



California Garden Clubs, Inc.

80th Annual Convention

May 17-18, 2011

DoubleTree Hotel, Rohnert Park, CA

President Maryanne Lucas

Host: Luther Burbank & Mendo-Lake Districts

Business Meeting #1:

President Maryanne Lucas called the meeting of the 80th Annual Convention of California Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 9:45 a.m. on Tuesday, May 17. The Recording Secretary, Greg Pokorski, was present.

The Conservation Pledge was led by Donna Thomas, California Native & Invasive Plants Chairman.

President Lucas introduced National Garden Clubs, Inc. President Renee Blaschke; the Executive Committee seated at the head table; former CGCI Presidents Mary Lou Goodwin, Beverly Brune, Robert Gordon, Elisabeth Tufo and Robin Pokorski; Circle of Poppies members Angela Michaels and Gertrude Paul; Pages Deedee Speer, Robin Pokorski, Carmen Black and Jane Berger; and Timekeeper Albert Chang.

Bev Davies, Credentials Chairman, gave the Initial Credentials Report (88 board members, 33 club presidents, 8 alternates, 33 delegates with a voting strength of 162) and moved its adoption. **ADOPTED**

President Lucas declared a quorum.

Bev Davies, Registrar, gave the initial registration report indicating a total of 366 registered.

Parliamentarian Chuck Goodwin moved to waive the reading of the Convention Rules of Order. **PASSED.**

GinaBelle Smith and Dave West, Convention Co-Chairmen, moved to adopt the Convention Program. **ADOPTED AS CORRECTED.**

President Lucas thanked members of Luther Burbank and Mendo-Lake Districts for hosting the convention.

Without objection, the minutes of the 2010 Convention in Westlake Village were approved as distributed.

Without objection, President Lucas appointed the committee to approve the minutes of this Convention: George Unrine, Blue Star Memorial Markers – Southern California Chairman, as Chairman; Geri Thirloway, Honor Book Chairman; and Sue Bennett, Golden Foothills District Director.

Financial Reports

Treasurer Ed Dempsey reported. (See Attachment A)

Correspondence

Corresponding Secretary Shane Loper read correspondence from Valley Lode District and Wafa USA.

Executive Committee Recommendations

None.

Officers Reports

President Lucas reported. (See Attachment B)

President-Elect Julie West reported – presenting the third and final reading of the President's Project resolution and moved its adoption. **PASSED** (See Attachment B)

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

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

Recess at 10:52 a.m.
Reconvene at 11:10 a.m.

Recording Secretary Greg Pokorski reported. (See Attachment B)
Financial Secretary Joelle Holford reported.
Golden Gardens Editor Lynne Hansen reported. (See Attachment B)
Parliamentarian Chuck Goodwin reported.

Landscape Design Council Chairman Mary Lou Goodwin presented a Landscape Design Commendation to Men's Garden Club of Santa Rosa.

Gardening Consultants Council Chairman Myrtle Findley presented an Outstanding Private Garden Certificate of Recognition to Bob and Dana Lozano.

A Memorial Service was conducted by Deedee and George Speer.

President Lucas recessed the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Business Meeting #2 - Tuesday, May 17, 2011
President Lucas reconvened the meeting at 2:18 p.m.

Election of Officers

President Lucas announced the election committee: Marilyn Oberti, chairman, Judy Unrine, Mary-Jo Noth, Hoberley Schuler, and Beverly Brune, Judge.

Dolores Moffat, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, read the names of the proposed slate of officers for 2011-2013:

1 st Vice President: Rita Desilets	Corresponding Secretary: Joelle Holford
2 nd Vice President: Susan (Sue) C. Bennett	Financial Secretary: Charlene (Shane) Looper
3 rd Vice President: Patricia (Pat) G. Clays	Treasurer: Joan Patten
Recording Secretary: Jeraldine (Geri) May Thirloway	

There were no other nominations from the floor.

Election of officers was conducted according to CGCI Bylaws, Article VI, Section 1 6. (c): "Vote shall be by ballot unless there is only one candidate for each office, when election shall be by voice vote." There being only one candidate for each office, a separate voice vote was taken for each office. President Lucas declared that by the vote taken the following were elected: 1st Vice President: Rita Desilets, 2nd Vice President: Susan (Sue) C. Bennett, 3rd Vice President: Patricia (Pat) G. Clays, Recording Secretary: Jeraldine (Geri) May Thirloway, Corresponding Secretary: Joelle Holford, Financial Secretary: Charlene (Shane) Looper, Treasurer: Joan Patten to serve with Julie A. West now serving as President-Elect and who will serve as President for 2011-2013.

Election of Nominating Committee

Recording Secretary Greg Pokorski read the bylaw pertinent to the election of the Nominating Committee:

- Article VI, Sec. 2. Nominating Committee: **(a)** When elected and term of office: 1. A nominating committee of seven (7) shall be elected following the election of officers at the convention in odd numbered years. 2. Term of office of all nominating committee member(s) shall be two years, or until their successors are elected or appointed. **b)** Eligibility: 1. Each member shall have served on the board of directors and shall be present when nominated. 2. No member shall serve more than two terms and the terms shall not be consecutive. 3. No district shall be represented on the committee two consecutive terms. **(c)** Election: 1. Following the election of officers, the chair shall call for nominations from the floor. 2. Vote shall be by ballot unless there are only seven (7) members nominated, when election shall be held by voice vote.

President Lucas announced nominations for the 2011-2013 CGCI Nominating Committee would be in order with the exception of: Bay Bridges District, Luther Burbank District, Mendo-Lake District, Palomar District, Roadrunner District, San Fernando Valley District, and Santa Clara Valley District.

Nominated were:

Carlotta Wixon, Golden Foothills District
Kathy Bramhall, Cascade District
Carol Amenta, Channel Islands District
Nancy Johnson, Montana de Oro District

Sandy Rogers, Diablo Foothills District
Carole Lung, Orange County District
Merrilee Ray, Desert Empire District

Nominations were closed. According to the CGCI bylaws, there being only seven (7) members nominated election was held by voice vote. The above nominees were **ELECTED**.

Bylaws

On behalf of the Bylaws Committee, Julie West, Bylaws & Policy Committee Chairman, presented the following bylaw amendments approved by the Board of Directors at Winter Board Meeting 2011, and moved their adoption by the voting membership:

Proposed Amendments to CGCI Bylaws for 2011 Convention Approved at 2011 Winter Board

Words to be inserted are shown in **bold italics**. Words to be struck out are shown as strikethrough.

(1) Article V – Officers and their Duties Page 130

Sec. 8. The parliamentarian shall: (a) advise on points of parliamentary law and procedure when requested, (b) maintain a record of all resolutions and motions adopted during each term of office which affect procedure or policy and provide a copy for the policy chairman and the permanent files, (c) serve as advisor to the bylaws committee, (d) give instruction to the nominating committee following the organizational board meeting and, (e) ~~may vote only by ballot.~~

Strike and replace (e) with the following:

serve as a member of the board of directors and the executive committee with all membership rights including voting privileges.

PASSED

(2) Article XI – Annual meetings Page 133

Sec. 4. The voting membership at all conventions shall consist of members of the board of directors, club associate plant society, ~~and affiliate~~ presidents, or their alternates, and delegates or alternates of member clubs and associate plant societies. Members of the board of directors are entitled to one vote each, and their vote shall not be counted in the voting quota of their respective clubs. There shall be no proxy vote.

PASSED

(3) Article XII – Finances page 134

Sec. 5. ~~Not proceeds from conventions shall be placed in the General Fund.~~

Strike Replace with the following:

Half of the net proceeds from conventions shall be placed in the General Fund and the remaining half shall be retained by the Host.

