



## CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

### **Winter Board Meeting**

The Cliffs Resort, Pismo Beach, CA

February 6-9, 2012

**President: Julie A. West**

Host: Montano de Oro District

**EXCUSED:** Archibald; Bramhall; Browning; Bueerman; Capes; Coolidge; Crenshaw,L; Crenshaw,R; Ethington; Goodwin,C; Goodwin,M.L.; Gould; Gregory; Harms; Hooper; Latimer; Lozano; Lucido; Mahshi; McKee; Moren; Nielsen; Oberti; Paul; Radicchi; Ridolfi; Rogers; Roton; Schuler,H; Schuler,R; Tebo; Villi; Walter.

President Julie A. West called the meeting to order at 3:14 p.m. on February 7, 2012.

Rita Desilets, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President moved to accept with regret the resignation of Geri May Thirloway, Recording Secretary. **PASSED.**

Rita Desilets moved to ratify the appointment of Margaret Strachan as Interim Recording Secretary for the remainder of the 2011-2013 term in accordance with Article VI, Sec 1 (d) 1. **PASSED.**

The Interim Recording Secretary Margaret Strachan was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America was led by Ron Byrd, CGCI 2012 Convention Chairman.

The Inspiration was given by Carmen Black, CGCI Yearbook Team Coordinator.

The Welcome was given by Linda Hicks, Montana de Oro District Director.

President West thanked the Montana de Oro District for hosting the meeting.

President West introduced CGCI Officers, former CGCI Presidents Beverly Brune, Robert Gordon, Elisabeth Tufo, Robin Pokorski and Maryanne Lucas, and Circle of Poppies Members Helen Gates and Angela Michaels.

President West appointed without objection, Robin Pokorski as Timekeeper.

President West introduced the pages, including Linda Vander, the President's Page.

Interim Recording Secretary, Margaret Strachan, called the roll and a quorum was established.

President West announced that the Rules of Order for Board Meetings were adopted at the Organizational Meeting in May, 2011 for this entire term.

Winter Board Meeting Chairman Nancy Johnson presented corrections to the Winter Board Meeting Program. Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian moved that the Winter Board Meeting Program be adopted as corrected. **PASSED.**

Winter Board Meeting Registrar Jenifer Rabenaldt gave the registration report (total registration of 144) for information only.

Without objection, the minutes of the September 15-18, 2011 Fall Board meeting in Stockton were approved as distributed on October 20, 2011.

President West appointed, without objection, the committee to approve the minutes of this meeting: Lorraine Ornelas, District Director Costa Verde District, as Chairman, Bev Davies District Director Luther Burbank District and Rita Desilets 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

Rita Desilets, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President moved to elect Dave West as a CGCI delegate to the NGC Convention, May 17-19, 2012, in Buffalo New York. **APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

#### **FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

Treasurer Joan Patten reported:

Net Worth	
Total Cash including CD's:	\$228,368.50
Other Assets including GG:	\$184,901.86
Prepaid Deposits:	\$ 3,000.00
Total Assets:	\$416,270.36
of which Restricted Funds are:	\$328,796.02
Cash Balance Available:	\$ 87,474.34

#### **OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Parliamentarian** Greg Pokorski reported. (See Attachment A)

**Financial Secretary** Charlene Looper reported.

**Treasurer** Joan Patten reported. (See Attachment A)

**Corresponding Secretary** Joelle Holford reported. (See Attachment A)

**Interim Recording Secretary** Margaret Strachan reported. (See Attachment A)

**Third Vice President, Awards and e-newsletter Chairman** Pat Clayes reported. (See Attachment A)

**Second Vice President, Membership Chairman,** Sue Bennett reported. (See Attachment A)

Sue Bennett moved to ratify the following new club:  
Flora Dora Design Guild, Buttes District, 6 members. **APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

**First Vice President,** Rita Desilets reported. (See Attachment A)

**President,** Julie A. West reported. (See Attachment A)

#### **STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Board of Trustees---Joan Craig reported.

Scholarships Chairman---Albert Chang reported. (See Attachment B)

The winner of the Bob Gordon Scholarship is Stacy Hishinuma, a graduate student from UC Davis. The winner of the Maryanne Lucas Scholarship is Elizabeth Bowman, a graduate student at Antioch College in Los Angeles. The committee has chosen Margaret Maratsos to be our candidate for the Pacific Region Scholarship.

