hoberley Schuler
Chuck and Mary Lou Goodwin
George Unrine
Joyce Dean
Alexis Slafer
Margaret Strachan
Mary Crowell
Myrtle Findley
Lorna Bonham

Rita Desilets
Pat Claves
Julie West
Pat York
Kris Ethington

I also want to thank the clubs article writers for sharing their articles with *Golden Gardens*.

Recording Secretary, Greg Pokorski

This officer recently happened across reports from 9 years ago when Robin was Recording Secretary. We were still printing and mailing minutes to all board members then at a cost of \$113.40 for copying and \$135.60 for postage to distribute the 2001 Winter Board Meeting minutes.

Changing to email distribution is saving CGCI a lot of money. I have had to mail minutes to only 20 board members who do not have email. If any of you receiving minutes by snail mail obtain email access please let me know. In addition to emailing state meeting minutes to board members, I hope all of you are aware that our minutes are posted on our website – in the Board Member area.

Thanks to all who have responded to the information about report submission that was provided in the October email distribution of our Fall Board Meeting minutes and in the recent e-newsletter. At this point more reports have already been submitted for this Winter Board Meeting than were submitted for Fall Board Meeting.

Regardless of the length of reports you present orally or submit in writing to the President and to the *Golden Gardens* Editor, please submit short form reports – the guideline is 100 words – this is no more than two inches of text – to the Recording Secretary.

Julie West will be providing some additional information on this subject, but if you want your report attached to our minutes please submit it to this Recording Secretary by 1/17/2010, one week from tomorrow, and submit by email if at all possible. Thank you.

3rd Vice President, Rita Desilets Membership Chairman's Report

As of January 5, 2010, there were **276 clubs** with **15,639** members; **55 associate plant societies** with **3,866** members, resulting in a total membership of **19,505**. **23 affiliates** have paid dues. This year dues bills will be mailed shortly after the June Convention, rather than mid-May.

Last summer, this chairman sent letters to about 60 arboreta and botanic gardens, inviting them to become part of our new Participating Arboreta/Botanic Garden Program. Recently two more Botanic Gardens have been added to the original nine: Chico University Arboretum and Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden at California State University, Long Beach Your membership card entitles you to any or all of the following: free admission, 10% discounts at gift shops or plant sales. Many of the gardens not responding were sent a second letter containing an invitation to become a CGCI Affiliate.

This chairman has written a second gardening pamphlet, "Edible Landscaping" which, along with "Conservation Gardening" is available on the website. A copy is posted on the display board at the Membership Table.

CGCI banners are still very popular! The newly developed Banner Order form, available on the CGCI Website, simplified the ordering process. For a limited time a free banner bag will be given to clubs or districts ordering both the stand and banner. Several stands have been brought for orders taken at this meeting.

CGCI promotional materials such as the rack cards, bookmarks, posters and the new CGCI brochure have been counted, bundled and are ready for pick up at the Membership table. Be sure to remind those who take these materials to put their club information in the space provide before using.

This fall, your Membership Chairman did an internet search for any Plant Society or garden club not belonging to CGCI. Over 260 packets containing a cover letter, membership application and list of benefits of membership were mailed. A

similar packet will be put in each District Directors file and some are found at the Membership table. If you come across a potential candidate and don't have a packet to give them, please send me their contact information and a copy of the new "Invitation to Membership" packet will be sent to them.

The Membership theme for the 2009-2011 is "*One by One*". This chairman's article published in the Aug/Sept *Golden Gardens* introduced the theme. A second article in the Oct/Nov issue of *Golden Gardens* listed five ways to publicize your club and CGCI. An entire page listing the Benefits of Membership was included in the Dec/Jan issue. Look for an article in the Feb/Mar issue containing ideas for making visitors feel so welcome they will want to join your club.

Membership Matters! Share your love of gardening and garden clubbing!

It is my pleasure to introduce six new additions to CGCI:

2 CLUBS:

Calimesa Community Garden – Palms to Pines District –
28 members Cathy Serianni, President

Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society – Orange County District – 100 members Vince Basta, President

4 AFFILIATES:

Coronado Floral Association – Palomar District
Leslie Crawford, President

Friends of the Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden – CGCI Affiliate
Debra Barrad, President

San Diego County Orchid Society – CGCI Affiliate
David Brown, President

San Diego Botanic Garden – CGCI Affiliate
Julian Duval, President/CEO

Madam President, I move to ratify these six new clubs.

2nd Vice President, Pat Clayes

eNewsletter

The electronic newsletter was launched in November. So far, three issues have been sent. Initially all club, affiliate and APS presidents, district directors, chairmen and Executive Committee Members were automatically included in the subscriber list. Whenever changes are made or new presidents join, this chairman automatically makes the changes and signs-up the new presidents. It is up to the individual club members to sign up for the eNewsletters on the CGCI website. As of today, there are over 600 subscribers. CGCI is hopeful to eventually have all of our club members with email capabilities as subscribers. Flyers have been placed in the district directors' folders with exact directions for sign-up which they should give to each club president for their members. The newsletter will be sent whenever there is enough information or an immediate need to send it – possibly once a month. This is CGCI's 21st Century way of communicating with our members without creating spam or wasting trees or spending money on postage. It is also a link with the website and *Golden Gardens*, and all of NGC's and Pacific Region's websites and publications. [Currently, the cost is \$15.20 per month for 1,000 subscribers with the capability of sending six eNewsletters per month. The next level is for 2,500 subscribers at \$23.20 per month.]

Toll Free Number - 888-702-2075

Since its activation in August, this chairman estimates that 1-3 calls per month were received from prospective members. A few calls per month were received from garden club members with questions; this chairman evaluated the calls and forwarded them to the appropriate chairman for response. [The plan is \$43.79 per month, but with all of the taxes, the cost comes to \$53.50.]

Brochures/Pamphlets

With the help of Julie West and Rita Desilets and the schools chairmen (Shane Looer, Dolores Moffat, Greg Pokorski and Alexis Slafer), the *Back to School* pamphlet is now finished. The pamphlet has been placed on the website for

download and copies placed in the district directors' box. Also, this chairman is also in the process of preparing pamphlets on *Beginning Creative Design* and *A Flower Arranger's Garden*. Hopefully these will be completed by convention. Finally, this Communications Chairman is hopeful that other chairmen and teams (especially the Horticulture and Conservation Teams) will work with me to develop more educational pamphlets for our members and the public. These pamphlets are great membership assets.

Yearbook

The yearbook continues to be updated. This chairman will easily be able to update it over the summer for the next term. Handouts of corrections have been put into the district directors' box and placed on the table near the door for the chairman. Unfortunately, there are no extra copies left, but pdf files may be transmitted to anyone who needs an extra copy – just let me know.