PASSED

(4) Article XIII – Golden Gardens page 135

Sec. 6. ~~The finance chairman shall deposit all monies collected in the name of Golden Gardens, pay all bills, send all invoices, prepare all financial statements to be presented to the board of directors, and submit the annual Golden Gardens budget for adoption at the organizational meeting.~~

Strike and replace with the following: **The CGCI Financial Secretary shall submit the annual Golden Gardens budget for adoption at the organizational meeting.**

PASSED

(5) Article XIV – Board of Trustees page 136

Add Sec. 6: **The Board of Trustees is established as the Endowment Funds Committee.**

PASSED

(6) ARTICLE VI - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS page 130

Section 1. Officers (b) Eligibility 4. The President and first vice –president

Amend by striking **“and (a) as president of a member garden club; or (b) district director”.**

and replacing with **“and in one of the following capacities: (a) president of a member garden club, associate plant society or equivalent nonprofit organization; or (b) district director.**

PASSED

(7) Section 1. Officers (b) Eligibility 5. The second and third vice-presidents page 130

Now reads:

Amend by change **two to one** year and adding **“associate plant society or equivalent nonprofit organization”** and leaving in **“or (c) member of the executive committee”.**

Sec. 1. **(b) 5.** The second and third vice-presidents each shall have served at least **two-one** years on the board of directors and shall have served in one of the following capacities: (a) president of a member garden club, **associate plant society or equivalent nonprofit organization;** or (b) district director; ~~or (c) member of the executive committee.~~

Robin Pokorski moved to strike “or c...”

Recess at 3:11 p.m.

Reconvene at 3:25 p.m.

**AMENDMENT TO MOTION PASSED
BYLAW CHANGE PASSED AS AMENDED**

(8) Article VI – Nominations and Elections Sec. 2 (d) 4. Page 131

Amend by inserting **“and president-elect”** after the word “president.”

The chairman of the committee shall file with the president **and president-elect**, two weeks before the winter board meeting, of odd-numbered years a slate of at least one candidate for each office.

PASSED

(9) Article XIX – Amendments Sec. 2 Page 137

Amend by inserting **“by November 1”** after the word chairman.

Proposed amendments to the bylaws must be submitted to the bylaws committee chairman **by November 1.**

PASSED

Standing/Special Committee Reports:

Budget & Finance – Joelle Holford reported.

Endowment – Robert Gordon reported on Tours and Endowments. (See Attachment C)

Convention 2012 – Convention Chairman Ron Byrd and members of Sacramento River Valley District presented an invitation to the convention in Sacramento.

Chairmen Reports: Julie West introduced the chairmen who reported. (See Attachment C)

President Lucas recessed the meeting at 4:26 p.m.

Business Meeting #3 – Wednesday, May 18, 2011

President Lucas reconvened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Guest Price Sheppy from Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy presented Project Mission Blue.

District Directors Reports: Shane Looper, District Director Liaison, introduced the District Directors who reported. (See Attachment D)

Recess at 10:09 a.m.

Reconvene at 10:27 a.m.

Chairmen Reports – continued: (See Attachment C)

Mary Lou Goodwin, Landscape Design Council, moved that her full report be included in the minutes. **PASSED.** (See Attachment E)

Beverly Switzer, Youth Awards and Administrative Chairman, moved to ratify a Girl Scout Troop as a new youth club – sponsored by Caruthers Garden Club, Sequoia Foothills District. **PASSED.** (See Attachment F)

President Lucas recessed the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

President Lucas reconvened the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Bev Davies, Credentials Chairman, gave the Final Credentials Report (with a voting strength of 163) and moved its adoption. **ADOPTED**

Joan Craig, Courtesy Resolutions Chairman, suggested the Courtesy Resolution not be read and be filed with the minutes. (See Attachment G)

President Lucas adjourned the meeting of the 80th Annual Convention of California Garden Clubs, Inc. at 9:33 p.m. on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 Sine Die.

Submitted

Greg Pokorski, Recording Secretary

Date

CGCI 80th Annual Convention - Attachment A

CGCI Financial Report CGCI Net Worth Report as of 5/13/11

NET WORTH as of May 13, 2011

<u>ASSETS: Cash & Bank Accounts</u>	
Business Max Acct 4096-[.35%]	\$94,890.91
CGCI B of A 12962-Checking Account	1,493.10
Luther Burbank CD 53899-2-[05/15/11 1.15 %]	60,664.04
Luther Burbank CD 59075-3-[03/25/12 1.13 %]	30,034.86
US Bank 353405897664-[04/08/2014 4.00%]	<u>83,475.54</u>
Total Cash & Bank Accounts	\$270,558.45
<u>Other Assets</u>	
Chase Symposium-Checking Account	220.28
Golden Gardens B of A 06688-Checking Account	30,123.38
PREPAID DEPOSITS-Hotel & Meeting Deposits	2,000.00
Principal Financial Endowment	<u>60,752.56</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>\$93,096.22</u>
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$363,654.67
LESS: Restricted Funds	\$257,854.99
Cash Balance Available	\$105,799.68

Since the Winter Board this board member has been busy working with all of you getting your money in the bank, 149 deposits and writing 247 checks to you for all the great work you all do. So far this year we have really kept within our budget. We only spent \$7.00 more than we took in.

Read the net worth and to show where all our money is kept.

The request for repayment goes to our Financial Secretary and she sends the warrant to me and I make out the check and mail it to the proper person.

This has been a really great experience for me. I know that the new treasurer will do a great job.

Ed Dempsey, Treasurer

CGCI 80th Annual Convention - Attachment B

CCGI Officer Reports

President, Maryanne Lucas

ACHIEVEMENTS:

NGC Schools Sponsored:

- Gardening Study: One school (Orange County) completed and one school (Golden Foothills) started.
- Landscape Design: One school started (Costa Verde) and one school (Palomar District) completed.
- Environmental: One school (San Mateo) continued.
- Flower Show: One school completed (Palomar) and one school started (Sacramento River Valley)
- Two Tri-refreshers: Westlake Village and Rohnert Park

We donated.....

- \$5000 to WAFA for the World Flower Show in Boston.
- We have four designers entering the World Flower Show , "This Glorious Earth" put on by WAFA

- CGCI voted to give a small stipend (\$250 each) to the designers who are going to (and will be representing California) to help defray some of their expenses.
- **Charlotte Masson, Kiwi DeVoy, Sonja Longley and Pauline Sechi are entering.**
- Nine designs by California designers were selected for the 2011 Vision of Beauty calendars.
- Three Flower Show Symposiums were held; two in Bakersfield in and one in conjunction with the California State Flower & Garden Show.
 - A state standard flower show (only the 7th in California's eighty year history) was held in April, 2011 at the California State Flower & Garden Show at Cal Expo in Sacramento, CA. More than 10,000 attended. The schedule was designed so it coincided with our Flower Show symposium.

CGCI was an official sponsor of the California State Flower & Garden Show and the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show

This term we invited club presidents from all over the state to come to Board meetings in every area we visited.

Hundreds of club members attended CGCI Board meetings and our leadership Forums put on at those meetings, as we did at this convention, for free.

The CGCI Board voted to give the District Directors as a group, the chance to grant some fund to districts that needed some extra support for whatever reason they saw fit.

Buttes District rose from the ashes and held a successful Wildflower Weekend in Oroville last month.