Endowment Committee—Bob Gordon reported. (See Attachment B)

Bylaws and Policy---Rita Desilets reported:

**Communications Director Proposed Bylaw Amendments**

**PROVISO: All bylaw amendments relating to the Communications Director including Article V Sec. 8, Article V Sec. 1 (a), Article VI Sec. 1 (b) 3 and Article VIII Sec.1 shall take effect at the close of the CGCI Convention June 6, 2013. NOTE: If the amendment to Article V Sec. 8 (Item #1) were to fail, the remaining proposed bylaws amendments as respects the Communications Director will not be presented for consideration.**

On behalf of the committee, Rita Desilets, Chairman, moved to submit the following bylaws amendments to the voting membership at convention:

(1) **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES** (page 131)  
Change Sec. 8 to be Sec. 9.  
Insert new Sec. 8.

**To read:**

The communications director shall oversee: (a) the creation and distribution of publications including, but not limited to, *Golden Gardens*, e-newsletter, Yearbook, Manual and Roster, press releases and brochures and (b) the CGCI website.

**Rationale:** The communications director shall be the tenth member of the Executive Committee. (The *Golden Garden's* editor was the tenth member of the Executive Committee until 2011.)

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

(2) **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES** (page 130)

**Now reads:**

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. (b) The appointed officer shall be the parliamentarian.

Amend by striking "and" before 'treasurer' and inserting "and communications director" after "treasurer" and strike the notations (a) and (b).

**To read:**

Sec.1. Elected officers shall be president, first vice-president, second vice-president, third vice-president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary, financial secretary, treasurer, and communications director. The appointed officer shall be the parliamentarian.

**Rationale:** The communications director shall be the tenth member of the Executive Committee. (The *Golden Garden's* editor was the tenth member of the Executive Committee until 2011.)

**PASSED AS AMENDED**

\*\*\*\*\*

(3) **ARTICLE VI - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS** (page 131)

**Now reads:**

Sec. 1,b.3. The treasurer, recording, corresponding, and financial secretaries, only shall be eligible for two 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.

Amend by inserting "communications director," after "treasurer" and strike the word "only."

**To read:**

Sec. 1, b.3. The treasurer, communications director, recording, corresponding, and financial secretaries, shall be eligible for two 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:** Being eligible to serve two terms gives continuity to the position of communications director.

**PASSED AS AMENDED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**(4) ARTICLE VIII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** (page 133)

**Now reads:**

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

Amend by inserting "communications director," after "treasurer" and strike "of the board of directors"

**To read:**

Sec.1. Executive committee shall consist of the president, vice-presidents, recording, corresponding and financial secretaries, treasurer, communications director, and parliamentarian. A majority shall constitute a quorum.

**Rationale:** The communications director shall be the tenth member of the Executive Committee. (The *Golden Garden's* editor was the tenth member of the Executive Committee until 2011.)

**PASSED AS AMENDED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**(5) ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES** (page 130)

**Now reads:**

Sec.3. The vice-presidents, in their order, shall: **(a)** perform the duties of the president in the absence of or at the request of the president and **(b)** accept a chairmanship as assigned by the president. The first vice-president shall become president-elect at the end of the fall board meeting preceding the election year.

Amend by striking "fall board meeting" and replacing with "convention."

**To read:**

Sec.3. The vice-presidents, in their order, shall: **(a)** perform the duties of the president in the absence of or at the request of the president and **(b)** accept a chairmanship as assigned by the president. The first vice-president shall become president-elect at the end of the convention preceding the election year.

**Rationale:** This gives the president-elect additional time to form their Board of Directors and is consistent with NGC's bylaws and procedure.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**(6) ARTICLE XII – FINANCES** (page 135)

**Now reads:**

Sec.9. The board of directors shall not take action upon a project which contemplates monetary contributions from member clubs unless the details of such project have been presented at the previous regular meeting of the board of directors.

Amend by striking “from member clubs” and adding “All projects, including the President’s Project, must establish a CGCI restricted fund to handle the revenue and expenses.”

**To read:**

Sec.9. The board of directors shall not take action upon a project which contemplates monetary contributions unless the details of such project have been presented at the previous regular meeting of the board of directors. All projects, including the President’s Project, must establish a restricted fund to handle the revenue and expenses.

**Rationale:** We have an obligation to make sure the funds are spent as presented when taking funds from member clubs, districts, individuals or corporate donors and to be in compliance with our objectives.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

Item (7) not presented

\*\*\*\*\*

**(8) ARTICLE XV - ADVISORY COUNCIL** (page 137)

**Now reads:**

Former CGCI presidents shall comprise the advisory council, which shall meet at the call of the chairman or two members of the advisory council for the purpose of discussing policies and procedures. The immediate past president shall act as chairman. Four members shall constitute a quorum.

Amend by deleting: “Four members shall constitute a quorum.”

**To read:**

Former CGCI presidents shall comprise the advisory council, which shall meet at the call of the chairman or two members of the advisory council for the purpose of discussing policies and procedures. The immediate past president shall act as chairman.