Awards Coordinator

Last fall, a step-by-step memorandum was created by this chairman and distributed to all award judges. With the memorandum, color coded judging report forms (in triplicate) were included for the judges to report their findings to the Award Chairman, Awards Secretary and Awards Coordinator. Credit for this wonderful new system goes to Julie West. So far, the new system is working! The first batch of awards was judged prior to December 25. The last batch is to be judged by January 31. This will give the Awards Team a lot of time to start planning for the Awards Banquet at Convention.

Fall Board, September 2010

With an overwhelming majority of the Palms to Pines clubs, an invitation was given to CGCI to hold its 2010 Fall Board Meeting in Palm Springs; the draft budget and schedule has been created; six hotels were interviewed (4 in the Palm Springs area, 1 in Riverside and 1 in Lake Arrowhead). The newly renovated and totally modern Hyatt in Palm Springs was the best choice. And now the contract has been signed and the deposit sent. **So, it's official.** The official dates for the CGCI 2010 Fall Board Meeting will be Wednesday, September 15 through Friday, September 17, 2010 with the Palms to Pines District as the host and Pat Clayes as the chairman. More information will be given at convention, but, so far this chairman has planned for a tour of The Living Desert and my team is working on the educational workshops, speakers, programs and possibly entertainment. This will meeting will not only be fun, it will be a very educational and hopefully somewhat affordable event.

NGC 2010 Winter Executive Board Meeting, Palm Springs

January 19-20, 2010; California Garden Clubs, host; Pat Clayes, Chairman

All arrangements have been made with the Spa Resort Hotel for the meeting rooms and meals. The tour to The Living Desert, with lunch at Desert Willow Golf Course, is all confirmed. And, thanks to CGCI, tickets to The Fabulous Palm Springs Follies have been purchased for all 20 members of the NGC Executive Committee plus the Executive Director. And, thanks to the Redlands Horticultural & Improvement Society's Floral Design Group, floral arrangements will be provided for the sleeping rooms of the President and the four Vice Presidents (using CGCI diamond jubilee mugs) and special desert-type arrangements will be made for the meeting room by Joyce Dean and Jill Coleman. Numerous items were donated by clubs across the state to be included in the hobo-type goodie bags, which this chairman made from colorful poppy fabric. Twenty-one convention bags from last year's convention will also be included. Out of this chairman's budget, items were purchased for the goodie bags (cute little California bears, California quarters in presentation boxes, etc.) and presents with poppies and quails themes for the NGC President. This chairman believes that the members of the NGC Executive Committee will go home knowing that California is a great place to have a meeting, and that CGCI is a very gracious and thoughtful host!

1st Vice President, Julie A. West

Madame President:

I had the pleasure representing CGCI by attending three out of six Blue Star dedications in October and November. Locations included Igo, Shasta Lake and Patterson where I had the opportunity to meet local club members as well as chat with the two district directors present, Anne Capes and Chelsea Wilson.

There are less than 40 CGCI 75-year history books available for sale, *The Diamond Years*. Be sure to see me to purchase this limited edition and learn why you can be proud to be a member of CGCI. It's a bargain for only \$10!

The Bylaws & Policy Committee has proposed several suggested Bylaws changes for consideration as well as proposed Standing Rules amendments that were mailed out with the Call to Winter Board that will be presented at the last business session of this Winter Board meeting for approval. Additional Standing Rule amendments were discussed for presentation at Convention. Members of the Bylaws & Policy Committee are: Dolores Moffat, Joan Craig, Jane McKee and Pat Clayes.

I would like to invite each district to please consider hosting either a Fall or Winter Board meeting in 2011 and 2012. Part of the fun of being a member of the Board of Directors is being able to travel to different areas of California, meet local garden club members and visit places we would not have seen otherwise. The good news about hosting a

board meeting is that it unifies members of the host district working together toward a common goal and the net proceeds remains with the host district! I'd love to discuss the possibilities with you.

President, Maryanne Lucas

It indeed a pleasure and an honor to have the opportunity to represent CGCI at special events like Blue Star dedications, Club celebrations and district meetings.

Having the privilege to talk with members, meet new people, be introduced to exciting places and projects, to learn about the things that are going on around our state and what people are doing is a remarkable experience.

I have been most impressed with the number of years, the amount of time and the sincere dedication that so many of our members have devoted to the things that CGCI's mission include: Things like
Creating interest in gardening, floral design, animal & plant life.
Preserving natural beauty and resources
Spreading knowledge and experience.

The thorough enjoyment of the experience, is balanced however, by a curse with which I have been afflicted since birth. (my mother referred to it as my "burden")

It is what some call a "critical eye"...I prefer "discerning" eye.

An innate need exists to examine what is good and try to make it better. To figure out why things work.... And extrapolate the findings.

- Why does it work like this?
- Has it always worked like this?
- How long will it be able to continue to work?
- Can it be made to work better?

So, as president of California Garden Clubs, when I travel this state and see what is going on...along with me comes that "discerning eye." And what do I see? I am seeing fundamental changes in our society that are having a great impact on our organization. I see that our membership is aging. I see that we are more distracted than we once were. The pressures of aging, of a bad economy, and of the confusing barrage of messages hitting us day in and day out are all taking a toll.

Our country seems to have swung from what could be described as a largely a civic-minded, service-oriented orientation to one that is more socially-oriented while at the same time being self-focused and isolated. These days, a great number of people tend to know more about far-away places and absolute strangers than they do of their own communities and neighbors. While enormous numbers of people spend huge amounts of time on social networks such as FaceBook and Twitter, their actual interaction is, in most cases, reduced to abbreviated text message.

- While social...they are not joining groups.
- While concerned about the state of things, they do not seem to be taking action to affect change.

Yet, I am happy to report that they ARE INTERESTED....THEY ARE CONCERNED....about the very things that occupy the time and talent of CGCI.

Yet our membership is not growing. There is a case to be made that in these times of growing population, because we have remained constant means we have actually declined. Well...We may have declined in numbers, but we are still on top in spirit!

From personal experience, the things I see when working with families at Kids Growing Strong events and in talking to the public at other venues around the state....I can assure you that a great many people ARE very interested in the things that CGCI concerns itself with day in and day out.

So why aren't they joining? When we tell them our mission statement ("California Garden Clubs, Inc. promotes gardening, floral design, civic beautification, environmental responsibility and the exchange of information and ideas.") the response is....well nothing. I get a look like "Yeah...so what?" But whenever I share something with someone – something I am doing or something I have grown – the response invariably is "OH....I want to do that!!!!"