- A CGCI Member Award of Distinction was created for clubs wishing to honor members who have given distinctive service to their club with a certificate and pin for \$50. Proceeds benefit the Special Education Fund.
 - A pin was designed for new CGCI life members. A \$100 donation to CGCI's scholarship fund now includes a certificate and a pin for the recipient.
 - A Planned Giving program was established with two endowment funds: Scholarship and the California Garden Club Endowment Fund.
 - the Planned Giving program itself needs to continue to be molded and defined so it can meet the needs potential donors
- Speaking of working together....
- During this term, \$82,824 was collected for 1218 plantations to support the Penny Pines reforestation program.
 - The Presidents Project for 2009-11 was Kids Growing Strong;

More than \$25,000 was raised for this project that reached more than a half million kids and their families during this term. The success of the program has attracted the USDA and California Dept. of Food and Agriculture who just may be supporting the program with block grant funds well into 6-figures in the future.

- CGCI implemented a toll-free telephone number. Because CGCI has no permanent home nor staff, a virtual number was established through Vonage that can be easily managed by a group of volunteers.

We depend on communication.

- CGCI's website was restructured to make it possible for chairmen to access and post items directly to the website as if they were composing a Microsoft Word document.
- Individual clubs are now eligible to have free server space allowing them to create their own sites under the cagardenclubs.org

umbrella.

- A free CGCI e-Newsletter launched in 2009. And has been published monthly. Club presidents, district directors and chairmen automatically receive it. Anyone, member or non-member, may sign up to receive it on the CGCI website.

CGCI has a membership of 21,000.

Golden Gardens has a subscription rate of less than 4000. That's less than 20% of our membership or, in reverse, 4/5 of our membership does NOT subscribe to *Golden Gardens*.

Restructure the website to accommodate multiple editors and reporters and we need a qualified "Communications Director" on the Executive Committee to coordinate the efforts. The cost of publishing a printed version of GG.....More than \$3000/year.

First Vice President, Julie West

2011-2013 President's Project Resolution

Whereas, A four-acre site was an open field bordered by Copeland Creek in 1966 when Sonoma State University campus moved to its present location: 1801 E. Cotati Avenue, Rohnert Park, CA., and

Whereas, The Native Plant Garden was started in the winter of 1973-1974 and designed to demonstrate the concept of twelve (12) distinct plant communities native to California: Riparian, Wetland/Vernal Pool, Oak Savannah, Chaparral, Grassland, Oak Woodland, Yellow Pine Forest, Douglas Fir Forest, Mixed Evergreen, Redwood Forest, North Coast Coniferous Forest, and Closed Pine Forest, and

Whereas, The garden is a sanctuary for abundant California flora and fauna in a park-like setting as well as an outdoor educational classroom for the community, and

Whereas, The objectives of California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI) are as stated in the Articles of Incorporation and also as stated in Article II Section 5 of the corporation's Bylaws: "to cooperate with other agencies in furthering interests in educational areas," and

Whereas, The garden is in need of permanent educational interpretive signage for the twelve (12) native plant communities represented within the Native Plant Garden, and therefore, be it

Resolved, That California Garden Clubs, Inc. for the 2011-2013 administrative term, adopt this fundraising state president's project of designing, manufacturing and installing permanent educational interpretive signage for Sonoma State University's Native Plant Garden, and;

Resolved, That a new Temporarily Restricted Fund be established within CGCI designated to receive donations and pay signage expenses specifically for the 2011-2013 President's Project, and;

Resolved, That checks made payable to CGCI be sent to the CGCI State Chairman for the project, who will keep records of the transactions for CGCI and forward the donations to the CGCI treasurer for deposit into the new Temporarily Restricted Fund established for the 2011-2013 President's Project to design, manufacture and install permanent educational interpretive signage at Sonoma State University's Native Plant Garden and;

Resolved, That any remaining balance as of June 30, 2014 in the new Temporarily Restricted Fund established for the 2011-2013 President's Project be transferred to the CGCI Board Designated Honor Book Fund, thereby closing the fund.

Second Vice President, Pat Claves

Communications

- *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* -- This chairman is keeping the CGCI *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* up-to-date with information as it changes in the main sections. Note that the majority of the information is updated over the summer by the whole Yearbook Team. I would like to introduce Carmen Black who will be taking over the job.
- Toll Free Number -- This chairman receives telephone calls from the toll free number and forwards these calls to the appropriate chairmen to handle; usually these calls are about membership or 501(c)(3) information.

- CGCI email -- This chairman also receives the emails which are sent to CGCI. Again, the emails are forwarded to the appropriate chairman to answer.
- eNewsletter -- CGCI now has over 1,050 subscribers to the eNewsletter. See display in the Exhibit Room. There is a sign-up sheet. Notices have been put in the district director's mail boxes for their clubs about the eNewsletter. It's a great tool for keeping up important news, reminders, advice, etc.

Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose

The "old denim jean" contest went very well at winter board with twenty-seven entries judged by three NGC flower show judges. First place winner was Linda Smith from Hanford Garden Club (who made a child's quilt with matching pillow), and second place winner was Arlene Raysor from The Dibblers Garden Club (who made a quilt/picnic tablecloth, napkins and carrying case). Read more about this in the Winter 2011 *Golden Gardens*.

Third Vice President/Membership Chairman, Rita Desilets

On May 14, 2011 there were **19** Affiliates, **284** clubs with **17,165** members and **53** Associate Plant Societies with **3810** members resulting in total membership of **20,975**. CGCI has added **20** new clubs, **3** Associate Plant Societies and **8** Affiliates from 2009-2011.

CGCI promotional materials were used at Membership tables at Flower and Garden Shows in San Mateo, Sacramento and the Los Angeles area.

Membership packets that included a cover letter, Benefits of Membership list and Membership Application were mailed to nearly 400 groups from 2009 - 2011.

Hopefully this Chairman's articles in *Golden Gardens* "Membership Matters" have inspired club members to ask at least one prospective member to join their club.

Six clubs received 50-year Certificates of Merit from National Garden Clubs, Inc. signed by President Renee Blaschke: Shibui Arrangers Guild of Benicia, Pioneer Garden Club, Arrowhead Garden Club, Poway Valley Garden Club, Peninsula Succulent Club, and Catheys Valley Garden Club.

At the Pre-Convention meeting two clubs were ratified: **Gardening Club of Santa Clarita – San Fernando Valley District and Burlingame Garden Club – Bay Ocean District.**

It has been a pleasure serving as CGCI Membership Chairman these past two years. Your kind words and continuing support have been greatly appreciated.

Recording Secretary, Greg Pokorski

The minutes of the Winter Board Meeting were distributed to board members (mostly by email – and to only nine members by snail mail – on March 20 after review and approval by the review committee.

They are posted on the CGCI website. Thanks to Lynne Hansen for the prompt website posting of all minutes this term

Reports to the Recording Secretary are to be in a condensed 100 word format for attachment to the minutes (with length exception for officers and for the standing committees listed on pages 16–18 of the Yearbook.

You may submit these reports to this officer, preferably by email, until May 31.

Please submit a report if you have moved to ratify anything.

Golden Gardens Editor, Lynne Hansen

The past two years have sure been a learning experience for me. I enjoyed the contact from people all over California. I hope you have enjoyed reading *Golden Gardens*.

We have 70 100% clubs subscribing to GG and there are 3660 subscribers total.

I want to thank again all the people who have given me articles for our members to enjoy. Thanks to the Executive Committee for the great job in proofing. *Golden Gardens* would not have the great look without Maryanne Lucas, as she did the page layout for me. Thank you, Maryanne!