**Rationale:** A quorum is the minimum number of members who must be present at the meetings of a deliberative assembly for business to be legally transacted. The Advisory Council is not a deliberative assembly and does not transact business.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**(9) ARTICLE XVI - LIABILITY INSURANCE** (page 137)

**Now reads:**

Sec.1. Liability insurance shall be maintained for clubs and associate plant societies who choose to have this insurance, and are approved by the insurance carrier. The annual rate shall be recommended by the executive committee and approved by the board of directors at the fall board meeting.

Amend by striking “fall board” and inserting “pre-convention”

**To read:**

Sec.1. Liability insurance shall be maintained for clubs and associate plant societies who choose to have this insurance, and are approved by the insurance carrier. The annual rate shall be recommended by the executive committee and approved by the board of directors at the pre-convention meeting.

**Rationale:** Liability insurance rate needs to be announced before majority of clubs do their budgets during the summer. Policy period is Feb.15 to Feb. 15 and fall board is too late for planning.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Golden Gardens Proposed Bylaw Amendments**

**PROVISO:** All bylaw amendments relating to the *Golden Gardens* including Article XIII Sec. 1; Article XIII Sec. 4 and Article XIII Sec. 7 shall take effect at the close of the CGCI Convention June 13, 2013. **NOTE:** If the amendment to Article XIII Sec. 1 (Item #10) were to fail, the remaining proposed bylaws amendments as respects *Golden Gardens* will not be presented for consideration.

On behalf of the committee, Rita Desilets, Chairman, moved to submit the following bylaws amendments to the voting membership at convention:

(10) **ARTICLE XIII - GOLDEN GARDENS** (page 136)

**Now reads:**

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

Amend by deleting “electronic or print.” and insert “which shall be delivered electronically.”

**To read:**

Sec.1. The official publication of CGCI shall be *Golden Gardens* which shall be delivered electronically.

**Rationale:** Electronic distribution would decrease costs and allow for wider distribution of the publication.

A rising vote was taken: 47 for, 15 against. Total of 62 votes. 75% majority

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

(11) **ARTICLE XIII - GOLDEN GARDENS** (page 136)

**Now reads:**

Sec.4. Changes in subscription rates shall be recommended by the board of directors and submitted to the voting membership for ratification at the annual meeting.

Amend by deleting Section 4 (renumber remaining sections.)

**Rationale:** Electronic distribution would decrease costs and allow for wider distribution of the publication without subscription income.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

(12) **ARTICLE XIII - GOLDEN GARDENS** (page 136)

**Now reads:**

Sec.7. All funds derived from circulation, advertising or from special gifts shall be deposited in a special account entitled “California Garden Clubs, Inc., *Golden Gardens*.” Checks on this account shall be signed

by *Golden Gardens* finance chairman or a designated alternate.

Amend by deleting “All funds derived from circulation, advertising or from special gifts shall be deposited in a special account” and inserting “Funds from advertising and gifts shall be deposited in an account”

**To read:**

Sec. 7. Funds from advertising and gifts shall be deposited in an account entitled “California Garden Clubs, Inc., *Golden Gardens*.” Checks on this account shall be signed by *Golden Gardens* finance chairman or a designated alternate.

**Rationale:** Funds would not be collected for circulation. Wording is simplified.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Standing Rules**

Rita Desilets on behalf of the Bylaws and Policy committee moved that the following standing rules be amended by the board of directors.

**Standing Rule 31** (page 140)

**Now reads:**

**31.** Districts, individuals, or commercial enterprises wishing to sell products or take orders at or during a CGCI function must first obtain permission from the executive committee and pay an agreed percentage of the gross sales and/or a table fee. Revenues shall be divided equally between CGCI General Fund and the function host. The function host may conduct sales within the confines of the hospitality room and keep the proceeds.

Amend by striking and replacing with new Standing Rule 31.

**To read:**

**31.** Any one whether commercial or otherwise wishing to sell products for their own benefit at a CGCI function, must first be approved by the function host and President. The vendor shall pay a percentage of the gross sales and/or a table fee as agreed upon in the signed Vendor Sales Agreement. Revenues shall be divided equally between CGCI General Fund and the function host.

**Rationale:** Updates and brings standing rule into compliance with Article XII Sec. 5 that was amended at the 2011 Convention.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Standing Rule 40** (page 140)

**Now reads:**

**40.** The annual accountant's audit/review letter shall be published in *Golden Gardens* following the fall board meeting.

Amend by striking “annual” before “accountant's” and inserting “annual” after “accountant's.”

**To read:**

**40.** The accountant's annual audit/review letter shall be published in *Golden Gardens* following the fall board meeting.