We have a product the public wants. It is in our delivery where we may be slipping. Elisabeth's theme was "Share the pleasures of gardening." That notion is a good first step. It is now time to "Share the pleasures and benefits of garden clubs."

Speaking of product.....

There have been statements made that CGCI should be run as a business. We are not a business. And even if we were, we would be a pretty impoverished one. Our unrestricted assets would not buy us much in California. Our earned income puts us in the food stamp line. And what happens to non-profits when they are run like a business? They often lose their heart. They hire employees, the employees hire staff and the primary goal too-often becomes job preservation.....much like what has happened with our government.

We will do better than that. WE will keep our heart. We will continue to strive to fulfill our mission and objects.....But we may have to be a little more flexible and creative in the way we go about it. You have all heard the arguments about the "old guard" and the "new people." We need not elaborate on that here...except to say there is no right and there is no wrong. Today is different than yesterday. Tomorrow will be different from today. We need to preserve the "essence" of what garden clubs have always been...Friendship, learning, helping, creating, making better, preserving, supporting, respecting....These "products" are eternal. All we need to reshape is the vehicle to deliver these precious assets into a product that will attract and will be carried on by hoards of future members.

Our challenge is to find that path to that end. I do not believe that anyone in this room knows exactly how we should do this. But I am sure that together we will figure it out. We will search and try new things. Some will work, some won't. What is important is that we continue to enjoy the journey – that we keep tryingand that we journey together. Have you ever noticed that a single tree alone in a field does not in general grow especially tall? The single tree has all the light it needs. It will often grow wide and spread its branches, but it doesn't usually get too tall. On the other hand, a tree in a forest that is surrounded by other trees must reach for the light. It constantly grows to become the tallest tree and get more light. When it does become the tallest the other trees strive to catch up and grow toward the light and warmth of the sunlight.

People are a lot like trees. Teams who work closely together provide encouragement and support for each other. By striving to reach the same goals, they grow to great heights together. Please continue to work with us, be open to try new things, be proud if they work and take it in stride if they do not. Use your creativity to think of new ideas, DO not hesitate to remind usGently....of good things we may have forgotten. But above all, stick with us...and bring in people of like-minded spirit. Together, we will reach great heights, too.

Bay Bridges District, Gerry Mellen

Our District has gone through some difficult times; we lost 2 clubs in the last year primarily due to the age of the members. We have cut the number of meetings to twice a year and by not having fundraisers, at least for a few years, we have been able to hold the District together and we are surviving.

At our September meeting we pass out all the information collected from State Meeting. We have passed out a short Parliamentary Procedure packet as well as one suggesting proper procedures for a Nominating Committee, which we hoped would assist new Presidents. In April we distribute the District Awards to our clubs and we award 2 Scholarship Awards to students attending a college and majoring in horticulture and/or related subjects. We allow smaller clubs to donate to the District Fund, thereby allowing them to contribute to the scholarship process.

Bay Ocean District, Nancy McDougal

As size, meeting times & activities of Bay Ocean District clubs vary, so do the activities. Two clubs have annual garden tours—one of its neighborhood & the other of estate gardens. There are garage sales, luncheons & fair entries for fundraising. Community outreach includes floral decorations for healthcare facilities & community buildings and care of a historical garden. This year we are also assembling a list of local speakers & tour sites to assist clubs in obtaining interesting programs for meetings. Each club focuses on the aspects of gardening which most interest their members, bringing variety to our efforts.

Cascade District, Anne Capes

Cascade District has added one youth group and two more are in the active planning stage. In September 2009, two awards were presented by the CGCI Landscape Design Council for gardens that showcased “good land use.” Two new Blue Star Memorial Markers were dedicated recently with 1st Vice President Julie West attending the dedications in impressive ceremonies. Club sponsors were Redding Wonderland GC at Igo Veterans Cemetery in Shasta County and Shasta Lake Garden Project at the veterans park in the city of Shasta Lake.

Channel Islands District, Carol Amenta

The Channel Islands District has 336 members consisting of seven clubs and four youth groups. Malibu Garden Club is the newest member.

The Conejo Valley Garden Club held a successful Winter Place Setting Standard Flower Show.

Malibu Garden Club is proud to have made an incredible come back beginning in the fall. By November 1st, for the first time ever, they had 40 paid members. Membership is now over 50.

Ojai Valley Garden Club gathered the materials, constructed and sold 196 Christmas wreaths for a net profit of \$4,300. The club also supports the Ojai Seniors mini gardening program and provide fresh flowers weekly at the local post office.

Pleasant Valley Garden Club made monthly visits to the Camarillo Senior Center where they provided a program assisting Alzheimer patients in arranging floral bouquets.

Westlake Village Garden Club has a new website. The site has links to district, state and National Garden Club sites.

Co-chairs Jean Reiley and Beverly Brune and District members are organizing the 2010 CGCI Convention to be held at the Westlake Village Hyatt Hotel, June 4 – 7.

Costa Verde District, Ruth Brooker

Our theme is “Go Green: Conserve Water and Resources.” Costa Verde District is making strides in this area with small steps; we hope to make a difference in our environment. The District clubs are having programs and activities to make us aware of how to cut back on waste by recycling things we call trash. We are trying to learn to use water more wisely and to become familiar with drought resistant plants. As District Director, I’m excited about the enthusiasm of our Presidents at our board meetings, with discussion of common goals and their interest in the broader picture of garden club work.

Desert Empire District, Joanne Latimer

The Desert Empire District’s four clubs total 115 members. Each club has added new members this year. Our clubs purchase Penney Pines, award scholarships and conduct plant sales. We worked closely on programs involving water conservation in our communities. Each club participates in various local activities, such as collecting for local charities. Once a year, Oasis presents a flower show at the Desert Empire fairgrounds.

Our district is dedicating a bench to be installed locally in memory of Alice Hirsch, a founding member of Desert Empire District and she founded two of our clubs.

Diablo Foothills District, Sandy Rogers

The Diablo Foothill District has accomplished many goals in the past 6 months. The district was honored to host the 2009 Fall Board for CGCI in June of 2009. The district received many great reviews from all over the state. Our clubs continue to meet their goals and objectives by having a wide variety of speakers, workshops and tours. Our fundraisers include plant sales, white elephant sales and bus trips to floral events and working with County Fairs. Our clubs have contributed financially to local libraries, scholarship, and school projects. One club, Lafayette, raised over \$11,000 on its own. Three clubs continue to sponsor youth garden clubs. All the district clubs remain very active in supporting blue star memorial markers, penny pines, and liter pickup. Our Walnut Creek Garden Club took part in National Daffodil Project, planting 100 bulbs. Diablo Foothill District will award 6 Clubs with Blue Ribbon Certificates Awards along with projects submitted to the awards committee for State, Regional and National judging.