CCGI Committee Chairmen Reports

Arbor Day, Lorraine Ornelas: It has been a pleasure to serve as Arbor Day Chairman for the past four years. Members in many clubs have participated in worthwhile celebrations and I have received reports from Naples Island GC and San Pedro GC in Costa Verde District, Santa Rosa GC of Luther Burbank District and Pinole GC of Bay Bridges District. Easy Grant applications were received from 6 clubs and checks for \$125.00 were issued to Anderson Valley GC, Long Beach GC, Pinole GC, Ramona GC, Tuolumne County GC and Willits GC. A reminder that pictures and a story about your Arbor Day Celebration should be forwarded to the *Golden Gardens* editor as part of the requirement for this grant. As an aside I received a picture of a tree being planted and all you could see of the young ladies who helped with the planting was their legs. It is a federal law that if a minor's picture is to be taken you must have a written release from the parent or guardian to do so.

Associate Plant Societies, Dorothy Dempsey: We lost one society this year: Mediterranean Garden Society SC Branch, with a loss of 125 members. We gained one new club – Sonoma County Orchid Society, with 95 members. We now have 3,775 paid members in 53 Associate Plant Societies. This past week this chairman has phoned and emailed all 53 societies checking current presidents and treasurers. A number of new presidents and treasurers were found. This chairman now feels the list is current and ready for the new APS Chairman.

Awards Finance, Win Archibald: CGCI 2011-2013 Awards Sponsor Commitment letters were prepared for awards to be given in 2012 and 2013. A team effort, the letters were updated by the Awards Finance Chairman and mailed by the 2011-13 Awards Chair. President-Elect, Julie West, was chief advisor for the project. By 2011 Convention the majority of sponsors had renewed their commitments for the next term and replacements found for most non-renewed awards. Spontaneous payments of \$1160.00 were received from 13 sponsors.

Backyard Habitat, Margaret Strachan: This chairman provided an exhibit for the 2011 convention covering the five basic requirements for a backyard habitat. Pamphlets were provided from The National Wildlife Federation and the North American Butterfly Association. The National Wildlife Federation pamphlets provided information as to how to obtain certification and plaques which identify gardens as a certified backyard habitat. All of the pamphlets were picked up by attendees at the convention. This chairman has mailed a package to her successor, which contains details of the work done during the 2009/2011 term, including titles of *Golden Garden* articles submitted.

Business Commendation Chairman & Discount Coordinator, LaVerne Harms: Certificate of Commendation issued since February, 2011: San Jose GC – Almaden Valley Nursery, 15800 Almaden Expway, San Jose. New Participating Sponsors: Valley Hills Nursery, PO Box 534, Carmel, CA 93923 (applied through CGCI website) and Western Garden Nursery, 2756 Vineyard Avenue, Pleasanton, CA 94566 (sponsored by Livermore-Amador Valley GC).

California Native & Invasive Plants, Donna Thomas: Stanleya pinnata – Prince's Plume or Desert Plume: Prince's Plume is a striking, rather dramatic plant. It is a perennial growing two to five feet tall from a somewhat woody base. Each stem terminates in a showy, densely flowered plume up to one and half feet long. Its name "pinnata" means plume. Though small, the flowers are so numerous that the effect is quite spectacular. The petals with the long slender stamens sticking out (4 tall and 2 short) give the flower an airy look and give the dense flower spikes a bottle-brush appearance. It is in the mustard family, is drought tolerant, cold hardy and can be grown from seed. You can order seed from www.plantsofthesouthwest.com.

California State Parks, Barbara Dodge: On May 13, 2011 the Department of Parks and Recreation released a list of 70 parks that will be permanently closed to the public, the direct result of the \$22 million cut enacted by the Governor and the Legislature earlier this year. Closures lists have been released in the past in response to previous budget cut proposals, but this is the first time in the 100 year history of California's state park system that state park closures will be implemented. Permanent park closures will begin in September. Among the many state parks that will be off-limits to the public will be Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park, Henry W. Coe State Park, Pio Pico State Historic Park, Railtown 1897 State Historic Park are but a few. The full list is long and includes 40% of all state historic parks. This unprecedented plan will close the doors of 25% of California's state park system and will impact all regions of our state, Park closures will have very real impacts on the people of California, the resources our parks protect and the economy. The California State Parks Foundation urges that you send a letter to your legislators and the governor, voicing your opposition to these closures and showing your continued support for California's state parks. Action is urgently needed as policymakers will be making additional decisions in the next weeks about the state park budget that may have further impacts to our state parks (from California State Parks Foundation newsletter).

Climate Change, Dwight Holford: The state of scientific knowledge regarding climate change as reported by the US EPA (relying heavily on direct quotes): **What's Known With Virtual Certainty** – Human activities are changing the composition of earth's atmosphere; the atmospheric buildup of CO₂ and other greenhouse gases is largely the result of human activity; an "unequivocal" warming trend of about 1.0 to 1.7 degrees F occurred from 1906-2005; the major greenhouse gases emitted by human activities remain in the atmosphere for periods ranging from decades to centuries. It is therefore virtually certain that atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases will continue to rise over the next few decades; increasing greenhouse gas concentrations tend to warm the planet. **What's Very Likely:** a growing number of scientific analyses indicate, but cannot prove, that rising levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are contributing to climate change (as theory predicts). In the coming decades, scientists anticipate that as atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases continue to rise, average global temperatures and sea

levels will continue to rise and precipitation patterns will change. **What's Not Certain?:** Important scientific questions remain about how much warming will occur, how fast it will occur, and how the warming will affect the rest of the climate system including precipitation patterns and storms. Answering these questions will require advance scientific knowledge in a number of areas: Improving understanding of natural climatic variations, changes in sun's energy, land-use changes, the warming or cooling effects of pollutant aerosols, and the impacts of changing humidity and cloud cover; Determining the relative contribution to climate change of human activities and natural causes; Projecting future greenhouse emissions and how the climate system will respond within a narrow range; Improving understanding of the potential for *rapid or abrupt climate change*.

Educational Schools Finances, Mary-Jo Noth: Since the 2010 CGCI convention, Environmental Studies School course 3 and Gardening Study School Series 21 course 3 have been held, and both were self-supporting. Flower Show School [Sacramento] course 1 received a CGCI grant of \$500 from the Helen Minor restricted fund, and made sufficient profit that further CGCI support was not necessary for course 2. Landscape Design School Series 24 received a CGCI grant of \$500 from the Eleanor Miller restricted fund, and was also sufficiently profitable so that additional CGCI grant support was not necessary for course 2 and 3. Please remember that a grant for a NGC school is income, and thus may reduce the fees needed to be charged to school attendees.

Endowment, Robert Gordon: The gain in our scholarship endowment fund since investing last fall has been 1.86%. We invested 60,325.65 and our current balance is 61,448.83. The CGCI Endowment will be funded during the summer of 2011. Donations are accepted anytime to these endowments. Please make check payable to CGCI, mark in the memo which endowment and give the check to the endowment chair. The Committee will be reporting at fall board the levels of giving and the perks that go with each level. There will be a "thank you" event at Convention 2012 for those with accumulative donations of \$500 or more. A check for \$1,000 was received from Principal Financial Group as a donation to the Scholarship Endowment.

Flower Show Awards, Gudrun Kimmel: This chairman processed 12 registrations and selected evaluating judges for the shows. All of the completed ones have been advised that they are eligible for awards. This chairman would like to thank her Judges Council for forming panels to judge last year's Books of Evidence for this year's award presentation. Please register your Standard Flower Shows with the new Flower Show Awards Chairman, Susan Coolidge. Flower Shows must be a Standard Show and must be registered for new judges to receive judging credits toward their credentials.