**Rationale:** What is currently stated implies we change accountants annually rather than have an annual letter.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Standing Rule 56** (page 141)

**Now reads:**

**56.** Upon approval of board of directors, National or Pacific Region may be invited to hold any meeting in California.

Amend by inserting “the” before “board” and inserting “Garden Clubs, Inc.” after “National.”

**To read:**

**56.** Upon approval of the board of directors, National Garden Clubs, Inc. or Pacific Region may be invited to hold any meeting in California.

**Rationale:** The title is National Garden Clubs, Inc.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

Fall Board Stockton 2011 Chairman, Chelsea Wilson reported (see Attachment B.)

Recess was called at 5:30 p.m.

Reconvened at 8:30 a.m. 2/7/2012.

A Special Presentation, the DVD of Memorial Garden for the Fallen, Dover Air Force Base was shown to the board.

**Standing/Special Committee Reports continued.**

*Golden Gardens*---Julie West reported (see Attachment B.)

IRS Required Filings and Nonprofit Group Exemption—Mary-Jo Noth and George Perko reported (see Attachment B)

Mary-Jo Noth moved to ratify:

- The removal of the former Concow Garden Club of Buttes District from the CGCI Tax Exempt Group because the club notified CGCI that it was ceasing to exist. **PASSED**
- The addition of the following three clubs to the CGCI Tax-Exempt group:  
 Flora Dora Design Guild of Buttes District  
 Paradise Garden Club of Buttes District  
 Vallejo Garden Club of Sacramento River Valley District **PASSED**

Life Membership Chairman- Carlotta Wixon reported (see Attachment B.)

Carlotta Wixon moved to ratify the following Life Members:

**CGCI:**

Annie Hall-Bosche	Lake Forest G.C.	Orange County District
Jane Berger	Walnut Creek G.C.	Diablo Foothills District
Debbie Chan	La Penta G.C.	Sacramento River Valley District
Ruth Strange	Cactus Wren Garden Club	Roadrunner District

**Pacific Region**

Josephine Goodenow	Devide Garden Club	Roadrunner District
David J. West	Santa Rosa Garden Club	Luther Burbank District

**All of the above PASSED**

Nominating Committee Chairman—Carole Lung reported for Kathy Bramhall.



President's Project Chairman—Linda Simonds reported (see Attachment B.)

Youth Chairman---Maryanne Lucas reported (see Attachment B.)

Maryanne Lucas presented one new club for ratification:

**JUNCTION ELEMENTARY AFTER-SCHOOL GARDEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**  
Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club, Golden Foothills District, 27 members. **PASSED**

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Interim Recording Secretary, Margaret Strachan presented the following recommendations:

**RATIFICATIONS:**

Chairman Ratifications

1. Ratify the resignation of Geri May Thirloway, Honor Book Chairman, with regret.
2. Ratify the resignation of Myra Andrest, Roadrunner District Director, with regret.  
**Both of the above APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

Appointments

3. Ratify the appointment of Joelle Holford, Honor Book Chairman.
4. Ratify the appointment of 2012 Convention Registration and Credentials Chairman, Gay Rigmaiden and Treasurer, Helen Fong.  
**3 and 4 APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

5. Calendar Ratification

Gardening Study School, Series 22, Encino,  
Sponsor: Southern California Garden Club  
Chairman: Robin Pokorski  
Course I – July 2-3, 2012  
Course II- August 30-31, 2012  
Course III- January 30-31, 2013  
Course IV- March 28-29, 2013 **APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

CGCI 2015 Winter Board- Sequoia Foothills District;  
Co-Chairmen: Diane Lane and Carley Metcalf  
**APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

6. Payments

That a new checking account be opened at Bank of America with \$4,000 to be funded from the Wildflower Conference Restricted Fund. Signers on the account are to be the CGCI Treasurer (currently Joan Patten); CGCI Financial Secretary (currently Charlene Looer); CGCI Operation Wildflower Chairman (currently Merilee Ray) and Wildflower Conference Treasurer (currently Donna Thomas). **APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION**

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Invite NGC President, Shirley Nicolai, to the 2012 CGCI Convention, to be held June 4-7, 2012 in Sacramento (Standing Rule 55). **APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION**
- That CGCI match \$100 donations from CGCI districts, clubs or individuals up to a total CGCI contribution of \$5000 in support of the Memorial Garden for the

Fallen, Phase 2 at Dover Air Force Base; a project of the Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs. Monies to come from the General Fund. **APPROVED WITHOUT OBJECTION, AS AMENDED**

- 2012 Convention Registration fee of \$30; registration fee after deadline of \$45. Single Day Registration fee of \$10; single day registration fee after deadline of \$15. **PASSED**
- That effective immediately no further clubs or districts be added to the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program for the remainder of this fiscal year (ending June 30, 2012) so that the list provided to the IRS by March 31, 2012 will be a true list of the current members of the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program. **PASSED.**
- That CGCI donate \$250 to the Native Plant Pollinator Garden at Gateway Science Museum at California State University, Chico. Money to come from the general fund. **PASSED**

Recess called at 9:57 a.m.  
Reconvened at 10:10 a.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES RECOMMENDATION**

Margaret Strachan, Interim Recording Secretary, on behalf of the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees moved that

The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees recommend that CGCI partner with Kids Growing Strong to train and equip a core leadership group, funded by a grant to Kids Growing Strong from The United States Department of Agriculture, subject to acceptance by the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees of a Memorandum of Understanding.