Golden Foothills District, Sue Bennett

Our district has 620 members in 123 clubs. Lake of the Sky GC gave \$2,000 in scholarships to three students, as well as \$5,000 in grants for community gardening projects. They held their 21st annual garden tour at Incline Village which was their biggest ever – selling all 575 tickets and made \$11,070. Colfax GC had their annual Garden Tour, Divide GC had their Annual Fall Plant Sale, Auburn Arrangers had a small Standard Flower Show entitled, “Tea in the Garden,” Donner GC held their 54th Chrysanthemum Sale and Chicago Park GC held their 6th Annual Victorian Tea. In addition, the district hosted the Gardening Study School, Course I in September with Course II scheduled for April.

Humboldt District, Pat Chaney & Donna Haddock

Since May 2009 Humboldt District has attempted to vary its activities, hoping to be more inclusive and inviting to prospective members throughout the county. During the summer we manned booths and participated in the Redwood Acres Fair and the Humboldt County Fair, both of which garnered names of prospective members, winning ribbons for many members, and the promise and hope of starting new clubs. Fortuna GC held its 39th Annual Christmas Home Tour & Tea and are looking forward to their 35th Annual Daffodil Show, “Daffodils by the River.” Southern Humboldt GC has interesting and varied speakers to keep people informed. Patrick’s Point GC holds an annual Garden Event with lectures, vendors, and prizes.

Luther Burbank District, Bev Davies

District volunteers continue to mentor the teen girls at the Sierra Youth Center with their 1/3 acre vegetable garden. In addition to learning how to care for a garden, the girls have enjoyed preparing and eating the fresh produce.

The new Windsor Garden Club has grown to 45 members. Actively involved with the community, it is overseeing their local Community Garden.

Men's Garden Club of Santa Rosa earned over \$10,000 for their scholarship fund from plant sale proceeds and monetary award winnings for their County Fair display.

Santa Rosa Garden Club held the dedication of the permanent Habitat Sign at the Sonoma State University Butterfly Garden.

Montana de Oro District, Nancy Johnson

SLO Gardeners dissolved. Multiflora started with a program about the history of the club and followed this with such activities as "Gardening in Small Spaces," Winery Sustainability," and planning and planting for their spring plant sale. Cayucos GC held their 4th annual table setting luncheon in October and raised almost \$5,000. They continue community beautification projects at the Vets Hall and along the highway. Morro Bay GC held their 4th annual Dahlia Daze celebration larger than ever and this year will expand to two days and include noted speakers as well as dahlias for sale. Los Osos GC will hold a spring plant sale. Floral Design Study Club held a successful Standard Flower Show and started their year with an "East Meets West" theme, beginning with Ikebana and transitioning to western design.

Palms to Pines District, Linda and Ron Lang

The district encourages our clubs & plant societies to participate in and support Pennies for Pines.

The District had a Fall Bulb sale as its main fundraiser, and will host the CGCI 2010 Fall Board meeting in September at Palm Springs.

We welcome a new Garden Club – The Calimesa Community Garden Club of Calimesa, CA. The Clouds to Coast Chrysanthemum Culture Club disbanded this year.

The future looks bright and we continue to push gardening, education, conservation, community service and cross fertilization between the district member groups.

Palomar District, Jane McKee

The district eliminated one of the four official meetings held each year. A "leadership workshop" was held in September with over 30 members representing 13 of 20 clubs in attendance.

The district hosted the CGCI Winter Board meeting and held its district winter meeting in conjunction with the CGCI WB on Saturday morning, January 9. This was scheduled with several goals in mind:

- to encourage district members to experience a CGCI meeting in a capacity other than as hosts behind the scenes.
- to allow CGCI board members to meet and interact with Palomar District members
- to eliminate the need for two district events in one month.

Roadrunner District, Clara Petrosky

A productive 'get acquainted" meeting was held in July. My theme "Gardening...A lifetime of learning and sharing" was introduced. I shared my vision for us to work as a unit. Each club is unique but must be willing to interact in order to learn and share. Our goal is to continue to evaluate present projects and be receptive to new ideas!

Membership was increased by 5 and 2 youth clubs were formed. Awards and holiday decorations workshops were held. Field trips to Gubler's Orchid Festival, The Weed Show, Roger's Gardens, and The Living Desert were sponsored by individual clubs. A flower show chairman was selected. Fundraisers included a fall plant sale, buying seeds from a vendor via the internet, bus trip, Fall Harvest Table, and a Luncheon + Celebrating Home Party hosted by 2 club members.

Tree plantings continue with individual plantings, shade tree plantings in local schools, 2 memorial plantations and Penny Pines donations.

Our giving program consists of donations to Community Service Organizations, Community Tree Lightings and a Children's Holiday Craft Program.

Sacramento River Valley District, Judy Smith

Geranium City GC installed a Blue Star Marker at the Fairfield Senior Center. It was an event a long time in the planning but well worth the wait. Vaca Valley GC worked even longer to place a Blue Star Marker at the new Sacramento Valley VA Cemetery in Dixon. A big improvement is the addition of our website. It allows us to pass along CGCI material and post information and activities of our clubs. The district participates in the Sacramento Garden & Arts Center Fall Festival as part of our rental agreement. We were asked to expand our former hot dog menu. A new gourmet menu tripled our previous income from the event.

Santa Clara Valley District, Sara White

SANTA CRUZ GARDEN CLUB HAS CHOSEN THE WATSONVILLE WETLAND WATCH, WHICH PROTECTS A NATURAL BIRD HABITAT, AS THEIR PROJECT FOR THIS YEAR.

CARMEL VALLEY GARDEN ASSOCIATION HAS GENEROUSLY DONATED MONEY AND TOYS TO VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS MONEY TO THEIR HISTORICAL GARDEN SOCIETY FOR THEIR DISPLAY GARDEN. THEY ENJOYED A PROGRAM BY THE BULB BARON ABOUT NARCISSUS AND AMARYLIS.

SAN JOSE GARDEN CLUB VISITED A 42-ACRE ESTATE IN LOS GATOS AND WAS WELCOMED BY ITS OWNERS WHO TOLD A STORY NOT UNLIKE THAT OF UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN, ONLY IN REVERSE DIRECTION. THEY NOW PRODUCE WINE, OLIVES, OLIVE OIL AND LIMONCELLO LIQUER FROM THEIR LAND.

MT. VIEW GARDEN CLUB HAD A HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENT WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTING CHANUKKAH, CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR'S OR HAPPY DAY.