Flower Show Schools, Dolores Moffat: 9 new Judges: Rob Crenshaw, Coronado; Adele Kelly, San Diego; Linda Lang, Banning; Sharon Lowry, Coronado; Dyanna Madro, Escondido; Emily Troxell, Poway; Barbara Weiler, Vista; Marilyn Gross, Alamo; Carolyn Neumann, Fairfield. Flower Show School Course III will be October 18-20, 2011 in Sacramento at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center. Plans for a Symposium in January or February are in the works, more information later.

Gardening Study Schools (GSS), Greg Pokorski: Consultant status has been reviewed and refresher reminders sent to Consultants in preparation for the Tri-Refresher held at this convention. Course IV – the final course of Series 21 in Loomis – sponsored by Golden Foothills District – was rescheduled from April to September 27 & 28. Sue Bennett is the Local Chairman. This Chairman took the Tri-Refresher at this convention for credit. Kudos to the local committee who organized this, their first venture in this area. The subject matter was informative, the instructors knowledgeable, and the scheduling and adherence to requirements for educational content was stellar and commendable. A Bi-refresher in GS and LD will be sponsored by Dos Valles GC in Valley Center on October 28 & 29 to accommodate 8 lapsing Gardening Consultants, but open to all. This chairman's priority is to get a new school series, # 22, under "construction." 3 items of information about GSS have been placed in the District Director folders. Please see the GSS exhibit here. Club presidents & District Directors, Consultants for all educational programs are listed in the CGCI Yearbook. These lists are updated annually. Know and recognize the Consultants in your area. Enlist them to contribute to your programs and events. This chairman will be continuing as CGCI and NGC GSS Chair and also serving as NGC Schools Coordinator. Consultants and students are invited to write articles and submit ideas for articles for *The National Gardener* and other garden club publications.

Honor Book, Geri May Thirloway: Since the CGCI Fall Board Meeting in September, this Chairman has received \$323 in Honor Book donations from 4 individuals, Southwestern Judges Council, Luther Burbank District, Santa Rosa Garden Club. From June 2010 to May 2011, this Chairman has received a total of \$1,118 in Honor Book donations. Correction to Cathy Biggins' Fall Report: \$770 should be \$795 in Honor Book donations. From June 2009 to May 2011, this Chairman has received \$1,668 in Total. Honor donations: 1 donation for 1 person in 2009; 13 donations for 13 people in 2010; 1 donation for 1 person in 2011; Memorial donations for wonderful members who died: 1 donation for 1 person in 2009; 22 donations for 11 people in 2010; 5 donations for 3 people in 2011.

Horticulture, Jim Bathgate: With good winter rains, many native wildflowers are showing their spring colors. Poppies, lupine, godetia, ceanothus, salvia and penstemon have bloomed or soon will. A few mariposa lilies have shown up on the hillside near our home in San Diego County. Matilija poppies are flourishing, chamise and deer weed are in heavy bloom. A few less known wildflowers like Rush Rose and Keckiella are joining the crowd. This is a good season to observe and enjoy our native landscape. Many fruit trees have already set fruit and some early ones are already mature. The winter rain promoted peach leaf curl and some other diseases but the water was very welcome. Various pests are a continuing problem for fruit growers. Light Brown Apple Moth, Asian Citrus Psyllid, the European Grapevine Moth, and the Spotted Wing Drosophylla add to the usual concern about aphids, scale and mites. The water supply situation is better this year but with continued high prices, considerable fruit acreage is abandoned or put into other crops. With this report the Horticulture chairman ends his period

on the CGCI Board. It has been very enjoyable to be part of this dynamic organization. I send my thanks and good wishes to the many great gardeners I have met and worked with.

Landscape Design Study Program, Alexis Slafer: Costa Verde District is sponsoring the current Landscape Design Study Program – Series 24 – at the South Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula. Course 4 is scheduled for September 22nd & 23rd. Landscape Design School, Series 25, sponsored by Colfax Garden Club, begins September 10th, with the next 3 courses being held weekly beginning October 8th. Both schools will be completed within the year. Landscape Design School handouts are available in the mailbox, display in the exhibit hall & on the CGCI website.

Legislation/Government, Chuck Goodwin: This Chairman has been reporting to you on the financial crisis in the California State Parks since the 2009 Fall Board, in Concord. At that time it was expected that as many as 100 of the more than 270 park units faced closure. It was estimated that as much as \$20.2 million general fund dollars would be cut from the State Parks budget. The CGCI Board of Directors adopted a position paper, at 2010 Winter Board, to "Support the Preservation and Maintenance of California State Parks." CGCI urged the development of long-term fiscal and the best management practices available to insure that every California State Park will exist for future generations. The position paper was promoted in Golden Gardens and the e-Newsletter. The 2010 Convention report announced that the final impact for the year was that, while no parks were permanently closed, most units had reduced services, mostly through reduced days of operation or seasonal closures. The General Election of November, 2010 contained, among other measures, Proposition 21, which would place an \$18 surcharge on the vehicle license fee, raising more than \$500 million annually. Sponsored by the California Parks Foundation, the measure was soundly defeated by the voters. Then last Friday, May 13, Governor Brown announced that 70 state parks across California will be closed, possibly beginning July, 2012, eliminating as many as 220 jobs. The \$22 million budget cut will help to shrink the state's \$26 billion deficit. About \$75 million has been cut out of the parks budget over the past decade. Park staffing is currently at 1979 levels but the system has 500,000 more acres and 10 million more visitors. The closure list was evaluated based on their historic significance, number of visitors, revenue generated and the ability to physically close them. It is estimated that the parks will retain 92 per cent of the 65 million annual visitors and 94 per cent of existing revenue. There is ongoing discussions between legislators and the governor over possible tax measures to be placed on future ballots and legislation passed aimed at helping cities and counties (and nonprofits) enter long-term agreements to manage the closed parks.

Member Award of Distinction Program, Mary-Jo Noth: Since May 2010, seven clubs and one district have chosen to honor members of distinction. Information publicizing this program has appeared most recently in the Winter 2011 "Golden Gardens" and in an exhibit at this convention that shows a sample award certificate and pin and a list of individuals who have received the honor to date. An additional club member will be honored in June. The application is available on the CGCI website and should be submitted to the chairman with the award fee of \$50.00, payable by check to CGCI. Proceeds benefit the CGCI Educational Publications Fund.

National Garden Week, Victoria Lucido: So many of you know the first week in June is National Garden Week. Proclamations, visits to schools, parks, nursery homes and helping make our communities more productive and beautiful. This chairman has not been as busy as she had hoped to be. We did give one \$50.00 grant to one garden club. Material was sent to Canyon Crest GC. So many clubs are busy with so many projects. Thanks to all for your efforts in making California beautiful. Giving educational material or lectures to our communities on gardens, landscaping with natives, planting drought resistant plants, organic gardening, water conservation and backyard vegetable gardens are very good projects. Making designs not only for homes but for the community to see at flower shows and for libraries or rest homes to see our talents. Please keep up the good work and don't forget to tell your local media what you are planning.