Rationale: Because of filing deadlines this is brought to the Board at this time.

**PASSED**

\*\*\*\*\*

**DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS** (See Attachment C). George Speer District Director Coordinator presented those Directors who reported.

Recess called at 11:10 a.m.

Reconvened at 3:28 p.m.

Myrtle Findley, on behalf of the Gardening Consultants Council honored Cindy Roberts of Paso Robles and Maude Leslie of Los Osos with Outstanding Private Garden certificates.

**CHAIRMAN REPORTS** (See Attachment D). Robin Pokorski Chairmen Coordinator presented the chairmen who reported.

Courtesy Resolutions Chairman, Joan Craig moved to adopt the courtesy resolution. (See Attachment E). **PASSED**

There being no further business and no objection, the 2011 Winter Board Meeting of California Garden Clubs, Inc. was adjourned by President Julie A. West at 5:01 p.m.

Submitted

3-21-2012

---

Margaret Strachan, Interim Recording Secretary

Date

## CGCI 2012 Winter Board Meeting, Pismo Beach—Attachment A

### OFFICER'S REPORTS

#### **Parliamentarian, Greg Pokorski:**

This officer participated in minutes review following our Fall Board Meeting, participated in the work of the Bylaws and Policy Committee, assisted our President with agenda reviews for this Winter Board Meeting and has worked with our new Recording Secretary to facilitate a smooth transition.

Articles were written for *Golden Gardens* and eNews re the publication of the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* in late September. The new edition is available from National Association of Parliamentarians. You can order from their website if you cannot find it at Barnes and Noble or other book stores.

This officer has fielded a few questions received from our clubs and will try to assist with questions you may have. I attend parliamentary meetings to continue my education and encourage club and district officers to participate in such meetings offered by parliamentary units of California State Association of Parliamentarians and other groups.

We now have two lessons for the day:

Why do we take roll at our board meetings? Not to give perfect attendance awards at the end of the term, but to establish a quorum to make sure a sufficient number of board members, per the bylaws, are present to conduct the business of the organization. So when someone is called, you don't need to tell us she's in the rest room or you just saw him in the hall – because if you are not present at the time of roll call you just don't count toward establishing a quorum. The moral of this story is to arrive at meetings prior to the scheduled start time.

I made a motion during this morning's meeting (that the board meeting program be adopted as corrected) and heard someone in the audience say, "he (the Parliamentarian) can't do that." Historically, and from a *Robert's Rules* perspective, the parliamentarian has the same duty as the presiding officer to maintain a position of impartiality, and therefore does not make motions, participate in debate, or vote on any question except in the case of a ballot vote. However, in accordance with fairly new California law, parliamentarians who are members of the organizations they serve must have full membership rights, including voting privileges, (which CGCI bylaws now provide) in that organization. So it was OK that this officer made a motion (done in order to keep the meeting moving), but California parliamentarians should probably take such action sparingly in order to maintain a position of impartiality.

It is my pleasure to serve CGCI and this administration.

Treasurer, Joan Patten:

9:08 AM  
02/02/12  
Cash Basis

**California Garden Clubs, Inc**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of January 28, 2012

	Jan 28, 12
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
10100 · Cash in Checking Accounts	
10101 · BofA Business MMA 4096 .25%	52,522.55
10102 · BofA CGCI Checking 12962	35,224.96
10103 · G Gardens BofA Checking 06688	32,263.52
10105 · Symposium BofA Checking 17584	12,977.57
10106 · Events BofA Checking 75519	4,000.00
<b>Total 10100 · Cash in Checking Accounts</b>	<b>136,988.60</b>
10300 · Certificates of Deposit	
10302 · L Burbank CD899-2 5/20/12 1.08%	61,113.17
10303 · L Burbank CD075-3 3/25/12 1.13%	30,266.73
<b>Total 10300 · Certificates of Deposit</b>	<b>91,379.90</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>228,368.50</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>228,368.50</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>	
18000 · Prepaid Deposits	3,000.00
18500 · US Bank CD7664 4/8/14 4.00%	86,812.58
19000 · CGCI Endowment	
19010 · Principal Endowment-CGCI	33,000.00
19050 · Allowance for Change in FMV	-400.45
<b>Total 19000 · CGCI Endowment</b>	<b>32,599.55</b>
19500 · Scholarship Endowment	
19510 · Principal Endowment-Scholarship	64,755.00
19550 · Allowance for Change in FMV	734.73
<b>Total 19500 · Scholarship Endowment</b>	<b>65,489.73</b>
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>187,901.86</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>416,270.36</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Equity</b>	
30500 · Unrestricted Net Assets	
30700 · General Activities	
30701 · Available General Activities	102,451.91
30710 · CGCI Endowment Transfer	-30,000.00
<b>Total 30700 · General Activities</b>	<b>72,451.91</b>
31000 · Board Designated Net Assets	
31001 · Blue Star Memorial	3,230.30
31002 · Educational Schools	13,461.40
31003 · F.A.S.T.	1,000.00
31006 · Golden Gardens	32,263.52
31007 · Honor Book	9,683.25
31009 · Liability Insurance	77,559.58
31010 · Reforestation Fund	4,005.00
31011 · Symposium	
31011-1 · Symposium Reserve	14,515.62
31011-2 · Symposium Checking	12,977.57
<b>Total 31011 · Symposium</b>	<b>27,493.19</b>
31012 · Wildflower Conference	
31012-1 · Wildflower Conf Reserve	7,122.96
31012-2 · Wildflower Conf Checking	4,000.00
<b>Total 31012 · Wildflower Conference</b>	<b>11,122.96</b>

9:08 AM  
 02/02/12  
 Cash Basis

**California Garden Clubs, Inc**  
**Balance Sheet**  
 As of January 28, 2012

	<u>Jan 28, 12</u>
31013 · Youth Fund	2,242.48
<b>Total 31000 · Board Designated Net Assets</b>	<b>182,061.68</b>
<b>Total 30500 · Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	<b>254,513.59</b>
<b>31500 · Temp Restricted Net Assets</b>	
31501 · Awards	9,449.76
31503 · E. Miller Memorial Fund	3,250.00
31504 · H. Minor Memorial Fund	4,213.65
31505 · V. Bennetts Memorial Fund	475.00
31508 · Gardening Consultants Council	1,120.65
31509 · Judges Council	1,169.47
31510 · Landscape Design Council	1,714.80
31511 · President's Project	5,548.00
31512 · Project Mission Blue	1,595.00
31513 · Scholarship Donations Life Mbr	5,450.00
31514 · Endowment Marketing & Publicity	1,255.00
<b>Total 31500 · Temp Restricted Net Assets</b>	<b>35,241.33</b>
<b>31800 · Perm Restricted Net Assets</b>	
31801 · Copeland Fund	12,238.01
31805 · Endowment - CGCI	33,000.00
31806 · Endowment CGCI to Tnsf	500.00
31810 · Endowment -Scholarship	64,755.00
31811 · Endowment S/ship to Tnsf	1,000.00
<b>Total 31800 · Perm Restricted Net Assets</b>	<b>111,493.01</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>15,022.43</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>416,270.36</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>416,270.36</b>

### **Corresponding Secretary, Joelle Holford:**

I have received three pieces of correspondence in the last three months.

The Call to Winter Board was sent on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November via email with some sent US Mail. I had an extremely low response from members letting me know that the Call had arrived. This forced me to send out individual requests asking if you received your Call? I understand that some of our Board members do not know what a call is. Please refer to page 37 in your Yearbook. The Call to the 2012 Convention will be sent the third week of April please look for it and acknowledge by email that it arrived. The Call is also promptly posted on the CGCI website. If you have any changes to your e-mail or mailing address please get a hold of me with your corrections.

### **Interim Recording Secretary, Margaret Strachan:**

The deadline for the 100 words maximum, condensed reports from the chairmen and district directors is February 20. If you can, please send them by e-mail.

### **Third Vice President/Awards and e-newsletter, Pat Clayes**

- **Awards Committee Chairman**

This Officer has been working on the awards since Convention 2011. The CGCI website now contains all of the information which anyone could or would possibly need to submit an award and answer any question. Yes, CGCI knows that the awards process has been difficult this year with the new requirements for CGCI awards which are eligible to go on to Pacific Region and/or NGC (with the creation of a 3 page application form). It has surprised this Officer greatly how many clubs/district caught on and provided the necessary additional information.

Please note that the CGCI Awards Committee will be discussing the possibility of most of the CGCI awards (with the exception of some awards, e.g., flower show awards, publicity press books) going to the 3 page application form, just as NGC/Pacific Region did with most of their awards – that would mean, no more books of evidence for most awards. If you are GREAT at creating fantastic books of evidence and have mediocre projects, it's bad news. If you are awful at putting together books of evidence but have top blue ribbon-winning projects, it's good news. More information will come at convention.