SUNNYVALE GARDEN CLUB PUT ON A FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP FASHIONED AFTER GEORGE SPEER'S WORKSHOP AT CONVENTION 2009. BIG SUCCESS! ROSA RADICCHI, CGCI SEMPERVIRENS FUND CHAIR, SPOKE ABOUT THE FUND AND BIG BASIN STATE PARK, PRESERVING OUR REDWOODS FOR OVER 100 YEARS. VERY INTERESTING.

SOUTH VALLEY FLEURS MET AT A LOVELY LITTLE CHURCH AND MADE 250 HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS.

IN OCTOBER, OUR DISTRICT GENERAL MEETING WAS HELD AT THE SILVER OAKS OSTRICH RANCH IN MORGAN HILL WHERE LAVENDER IS ALSO GROWN.

Sequoia Foothills District, Carolyn Villi

I became a recycled Director to increase the dwindling membership of our district. Our last meeting we had 57 members attend, this is up 23-30 from previous meetings. Communication via the telephone is the reason. Before each meeting I contact each club president, it's hard to be ignored when you're on the other end of that phone. My next goal is to create a form for our district to breakdown the benefits each member receives from dues paid to CGCI. I asked a club of 45 how many belonged to CGCI, only a few uncertain hands went up. They don't know!!

Valley Lode District, Chelsea Wilson

Held Fall District Meeting October 15, 2009. CGCI President Maryanne Lucas attended this, and encouraged members to ask questions.

With regrets, our district will not be hosting the CGCI Fall Board Meeting 2010. Looking at another date.

A highlight: Blue Star Memorial Dedication at the new senior center in Patterson on November 11, 2009. Presented by Patterson Garden Club. Thank you to CGCI 1st vice President Julie West and CGCI Blue Star Memorial Chairman George Unrine for their participation.

Our district initiated a newsletter to increase communications, available online.

Yosemite Gateway District, Suzy Walker

Atwater GC will host the camellia show for Northern California with ~40 judges and competitors exhibiting their flowers. Atwater also hosts the Rose and Iris Festival. Cathy's Valley GC selected Cathy's Valley Cemetery which is very old, for their club project. They rake, cut, trim and repair some of the markers. Butterfly GC of Mariposa has acquired a website: ButterflyGardenClub.org.

Advisory Council, Robin Pokorski

The Advisory Council consists of former CGCI Presidents. The Council will be presenting “Amenity Moments” at the request of President Lucas at each of the remaining 2009 – 2011 CGCI meetings. The Council requested that the Bylaws Committee review pertinent articles to include a beneficiary in the event CGCI’s dissolution. We will submit a recommendation on this beneficiary to the Bylaws Committee before the end of this administration. We will be formulating guidelines for adoption for incoming President-elects and will set up a meeting with future President-Elects to offer support and mentoring and answer questions.

Board of Trustees, Bob Gordon

We reviewed applications and selected the winners of the 2010 CGCI Scholarships. Details in report on Scholarships by Evelyn Broaddus

We met with Reps from Principal Finance

We finalized the use requirements of the Restricted Funds a project in progress for the last six years. It has consisted of archive research, minutes research (thank you Greg) and searching memories of Former Presidents. We gradually plowed through the mire and have resolved the proper use of those funds. They were presented to the Financial Secretary by Trustee David West. I am hopeful it will also save the Internet by stopping the flow of hundred of emails. Special thanks to the Trustees for their long and hard work on this task.

I bring a motion from the Trustees, endorsed by the Budget and Finance Committee, the Advisory Council and the Executive Committee.

The Trustees move that on the behalf of CGCI we pursue charters and establish two endowments; one for scholarships and one for planned giving.

Our hope is to take this motion to the 2010 Convention including the endorsement of the CGCI Board, therefore requesting the adoption of the motion.

Passed unanimously.

Budget & Finance, Joelle Holford

The Budget & Finance Committee met and reviewed the corrected audit. The Credit Card warrants were also discussed. The 2010-2011 budget is open for review. I am personally collecting important CGCI documents so that they will be in one place. The new line code that has been implemented is working and my job has been made much easier.

Nominating Committee, Dolores Moffat

The Nominating Committee is charged with the duty of presenting a slate of candidates for each office at the Winter Board Meeting in odd-numbered years except for the president and parliamentarian. The First Vice-President becomes the President-Elect at the conclusion of the Fall Board Meeting of 2010 and the parliamentarian is appointed by the President. The committee meets four times during the two-year term. This is done with your help – by receiving recommendations and personnel forms from you. Complete the personnel form that was included in your registration packet and return it to this chairman.

Arbor Day, Lorraine Ornelas

This chairman listens intently to District Directors’ reports and is saddened that no mention is ever made about Arbor Day celebrations. Do we not care about the great things we do? We must publicize our events.

AMENITIES/PROTOCOL, Marjorie Johnson

Trust you understand how this Chairmanship fits into total CGCI program. Protocol, simply stated is WHAT SHOULD BE DONE, merely good order and essential in plans and procedure of successful meetings. Amenities, more ethereal, simply stated is HOW IT SHOULD BE DONE. When you have accepted an invitation for seating, be prompt and aware of the details of your place. Amenities apply at your table. Be mindful that you not start eating until after the Invocation or Inspiration, and then, only after the Presiding Officer has raised their fork. Be friendly, but keep conversation to a minimum as meeting continues.

Associate Plant Societies, Dorothy Dempsey

This chairman has been updating the APS roster with the information as it comes in from Rita Desilets. Some of the plant societies were a little slow getting membership paid this year. All societies have now paid their membership. The only exception is “Herb Society of Northern California.” This chairman has been unable to contact this society. We have 3862 members, down 120 from last year.

Backyard Habitat (NABA & NWF Liaison), Margaret Strachan

Shortly after the 2009 convention I contacted the National Wildlife Federation with a view to liaising between their organization and CGCI. They responded quickly, sending me various materials and I remain in touch with one of the senior coordinators in their habitat program. Thus far I have written three articles for Golden Gardens with a fourth planned for the summer edition. I intend to use these articles as the basis of a brochure which I hope to submit to Pat Clayes, coordinator of the conservation team, in the weeks after the winter board meeting.

Convention 2010, Beverly Brune and Jean Reiley

The convention at the Hyatt Westlake Plaza in Westlake Village will be June 3 – 6, 2010 and the organizational meeting on June 7. Tours will be offered to the Getty Villa in Malibu and the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley. A dinner at the home of President Maryanne and Bob Lucas will be a fundraiser for her presidents’ project, “Kids Growing Strong”. A parliamentary class, computer workshop and flower show workshop are planned as well as a tri-refresher. Vendors will be on hand for shoppers. Details of the convention will be in the April/May issue of Golden Gardens.