Propagation "Free Plants", Lee Bathgate: Maybe you don't have a greenhouse for propagation. You can easily propagate the perennials and shrubs (even some trees) in your garden by some form of layering, and for certain plants, layering is the best method. Layering is causing roots to grow from a branch while it is still attached to the parent plant. There is less shock as the "cutting" is still being fed. Methods of layering include simple ground layering, pot layering, tip layering, compound layering, mound layering, air layering and natural layering. **Simple ground layering:** Bend a low growing branch about 6 to 12 inches from the tip. Remove any leaves from the bent area and scrape the bark or cut a slanting tongue on the underside. Dust with rooting hormone and bury in a sloping trench, bending the tip up. Peg down with a "U" shaped wire and cover with loose moist soil. A rock can also be used to hold it down. Stake the green tip and keep moist. The rooting time will vary from a few months to a year depending on the plant. Dig carefully to check for roots. When well-rooted, sever and pot up or plant directly. Keep well-watered. This works for shrubs, climbers and azaleas. Your friends will be happy with the 'gifts' of your extra plants and you can have fun seeing the results.

Tours (2011-13), Robert Gordon: The CGCI Tour for the first year of this term will be in April 2012 departing Amsterdam on the 12th. It is an 8 day river cruise in Holland that will include tulip time in Keukenhoff and the Floriade. The Floriade is a horticulture show held in Holland every 10 years. The cruise is aboard the AMA Verde. A ship owned by an American River Boat Company. All meals included, complimentary wine soft drinks and beer at each dinner. Cost starts at \$2,279 for the Piano Deck. Deposit \$400 per person. Final payment 90 days prior to departure. Questions call Bob Gordon 805-541-1532 or Chris Merkel 877-651-7447. Reservations call Chris Merkel 877-651-7447 Our goal is 40 rooms. We have booked 15 to date. Book quickly as the ship will sell out early.

Webmaster, Lynne Hansen: In a one week period the CGCI home page has had over 7500 hits. RSS Feeds (**Really Simple Syndication**) are also very popular. Robert Schuler's "Garden Patch Pointers" is a big hit. People want to be notified when he posts his next blog. 22 Clubs sites have been put up on the CGCI server and also 6 District Sites have been put up too. This is the tenth year that I have been working on the

CGCI website and Ed Dempsey wanted his old job back as webmaster and he deserves the job, so I will be doing other jobs for CGCI in the future. It has been a pleasure serving you.

CGCI 80th Annual Convention - Attachment D

District Director Reports

Bay Ocean, Nancy McDougal: Each club's activities are unique; but, whether centered on horticulture, floral design or public beautification, members enjoy working together. Meetings focused on outside speakers as well as hands-on activities. Outreach included two annual garden tours, speaker programs, floral displays, community gifts and scholarships. Our newest club coordinates local community vegetable gardens. Many older clubs are experiencing decreasing memberships; but, choose to continue usual programming. They do serve the needs of their members; but, those clubs choosing alternate meetings & activities are becoming more important in our community. District is a forum for information exchange and help for all the clubs.

Buttes, Donna Beronda: 2011 has been a great year for Buttes District. Thanks in large part to CGCI for financial support, and to both Maryanne Lucas and Julie West for their personal support Northern California Wildflower Weekend netted \$1000 for the Concow School garden and almost \$1300 for Buttes District. Most importantly, almost all Buttes District clubs actively participated in the event. Individual clubs are also flourishing . . . Garden Club of the Lake Oroville Area has doubled club membership and Chico Horticulture hosted the garden pavilion including floral design, horticultural judging, a plant sale and a Buttes District table at the Soroptomist Home & Garden Show in March. Members of our district clubs were also recognized for their community contributions. The Garden Club of Colusa County received an award from the Colusa County Library for their beautification efforts in three separate towns and Jayne Locas was named Paradise Woman of the Year by the Elks Lodge for her work with Paradise Garden Club and the "Daffodils Across the Ridge" project.

Cascade, Anne Capes: Cascade District has nine clubs: each one unique and focus on a different emphasis. In spite of different personalities, the tie that binds them together as a vibrant district is community outreach. For example, one of the clubs recently teamed with Meal on Wheels to provide flower arrangements for the meal trays. Every month the members make 40 to 60 arrangements for that purpose. One of the members is a commercial flower grower and provides all the flowers. Three of the clubs are in towns that have highways going through the middle of town. The clubs in these towns have landscaped the median – each one with a different "flavor." One town has a history as an early California settlement and is still a cowboy town. The landscaping features iron near-lifesize figures of cowboys and horses fabricated by a local artist. The garden club maintains the surrounding plants. Attendance at District meetings is members from every club and is not less than seventy members from a total membership of 356 = 20%.

Channel Islands, Carol Amenta: Pleasant Valley GC had another busy year. First a speaker on how and why a Chinese garden is organized, then a florist gave them tips on decorating holiday wreaths for their annual wreath making fundraiser. They had a presentation on dahlias and on irises. A member also gave a demonstration on how to make hypertufa pots and large leaves. They continued their monthly programs at the Camarillo Health Services Center with Alzheimer's patients. The clubs donated funds to the local grammar schools for their gardening projects and to the Camarillo Community Gardens. Members still maintain garden around the church fountain where they hold meetings. The Conejo Valley GC had speakers from local nurseries on topics of Bare Root planting & Native Plants. A representative from Shadow Oaks Wildlife Care spoke on animals in our gardens and President Darcey Lober from the Conejo Valley Organic Garden Club speaking on herbs. The club also had progressive luncheon to three of their member's homes. They visited some beautiful gardens, had delicious lunch and wonderful company. Another successful activity that was continued from last year is the Sack Lunch in the Garden after the general meetings. Members bring their lunch and then spend time in a member's garden after the meeting. It is great way to get to meet new members and get updated on "old" friends. The Westlake Village GC's 38th Annual Garden and Patio Tour was again, a great success providing three \$1,500 scholarships to students transferring from Ventura, Oxnard and Moorpark Community Colleges to four-year universities or colleges. The Channel Islands District luncheon was chaired by the 2010 Convention co-chair Jean Reiley. "Sustainable Landscaping Featuring the Arboretum All-Stars" was the topic selected by noted speaker Diane Beeler. Beeler is a Certified Master Gardener and member of the Association of Professional Landscape Designers with over 25 years of horticulture experience. She is a published writer and Board Member of the Ventura Botanical Gardens. The items donated by the community and Channel Island District clubs provided for a very successful fundraising auction.

Costa Verde, Ruth Brooker: During the term of this director she wanted to have the members take an active part in going GREEN and we had good response here. We wanted to have the district board, especially the presidents, express their opinion and ask questions. The board meetings were in the form of a round table. Attending members wanted to know solutions to club problems and wanted to know what the district and CGCI had to offer them. Members were enthusiastic. We think most of them gained a better understanding about our garden club family. Lorraine Ornelas will be the new director.

Desert Empire, Joanne Latimer: On the weekend of April 15, 16 and 17 all three of our clubs participated in the First Annual Wildflower Festival of Indian Wells Valley. The clubs were out in force to attract attention of people attending the week end event. We sold plants, hats seeds, gloves, garden tour tickets, and cookies. The PR that we all received was very encouraging. And, we all had fun. We were happy as a District to make a \$100 donation to "Kids Growing Strong". Our district is pleased to have a strong kids program going on in our district. Stephanie Baker has been tireless in working with the kids. Our clubs are busy planning the installation of the new officers. One has just completed the

installation and the other two are upcoming. It is always exciting to see a few new faces sitting on the board. Each of the clubs have at least one "shining new face" on their board. Two of our clubs are now conducting garden tours. Oasis has done this for many years, and now Desert Rose is holding its second tour. This is always so much fun to see what other gardeners can accomplish in our area. If you have not been on a tour or if your club has not had a tour, try it. It's FUN. We are all looking forward to another year of fun, work and companionship with our fellow gardeners.