Members of the Awards Committee are Win Archibald (Awards Finance), Joelle Holford, Shane Looper, Delores Moffat, Linda Riddle and Deanna Ridolfi (Photography).

- **e-Mail Address for CGCI**

This Officer receives all emails which are sent to CGCI and forwards the emails to the appropriate chairmen.

- **eNewsletter Chairman**

The CGCI eNewsletter now has 1,256 subscribers; the Consultants eNewsletter has 188 subscribers – 1,444 total subscribers! As you can tell, the eNewsletter subscriber list is growing! Please encourage all of your fellow club members to subscribe to both eNewsletters. They are both filled with important information which the clubs and districts will want to share. If clubs/districts need newsletter articles, these two eNewsletters are a wonderful source for articles.

- **Facebook Administrator**

Seventy-two people now “like” CGCI's Facebook page. The page is updated daily. Send your blurbs to this Officer (the Facebook Administrator), and she will post your photos, blurbs, advice, etc. Please ask your club members to place “likes” on the CGCI Facebook page (search for “California Garden Clubs” while on Facebook). If you are not a Facebook member, you can still view CGCI's page – just go to the home page of the CGCI website, lower left corner and click. It

contains lots of great info and tidbits for you to put into your club/district newsletter. And remember to send your club/district newsletters to this Officer, so she can extract items and place them on Facebook for the whole world to see what your club/district has been doing.

- **Golden Gardens**

This Officer was responsible for the Fall 2011 *Golden Gardens* layout.

- **Vonage Account – the 1-888 Number**

Voice mail continues to come to the 1-888 number – some important. This Officer has been weeding through the voice mail and redirecting the important ones to the appropriate chairmen/district directors to handle. All other voice mail is sent to the CGCI President to answer or discard. Most calls have to do with membership, the CGCI group tax exemption program or the CGCI liability insurance plan.

- **Website**

As you know, this Officer is not responsible for the website. However, she has been asked by President Julie West to post items of interest on the homepage blog. Needless to say, this chairman really enjoys posting blogs on the website – why don't you, as chairmen and district directors, take a stab at posting blogs. If you don't know how, I can help you. It seems like Robert Schuler and I are the only ones who are posting blogs. Let's get some blogs posted from all of you! It's fun and easy! Really!

### **Second Vice President/Membership, Sue Bennett:**

As of January 31, 2012, **276 clubs** with **16,610** members; **51 associate plant societies** with **3,561** members, total membership **20,171**.

CGCI promotional materials are in the lobby pick-up. Be sure to remind those who take these materials to put their club information in the space provide before using.

Working with Pamela Bishop of WebTech Therapy with a new online application, SALESFORCE.

It currently has all the membership information in it. Will be looking at other features that can be used.

It is my pleasure to introduce one new addition to CGCI:

**Flora Dora Design Guild**, Buttes District (6 members), President: Lucy Azama

Madam President, I move to ratify this new club.

Sue Bennett, CGCI Membership Chairman

### **First Vice President, Rita Desilets**

- **Convention and Board Meeting Chairman Report**

This chairman is pleased to report that all but one of the CGCI meetings for 2013-2015 have host districts ratified. Thank you to Arboretum District, San Fernando Valley District, Cascade District, Golden Foothills District and Sequoia Foothills Districts for their invitations. One district is needed to host Fall Board 2013.

Recently updated guidelines for hosting board meetings and Conventions are available to assist Districts in planning their events. Hotel Contracts Chairman, David West, is always ready to assist when needed.

A hotel comparison matrix has been developed listing items of importance to negotiate when meeting with the hotel salesperson. Copies of the matrix were distributed at the District Directors meeting.

- **Official Calendar Chairman**



This chairman welcomes additions to the Official Calendar at anytime. Before choosing dates for your event, please check with the Official Calendar Chairman to avoid unnecessary scheduling conflicts.

- **Bylaws and Policy Committee Chairman – Rita Desilets**

Five members of the Bylaws and Policy Committee, Rita Desilets, Chairman, Bev Brune, Sue Bennett, Mary-Jo Noth and Greg Pokorski met on Monday to discuss future proposed Standing Rule and Bylaw changes. We welcome your input for future bylaw changes.

- **Personnel Chairman**

This chairman helps the Nominating Committee compile a file containing the names of members eligible to serve on the CGCI Board of Directors. Although the personnel form is available on the CGCI website, copies have been made for those present. If you know of someone in your district or club who is a potential candidate, please encourage them to fill out a form and return it to Nominating Committee Chairman, Kathy Bramhall or to this chairman.