Educational Schools Finances, Mary-Jo Noth

The **Educational Schools Finances** chairman coordinates the CGCI grant program that helps sponsors defray the costs of Environmental Studies Schools, Gardening Study Schools, and Landscape Design Study Program Schools, and monitors the financial outcome of each course. Please contact the Educational Schools Finances chairman for further information about the grants available for each School.

Fall Board Meeting 2009, Jane Berger

Total Board Meeting registration - 177
Board members – 92
Club delegates – 17
Club/Affiliate Presidents – 37

Total Revenue – \$26,651.00
Total Expenses – \$23,625.88

Flower Show Awards, Gudrun Kimmel

In December 2009 several panels completed the judging of six books of evidence of shows that qualified for an NGC award. Four qualified to go to National and were sent to the CGCI Awards Chairman to be forwarded to the NGC Flower Show Awards Chairman. This month the shows that qualified for a California award will have their books of evidence judged. This chairman was encouraged to receive several registrations for Small Standard Flower Shows this past year and is looking forward to judging them. Please register yours for this coming year in a timely manner and get your evaluating judges for the show as soon as you have a date set.

Flower Show Symposia, Gloria Aminian

The 2010 Symposium is being held April 7 - 9, 2010 at the Sacramento DoubleTree Hotel in conjunction with the State Flower Show. I am delighted to announce that Tony Todesco is doing the Allied Subject covering Floor Designs, Sculptural Forms and Constructions. He is a fabulous designer with a colorful style all his own. He starts the Symposium Wednesday, April 7 at 4pm. Jean Moran, an excellent designer, will be doing Tapestries and Pot-er-Fleurs on Thursday followed by Sandi Joyce on Friday instructing us in the history and culture of various silver & silver/blue plants and on interesting plants that bloom at night.

Garden Arts, Janet Eyre

All garden clubs should have a Garden Arts and Crafts Chairman, an artistic, creative, clever person with the ability to create something out of nothing. With the arts and crafts that the members make at workshops the club could use these handmade treasures for ways and means to enrich the club treasury. At least once a year – before the holidays at one of the fall meetings is ideal – gather gift-giving and craft-making ideas. All you grow in your garden can be useable as some kind of a garden art and craft project – dried flowers, pine cones, nuts, seeds, leaves, berries, husk, seedpods, twigs and vines are your media for garden arts and your cost for this craft material is minimal – just add glue.

Gardening Consultants Council, Myrtle Findley

Meeting held at winter board. 34 consultants have paid dues to council. School in Loomis, Session 2, April 20 - 21, 2010. Consultants and garden club members are urged to submit an application for a "Certificate of Recognition" to outstanding beautiful private gardens for our Council award at Convention. Application is on the Website. More than one private garden award Certificate may be given. No entries were made for a presentation at the winter board in San Diego.

Gardening Study Schools, Greg Pokorski

Series 21, Course I was held 9/22 & 9/23 in Loomis. 26 attended; 19 tested. We hope they will finish the series and become new Gardening Consultants. Course II will be held 4/20 & 4/21 and Course III will be held in September. Patsy Jeffery is the local chairman. Information/Registration forms will soon be available on the website. Remember that the online school (Course I) is available for any Consultant who needs to refresh and for any student who needs Course I credit. Let me know if your club or district would like to sponsor a school series. The NGC Handbook spells out the requirements.

Golden Gardens Circulation, Joan Patten

Subscription and financial information on Golden Gardens was included in the report of Golden Gardens Editor Lynne Hansen.

At this time I would like to address possible magazine delivery problems. In mid November our printer/mailer sent me a report on possible undeliverable addresses, 131 in total. I sent emails to several club treasurers regarding address issues with members of their club but I received little response. I checked all of the address against the US Postal Services online zip code directory and found that in most cases the database addresses no longer conform to USPS mailing standards for bulk mail. I would like each of you to ask the members of your club to check the address used on any

magazines that they receive and see if it differs from what was submitted to GG. It may be simply 3rd St instead of Third Street or in some cases a north/N or south/S has been added to the address.

I also need address changes as bulk mail is not automatically forwarded. Thank You

Honor Book, Cathy Biggins

I'm going to give you 5 reasons why you should contribute to the Honor Book:

1. You will brighten someone's day when they learn of the honor!
2. It's tax deductible!
3. You can give any amount, and the amount of the donation is not disclosed. It's perfect for these difficult economic times!
4. You will be supporting some important CGCI programs!
5. Both you and your honoree will be recognized in *Golden Gardens* and in the Honor Book, which will be on display at Convention.

Just do it! Pick up one of these bright green papers on the table and follow the directions. Thank you!

Horticulture Team, Jim Bathgate

There are currently two major pest problems in the Southern Counties--Medfly, which attacks the fruit of many commercial crops and the second pest is the Asian Citrus Psyllid.

The Medfly has some 260 host fruit. During a quarantine maturing fruit is subject to strict controls. In order for a quarantine to be lifted treatment must be employed such as baits, sprays or many sterile male flies released. When no fertile flies are found for the specified life cycles, the quarantine ends. Often the fruit is too mature to market.

Direct damage from the Psyllid is minor but the indirect damage occurs when the Psyllid carries Huanglongbing which is extremely serious.

Landscape Design Study Program, Alexis Slafer

There are no Landscape Design Study Courses currently planned; but preliminary discussions are underway for one in Southern California. Please encourage your clubs and districts to sponsor the next school. Look for handouts about the Landscape Design Study Program in your mailbox. As Chair for the June Landscape Design Refresher planned for the June Convention has been expanded to a Tri-refresher, for consultants in Landscape Design, Gardening & Environmental Studies. All activities will be open to all Convention attendees. Look for more information in the near future.

Liability Insurance, Gloria Aminian

Many clubs and societies have sent in for coverage for the new insurance year. Many have questioned the stated costs. The rate per member is \$1.00. It is not a misprint. The minimum fee for a club/society is \$25. An Additional Insured Certificate is \$20 per location. All meetings/events held at one location can be listed on one Certificate as long as they occur between February 15, 2010 - February 15, 2011. There are a few days left before the Insurance fees are to be paid without incurring any late fees. ... they must be postmarked on or before January 15th.

Life Membership, Carlotta Wixon

This chairman's goal is to exceed the number of last year's new Life Members which was 34. A Certificate of Achievement will be awarded to each district that brings in at least two new members during this term. Last year twelve districts met or exceeded this goal. This chairman suggests inclusion of a Life Member pin with new applications. It would be a modest investment for what the Scholarship Fund could gain. This chairman reminds District Directors to check the Life Membership Roster in the yearbook for any listed that are deceased.