Diablo Foothills District: Sandy Rogers: Over the last two years this district director has had the pleasure of getting to know and enjoy all who are part of California Garden Clubs, and Diablo Foothills District. As outgoing DFD director I see we have had a great 2 year together; starting with the 2009 California Garden Club Inc. fall board meeting. Maryanne Lucas' CGCI presidential visit in May of 2010 hosting a tour to a local Children's Summer Camp, Wine Tasting, and evening dinner, Maryanne being our special guest and speaker. DFD continued to meet CGCI and DFD objectives by having three great tours, a cookbook fundraiser, and several DFD General Membership Meetings having great host clubs and great speakers. These activities allow DFD to create, promote and further an interest in amateur gardening, plant and bird life.

Golden Foothills, Sue Bennett: I would like to talk about the Good, Bad and Ugly. The Ugly: On March 19 we co-hosted a **Kids Gardening Day** with a local Nursery to promote Kids Growing Strong – it was cold, windy and rainy. The Bad: One President resigned, one president was in tears, and two clubs wanted to fold. The Good: Members have participated in 8 venues for the Kids Growing Strong Program, the clubs continue monthly meetings, tours; May & June are the months for plant sales and installations. To end, I want to repeat something Chuck Goodwin told me, don't focus on the members who don't attend meetings, but put your energy on the ones who do.

Humboldt, Janean Guest (Incoming Director): From February to May, Humboldt County Garden Clubs have ignored many FEET of rainfall! While holed up around warm fires, dreams of Spring activities took shape. Southern Humboldt Garden Club has enthusiastically prepared for their Sunday, May 15th, 60th Annual Small-Standard Flower Show & Plant Sale, with the theme of "Through the Years." Admission is Free. Fortuna Garden Club held its Annual Daffodil Show in March, to the delight of the hundreds in attendance. This annual club project is greeted with much anticipation and appreciation by all 'north-coasters.' Fortuna Garden Club also hosted a visit of CGCI President Maryanne Lucas, much to the joy of Humboldt District Garden Club members. Ferndale Garden Club has been busy planning special events for the 2012 CGCI State Board Meeting. Their enthusiasm is indicative of North Coast hospitality and good nature. Eureka Garden Club continues to address community beautification projects, some are focused on the waterfront. Patrick's Point Garden Club held the 5th Annual North Coast Garden Event on Mother's Day, where implementation of the much appreciated CGCI's "EASY GRANT" FOR \$250 took place. There were three lectures and the presentation of two separate awards for educational projects in the community. Admission was Free! Installation took place in Trinidad, at our district meeting on Tuesday, May 3, with Past CGCI President Mary Lou Goodwin conducting the ceremony. A lovely day!

Luther Burbank, Bev Davies: Club members devoted most of their time toward the 2011 Convention. Preparing raffle basket; finalizing field trips and workshops; assembling the program booklet; and gathering information for the registration packets are just to name a few of their tasks. Clubs with monetary, labor, and expertise continue to reach out within their communities. Scholarships, community gardens, city beautification projects, and supporting local events have been their accomplishments. Sierra Youth Center, the District project, is in the third season of mentoring the residential teen girls with their vegetable garden. The garden has expanded with additional fruit trees, vineyard, and flower gardens. This season, additional subscription baskets of their garden harvest have been sold. Club members provided horticultural workshops on butterflies, pruning, wreath making, and floral arrangements. Our goal has been for the girls to achieve certification in an education program.

Montana de Oro, Nancy Johnson: This has been a busy and exciting year for Montana de Oro District. Our clubs have flourished and we have added three new clubs to our group. We welcome Five Cities Orchid Society, Coastal Valley Orchid Society and the Cactus and Succulent Society. To round off this wonderful year we are holding an ambitious Standard Flower Show and Luncheon at the Jack House in San Luis Obispo. The Jack House is a wonder Victorian home donated to the City, fully intact, by the Jack family. The title of our show is "The SLO Life, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. Free tours of the house will feature a variety of Victorian inspired floral designs. The back porch of the house will be a floral salute to the future. In the Carriage house and along the driveway will be an outstanding Horticultural exhibit. The beautiful lawn area will host a wonderful display of table settings, traditional, vintage and whimsical. A marvelous catered lunch will be offered at noon. Now I would like to formally introduce our new District Director Linda Hicks. Linda is a member of Multiflora Garden Club, the Cactus and Succulent Society and Floral Design Study Club. She comes to this assignment with great experience and talent and will be an asset not only to our District, but also to the State and National Garden Clubs.

Palms to Pines, Linda and Ron Lang: These last two years has found our District growing. We have welcomed two new active member clubs. The largest achievement for the district was being able to host the CCGI Fall Board meeting in Palm Springs in Sept, 2010. Every district should consider hosting such an event. It was a lot of work, but so much fun. Palms to Pines District has had some major flower and plant society shows. This year Redlands Horticulture Improvement Society held their 99th consecutive annual flower show. We, as a district, are excited to have such a show in our area and hope that you all can attend the 100th consecutive flower show in Redlands, April 21 & 22, 2012. It cannot be emphasized enough the significance of a flower show being presented each year for 100 years. We are told the 100th will not only be an excellent show but the granddaddy or grandmommy of all flower shows. One purpose of these shows is to educate the public about gardening and related subjects. The thing that has impressed us is how well this goal has been accomplished and how well it has been received by the viewing public. There are many people who are anxious to learn more about gardening, specific plants and to find out about garden clubs. We, as members of these clubs, have a great opportunity through our flower and plant society shows, various projects and public events to reach out to the general public and educate about gardening, and plants. What a difference this education can make in our community and state.

Palomar, Jane McKee: Update on Petals for Patriots: In July the California Association of Growers will donate all floral material from their annual convention to the P4P project. Club members will meet on July 23 to create as many arrangements as possible for delivery to Balboa Naval Hospital, Camp Pendleton Wounded Warrior Battalion and Hospital and many other convalescent facilities in the county. The District invited and encouraged clubs to "host" one of the two board meetings (fall or summer). The host club may serve refreshments (anything from coffee and pastries to lunch), charge a modest fee and retain all proceeds...a potential fundraiser for the club. Our thanks to **Vista GC** for stepping up and offering to be the first host club for our June meeting.

Roadrunner, Clara Petrosky: My 2 year tenure is about to end and I have good and bad news. I have learned a lot about plants and people. Winter in the High Desert was ferocious. The good news is the desert is now a painted landscape having had a good drenching. We mourned the loss of members and the dissolving of one of our clubs. The good news is that the present clubs are increasing membership and are comfortable financially. Our district continues to be recognized throughout the state and region. Our youth won state recognition of their monthly programs along with a first in the Pacific Region in the poetry division. A first place was given by the Pacific Region for the District Information Brochure. We are 128 strong. The community interaction among our 3 clubs is demonstrated by various programs. High school scholarships, Desert Crossroads youth assist with the maintenance of the Water Awareness Garden, and the club provides a boutonniere made by club members to each graduate. Arbor Day Plantings/Programs, memorial plantings, and library workshops are sponsored by each club. Plant sales continue to be the best form of fundraising. The bad news is that the workforce is dwindling. We have participated in 5 educational/social field trips and several workshops. We have reached our goal of purchasing several Penny Pines per District. 40 + trees have been planted since January. Club and district meeting programs have educated us about recycling feed bags into grocery bags; healing uses of herbs; edible flowers; pressed flowers; garden embellishments, and the use of red worms. Our present club and district officers will soon step down after having done a great job! Bad news! There isn't any waiting list. Have a great summer!