Member Award of Distinction Program, Mary-Jo Noth

The **CGCI Member Award of Distinction** is a new opportunity for garden clubs and districts to honor members. The application is available from the chairman and on the CGCI website. Upon completion of the application and submission of the award fee of \$50.00, the club or district will receive a certificate and pin, suitable for presentation to the honoree. Please schedule the presentation to allow at least 4 weeks for receipt of the certificate and pin. Proceeds will benefit the CGCI Educational Publications Fund.

National Garden Week, Victoria Lucido

This National Garden Club Chairman has been busy getting out the word to as many clubs as possible. Several club presidents at fall board were reminded of "National Garden Club Week." Time was also spent at the District directors meeting informing the "Directors" of the books of evidence that could be completed and submitted for an award. Each District Director has received a copy of the new flyer, plus ideas on what to do for the National Garden Club Week, the first week of June (June 6-12) of this year. This was given at the Winter board meeting. She has also enclosed a copy of a resolution that any mayor of her town can read so the community knows about NGC. Suggestions can be given by this chairman to any club when any questions arise on what to do. A copy of "Preparing a Book of Evidence" can be downloaded which makes for an easy task. Many gardeners can apply for an award. So far I have received one Book of Evidence.

Native and Invasive Plants, Donna Thomas

The California Native Plant Society has initiated a new statewide program called the Rare Plant Treasure Hunt. The project officially began on January 1, 2010. The goal is to update data on rare plants and their associated habitats. The idea is to team experienced botanists with amateurs and volunteers to conduct searches for historical occurrences, or new occurrences, of rare plants. If you are interested in taking part, send an email to TreasureHunt@cnps.org. District Directors will find an information sheet about the Treasure Hunt in their boxes.

Permanent Files, Rita Desilets

The Permanent Files are being kept safely in a designated closet in my home. Additions to the files are welcomed and may be made at any time.

Program & Speaker Registry, Denise Davis (and Rosalie Hooper)

Following the Fall Board meeting, Rosalie Hooper and I divided the state into 14 districts in the north and 14 districts in the south. At the end of September letters were sent out to the district directors with letters to distribute to the club presidents. Included were forms to be filled out by each club and returned by November 30. By November 10, I received only 4 completed forms. On November 12, I e-mailed the district directors to remind them of the Nov. 30 deadline. As of November 30 I have received only 16 completed forms. I have compiled the information in two formats- according to district and according to subject.

Propagation "Free Plants," Lee Bathgate

Winter is the best time for propagating hardwood cuttings. There are taken from the previous season's growth where it connects to two-year-old wood. Pomegranates, figs, grapes, olives, some ornamentals and narrow-leafed evergreens are among the plants that propagate well in winter. Make cuttings 5-12" long, cut straight across the bottom, just below a bud and an inch above a bud on top. Make sure the wood has a "green ring" under the bark indicating health and vigor. Use deep containers with a soil mix of 50/50 peat and perlite, sand or mix of sand and peat. Dip cutting tips in rooting hormone and insert into planting mix leaving at least 1-2" with buds above the surface. When new growth appears and roots have developed, pot them individually and grow until large enough to plant out.

Roses, Jolene Adams

Roses originated millions of year ago in a northern temperate zone that included significant winter chill hours. In California we fool the bush into believing that a winter is coming and it needs to shut down:

Late Fall - stop 'deadheading' and just pull off the dying petals and leave the seed pod (the hip) to develop on the stem.

Early Winter - spray the rose bush with an oily, sulfur-based dormant spray. Coat the canes and let the leaves drop off.

Just About Spring - prune the bush. Take about 1/3 to 1/2 off the top. Cut out dead or dying stems. Save about 5 or 6 new stems and cut off the rest of the old ones. Trim to make a vase-shaped bush out of the rose.

Clean up the flower bed and spray the bush one more time with the dormant spray, coating it heavily. Roses will bloom again in Spring, on fresh, new, clean stems.

Scholarships, Evelyn Broaddus

The CGCI Scholarship Committee met on Thursday, January 7th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Those present were Chairman, Robert Gordon, Virginia Bennett, Beverly Brune, George Perko, Elisabeth Tufo, David West and Evelyn Broaddus, Scholarship Chairman.

The committee conferred, noted and selected two recipients and an alternate for the Immediate Past President Award. The 2010 CGCI Robert L. Gordon Annual Scholarship Recipient is Margaret Maratsos from Cal Poly SLO. She is enrolled in Environmental Horticulture in the School of Agriculture.

The 2010 Immediate Past President Robin Pokorski Scholarship will be awarded to Michael Dunn of Fortuna, California who is enrolled in Agricultural Plant Science with a minor in Environmental Science at the College of the Redwoods. (NOTE: Michael Dunn must be enrolled as a junior in a four year college or university to receive the award.)

The committee selected an Alternate for the Immediate Past President Award. The Alternate selected is Jessica Corcoran, who is a Horticulture and Crop Science major at Cal Poly, SLO.

Sempervirens Fund, Rosa Radicchi

The fires surrounding the Big Basin State Park areas have finally subsided, however, the financial pressures and dangers of park closures throughout the State continue to mount. Since Fall Board Meeting, we have begun the new process of members and clubs sending donations directly to Sempervirens Fund and contacting this chairman by phone or email when the donation has been made. Donations for 2009 were \$645.00; with 13 clubs participating. Total amount towards Grove #10 as of December 31, 2009 is \$6,980. Thank you again for your ongoing support of one of our oldest park conservation efforts ~ Preserving our Redwood Forests.

Water Conservation in Home & Garden, Carole Lung

This Chair submitted an article on the cooperation between the environmentalists and the companies that has allocated contacts for water in the central valley. During the several weeks salmon were running, the companies agree to reduce the amount of water in order for the fish to run to their mating grounds.

As Gardeners we need to look at water from the perspective of our goals as NGC members. We need to have the micro (what we do locally). Our water district give us information on types of plants to plant, how to water, when to water. We are encouraged to reduce water use in our homes through installation of water flow devices, upgrades for our appliances, etc. We need to take personal action in this area.

Then there is the macro (what we support on a global basis). We need to know what is happening to water in the delta and the central valley. We need to support cooperation so all are blessed. Then there is the ocean. And the northern pacific tropical gyre, to see the impact plastic is having on the ocean watch this video from YouTube.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tnUjTHB1lvM>

This video alone is reason enough to stop using plastic bags and be certain that all bottles are recycled. Get out the washable cloth bags and use them when you go shopping.

Webmaster, Lynne Hansen

1. The website in 2009 had as high as 8229 number of visits in one month in August and as low as 5177 in one month in December. Total number of visits for 2009 was 80,416.
2. At the next convention professionals will have workshops for the new website being planned.
3. The calendar is still just for CGCI members only and for their "special events" only. Club meeting information will not be posted.