San Fernando Valley, Mary Waddington-Merritt: Highlights of this year include A PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE AND PROTOCOL workshop led by Robin Pokorski, past CGCI President and a Home and Garden Fundraiser tour. We visited a Lloyd Wright designed home surrounded by a thriving all-native garden where we enjoyed a gourmet picnic lunch. Next THE TROPICANA PALMS showcasing a collection of palms from around the world with companion plants and numerous focal points (Koi filled ponds, waterfalls, stream, stone fireplace grotto, tea house, etc.) --- paths everywhere inviting exploration. The last stop was to a mid-1920's Spanish Colonial Revival home with designer gardens and exotic trees (juvenile dragon tree, African cabbage tree, sprawling "gnarly" Australian tea tree, etc. ") Our gracious host served wine, cheese and crudités, "BEST TOUR EVER"! Other highlights: Our first District scholarship—recipient Joshua Bernhard, three CGCI Smokey Bear contest winners. Proudly we welcomed a new club—the Gardening Club of Santa Clarita. Our District and clubs have donated over \$5,000 in scholarships, made donations to State projects - Penny Pines Plantations, etc. Other activities included daffodil and tree plantings. The ultimate *coup de grace* – the NGC Grand Prize Winner of the Smokey Bear Contest - Vaibhavi Patankar. Finally, our Southern California Garden Club held their 45th Annual Flower Show to rave reviews. It has been my honor to serve you. **EXCITEMENT CONTINUES IN THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY DISTRICT!**

Santa Clara Valley, Sara White: A few of our clubs sold tickets to the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show held in March as a club fundraiser. Sara White organized volunteers for the Membership Table at the Show and Gwen Nansen organized the floral arrangers whose arrangements decorated the Flower Lane. Outgoing CGCI President Maryanne Lucas was our guest speaker at our April General Meeting (and a great speaker she was!) and a new board was installed for the 2011-2013 term. We're going to try having individual clubs host the upcoming general meetings – our district is large so we chose two clubs in the north and two in the south. Nellie Durand and Gwen Nansen were recognized by CGCI for their outstanding service.

Sequoia Foothills, Carolyn Villi: Two years have passed quickly, now it's time for new leadership! This has been a term for building for some of our clubs and rebuilding for others. Our Hanford Garden Club is still growing and our Visalia Club after 70 years had to reinvent their club to be able to continue. Our absent club, Tulare's Valley Oak Garden Club, after getting new leadership after several years, is asking to actively return to district. New leadership has brought growth to our district. Goals for our district has been education for Youth, trees for playgrounds, gardens for children and garden tours.

CGCI 80th Annual Convention – Attachment E

Landscape Design Council, Mary Lou Goodwin:

The Landscape Design Council would like to thank all of the Landscape Design Consultants and the garden club members who have participated in the 20 Landscape Design Commendations presented this year. You may have heard about a casino, city, college, cultural center, county fair, hotel, winery and a zoo. It has been a pleasure to honor a garden club, property owners, gardeners, contractors, landscape architects and college instructors for their efforts to provide well designed and maintained examples for the general public to enjoy.

Since January The Lodge at Feather Falls Casino and Sal Rodrigues Landscapes and The Mens Garden Club of Santa Rosa have been added to the list.

“Good land use is the theme of every landscape design project.” Nomination applications to honor a property can be found on the CGCI Website under forms.

CGCI 80th Annual Convention - Attachment F

Youth Awards Chairman Report – submitted by Beverly Switzer:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated members that have made all these endeavors happen for our young gardeners:

Joyce Reid	Poetry and Essay Chairman	She has successfully expanded the program.
Linda Riddle	Smokey Bear Chairman	The driving force behind this popular program.
Pat Tjosaas	Girl Scouts Liaison	
Lydia Reibel	Kids Growing Strong	
Evelyn Broaddus	The so important scholarships	

And the many members up and down this state working with and for our Junior Gardeners.

I have heard members complain about the lack of youth entries in our awards. I think we are misreading the lack of youth award entries as a lack of youth activity at the club level. From June, 2010 to June, 2011 approximately 2000 children will be added to the youth rolls. The challenge is converting those numbers into award entries and that takes educating local Youth Chairmen and may never come to fruition. It has been my experience that an expansion of award possibilities increases the participation.

AND NOW...that Sequoia Foothills District is at it again...

The Caruthers Garden Club is sponsoring an 11 member Girl Scout Troop. Madame President, **I move to ratify.**

Madame President, thank you for giving me the honor of serving on your board. This concludes my Youth Report.

C.G.C.I. COURTESY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS,

The members of California Garden Clubs, Inc. attending the 80th Convention Celebrating Nature's Beauty & Bounty" in Rohnert Park in beautiful Sonoma County, California, May 15-19 2011 have benefited from information learned at the Convention and will disseminate this information to their districts, clubs, associate plant societies and affiliates; and

WHEREAS,

California Garden Clubs, Inc. President, Maryanne Lucas, the officers, chairmen and members have served this organization with distinction, now therefore be it

RESOLVED,

That CGCI President Maryanne Lucas, through her gracious presiding, and the members, chairmen and officers, through their dedicated concern in the deliberations of this Convention, be commended for their spirit of cooperation; and

RESOLVED,

That sincere thanks be given to National Garden Clubs, Inc. President Renee Blaschke for graciously accepting CGCI's invitation to attend the Convention and bringing with her her personal warmth and love of our organization, and

RESOLVED,

That sincere thanks be given to GinaBelle Smith and Dave West, Co-Chairmen of the 80th Convention, and Beverly Davies and GinaBelle Smith, respective Directors of our Host Districts, the Luther Burbank District and the Mendo-Lake District and the energetic youth groups in both Districts as well as all of the members of the two Districts who planned and participated in the success of the 2011 Convention and assured its success by their many courtesies extended; and

RESOLVED,

That sincere thanks be given to Co-Chairmen Nancy Bailey and Jane Graham for Chairing the successful Tri-Refresher Course attended by 23 participants, and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation be extended to our delightful and informative speakers Brian Benn, Corey Barnes, Susie Dowd Markarian and Kate Frey, and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation be given to the following four workshop sponsors---Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Bank, Redwood Hill Farm, McEvoy Olive Company and Gabriel Farm of Sebastopol; and to all of those who provided Educational Exhibits: (that is the entire page 18 of your program!); and to our two Forum Leaders with their worthwhile information in keeping our organization strong; and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation be extended to all of the following for allowing CGCI to tour: Sonoma State University, DeLoach Vineyards, Richard's Grove and Saralee's Vineyard, and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation be extended to Brenda Kendrix from the US Forest Service and our scholarship winner, Ann Sherman, for their presence at the Youth Luncheon; with special recognition to the Men's Garden Club of Santa Rosa and Kids Growing Strong, and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation be extended to The Founders Council of Judges for hosting the Tuesday Banquet and bringing us NGC Accredited Instructor of Floral Design, Char Mutschler from our neighboring state of Oregon, and appreciation be extended to all members helping with all table arrangements during the convention, and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation be extended to Elisabeth Tufo for her beautiful butterfly installation ceremony; to the harpist Heather Paschoal and to the Co-Chairmen Evelyn Broaddus and Nona Carpenter of the reception, and

RESOLVED,

That GinaBelle Smith is commended for chairing the Post Convention Tour to begin shortly after the Post Convention Meeting tomorrow!

RESOLVED,

That this resolution be incorporated into the minutes and that copies be sent to CGCI President Maryanne Lucas, Convention Co-Chairmen GinaBelle Smith and Dave West and Secretary Greg Pokorski.

Joan Craig

Appointed Courtesy Resolutions Chairman

(May 18, 2011)