Youth, Beverly Switzer

Smokey the Bear posters are being gathered and Linda Riddle will make certain they are judged and the results reported at the CGCI convention in June.

Joyce Reid reports that the high school essay entries for California have been judged and for the 1st time the California winner will receive a \$50.00 reward. The California winning essay has been sent on to the Pacific Region for the regional judging.

An increase in Youth entries was a goal of the 2009-2011 Youth Team. I can report at this time that the team has met this goal. Not in all categories, but in a couple.

"Kids Growing Strong" will be making appearances in Yuba City, Redding and the CAL EXPO with the CGCI flower show.

Lydia Reibel reports that a section of "goodies" in a kit-to be used by individual garden clubs is being created-so stay tuned for more info about these "Kids Growing Strong" kits.

I would like to clarify that any number of youth (whether it be 1 or 101) can be a junior garden club. Numerous garden clubs give assistance to young people, sometimes it's money, sometimes it is hands-on. Whatever the assistance is, let's get those groups RATIFIED. And don't wait for the RATIFICATION before you give assistance.

A Garden-Show-in-a-Box has been developed and 1 box has been issued to a Club. This flower show Box is yours for the asking.

RATIFICATIONS:

1. Luther Burbank District is sponsoring "The Sierra Youth Center" junior gardeners- which is a RESIDENTIAL facility for troubled teen girls-Joelle Holford is providing hands on guidance to these 15 girls.
2. The Diablo View Student Garden Project is made up of 25 physically or mentally challenged young people-Clayton Valley Garden Club is sponsoring this group.
3. In the Roadrunner District-the Desert Crossroads Garden Club is sponsoring 85 FFA (Future Farmers of America) students at this Lucerne Valley High School. Linda Riddle will be working with this group.
4. 123 junior gardeners in grades 1-5 will be known as the Gratton School garden-sponsored by Modesto Home and Garden Club in Valley Lode District.
5. San Clemente Garden Club in Orange County District is sponsoring "The Learning Through Nature"-Concordia Junior Gardeners.....638 strong.
6. Another Roadrunner District-youth garden club-is being sponsored by the Cactus Wren Garden Club-these 30 young people will be known as the SITTING BULL GARDENERS.

Madame President I move to RATIFY these 6 youth groups.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN COUNCIL
CGCI WINTER BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2010
Mary Lou Goodwin, Chairman

The Anderson Historical Society and Museum received a Certificate of Appreciation in their Anderson, CA garden on September 26, 2009. This zeriscape garden features California native plants.

The Arista Winery in Healdsburg, CA, was honored on October 20, 2009 with a Landscape Design Commendation for their oriental style garden designed by Harry Sumigawa, LA. It includes waterfalls, streams and ponds surrounded by natural rock formations.

Maryanne Lucas presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Monrovia Nursery in Woodlake, CA. It produces over 2,000 varieties of plants and provides a website which includes planting guides and garden designs.

Last night, San Diego Botanic Garden in Encinitas, CA, was featured by Julian Duval, President/CEO showing the history of the garden. It received a Landscape Design Commendation for its efforts as an urban retreat and new Hamilton's Children Garden.

A SURPRISE Landscape Design Commendation was presented today to Carolyn Villi, Sequoia Foothills District Director. She is a NGC Landscape Design Consultant who has used her knowledge to create sunny and shady areas with plants of varying textures, colors and ponds containing water plans and bamboos. Her garden has been featured on yearly garden tours sponsored by the Hanford Garden Club.

CGCI 2010 Winter Board

January 8-10, 2010

San Diego, CA

Charles F. Goodwin, Jr., Chairman

IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption

The CGCI IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption renewal process for member Clubs has begun. Forms have been mailed to exempt clubs. For clubs to retain their nonprofit status, these forms must be returned by February 1, 2010, with a processing fee of \$15. Clubs who have not received the mailing, either from CGCI or forwarded from their previous officers should contact this Chairman.

For other clubs interested in the Group Exemption program, information is available on the CGCI website under the Club Service tab or the Club Support box.

An easy way to identify those clubs and districts that are part of the 501(c)(3) Group Exemption program is to go the CGCI website. Roll over “Club Services” then “501(c)(3) Group Exemption” and click on 501(c)(3) clubs.

For all Clubs who filed the IRS Form 990-N (Electronic Postcard) for the first time last year, filings were due 5 ½ months after the close of your last fiscal year. While there are no penalties for late filing, the second filing needs to be completed.

For those clubs who are incorporated, a reminder of the biennial filing with the California Secretary of State of the Statement of Information (Form SI-100).

CGCI 2010 Winter Board

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Legislation/Government

At the 2009 Convention, in San Mateo, I reported that the Kyoto Protocol, regarding Green House Gasses, will be expiring at the end of 2012. A series of meetings has just concluded in Copenhagen, Denmark. The objective of the meetings, which brought together World Leaders, including President Obama, was to craft a new agreement to replace Kyoto. It was hoped that a framework for climate change mitigation beyond 2012 would be adopted.

Unfortunately, a large scale agreement was not reached. The Copenhagen Accord was drafted by the US, China, India, Brazil and South Africa. The agreement was “recognized” but not “agreed upon” in a debate of all participating countries and was not passed unanimously. The document recognized that climate change is one of the greatest challenges to the present and that actions should be taken to keep any temperature increases to below 20C. The document is not legally binding and does not contain any legally binding commitments for reducing CO2 emissions.

An interesting alternative viewpoint on climate change is advanced by John Coleman, cofounder of the Weather Channel and a trained meteorologist. His theory centers on the effect of sun spots on climate and temperature changes. A video clip presentation of Mr. Coleman is available at: <http://www.kusi.com/home/78477082.html?video=pop&t=a>

At the 2009 Fall Board, in Concord, I reported on the state of State Parks. At that time, due to budget cuts, more than 100 parks were expected to be closed to the public. At this time it appears that no park facilities have been permanently closed but approximately 51% have had reductions in service, especially during mid-week days and during the winter season.

As a way of raising funding for park operation an Initiative has been approved for circulation. Over 433,971 signatures must be gathered by May 28 to be on the November 2010 ballot. If approved by voters, some 28 million California vehicles would be assessed an \$18 surcharge. Commercial vehicles would be exempted. An estimated \$500 million would be raised. Motorists would no longer be charged for day use of parks. Roughly 85% of the revenue would go to parks, 7% to the Dept. of Fish and Game, 4% to the Ocean Protection Council, 2% to the Wildlife Conservation Board and 2% to state conservancies for managing state lands.

A lengthy discussion on the condition of our parks is in the most recent Golden Gardens by President Lucas and Elizabeth Goldstein, President of the California State Parks Foundation.