A recent invitation to attend the January Mendo-Lake District meeting was an ideal opportunity to promote serving CGCI as a Chairman or Executive Committee member. An appearance at the Montana de Oro District meeting held at this Winter Board meeting too promoted involvement in CGCI.

## **President, Julie A. West**

### **Highlights since 2011 CGCI Fall Board**

A highlight was the honor representing CGCI at National Garden Club's Fall Board held Sept. 22-25<sup>th</sup> in St. Louis, MO. It was this President's first visit to NGC headquarters adjacent to the Missouri Botanical Gardens. The rain did not deter us from tours of the grounds that included the Presidential Tree Collection planted to commemorate the presidents depicted on Mount Rushmore. Leadership workshops were held for the 49 state presidents in attendance followed by a full day of business the next day.

Additional highlights are visits to clubs and districts that include the following:

- Sacramento Floral Design Guild celebrating their 60th Anniversary.
- Calaveras County Garden Club where the opportunity to meet Steve Stocking (son of Kenneth M. Stocking) presented itself. Steve was proud to hear that signage for the Kenneth M. Stocking Native Plant Garden at Sonoma State University was this term's President's Project. When the club presented a donation, he jumped up to thank them first.
- Diablo Foothills District was the first official district visit of this term. Thanks to Jane and Stu Berger for spending their afternoon afterwards driving us to the summit of Mt. Diablo so we could see for ourselves the Interpretive Center that CGCI members raised over \$5,000 in donations to support. A beautiful diorama depicts mountain scenes including shrubs, trees, flora and fauna that inhabit Mt. Diablo and a plaque commemorates CGCI's contribution. I heard the comment "Doesn't it make you proud?" and I thought to myself, "Absolutely!".
- Luther Burbank District's visit was unique because it is my "home" district and was hosted by Santa Rosa Garden Club, my "home" club. I took advantage of the opportunity to thank them for co-hosting the 2011 CGCI Convention. There were actually people there that I did not know - not just within the district but also within my own garden club! I loved hearing about Bev Davies' coffee tin that she travels with when she visits clubs within the district that she circulates on behalf of the President's Project. I recall it being quite heavy and she talking about having to empty it soon to start refilling it.
- Attending Course II of Landscape Design School in Colfax, Course III of Flower Show School in Sacramento and Course IV of Environmental Studies School in San Mateo were educational opportunities not to be missed. Being a NGC Four-Star member, it is important to take advantage of the inexpensive educational opportunities presented when districts and clubs sponsor an NGC school! Encourage your district or club to sponsor any one of the four NGC schools available.

- Sacramento River Valley was the first district visit of 2012. Preparations are well underway for the 2012 convention being hosted at the Cal-Expo Doubletree in Sacramento. The theme is "Discover a Wealth of Golden Opportunities" so come explore the possibilities with the shortened format of this convention as it is one day/one night shorter!
- Mendo-Lake District was my last official visit before this meeting. This district also co-hosted the 2011 CGCI Convention in Rohnert Park and again, I took advantage of the opportunity to thank them for the fabulous memories they helped create. The district's butterfly chairman presented such a fabulous report on the Mission Blue butterfly that all I had to offer that she did not were CGCI Mission Blue butterfly pins for each donation of \$100.

These official visits are the "fun" part of serving as CGCI's president. I am honored to hear about the activities and projects both clubs and districts support all over California! "Thank you" seems inadequate for the magnitude of hospitality and generosity experienced with each visit but the memories created are "priceless" and will remain with me forever.

A challenge faced as this term's President is the use of California Garden Club's name and/or EIN by clubs and districts:

- One club applied to the Board of Equalization for a sales tax permit that generated a call to CGCI's toll-free telephone number. As treasurer, Joan Patten returned the gentleman's call and in that conversation we learned a different club was actually filing their reports using CGCI's name.
- A garden club managed to change the mailing address of CGCI with the IRS to that club treasurer's address. As a result, the list of CGCI Nonprofit Group Exemption clubs was sent to that club's treasurer when it should have been mailed to CGCI's treasurer, Joan Patten.
- That same garden club has double-filed the 990-N e-postcard with IRS using both their EIN and CGCI's EIN. CGCI files a 990EZ because CGCI is not eligible to file the 990-N e-postcard.
- A district had a bank account with Bank of America using CGCI's EIN. This district closed their account Feb. 1, 2012 and re-opened a new checking account with a new EIN obtained from IRS.

All of these instances have occurred within the last 60 days. What worries us is how many similar situations are out there that we are unaware of? There can be serious repercussions for both the club or district as well as CGCI from the IRS, California Franchise Tax Board and Board of Equalization. I think you would agree, none of us want to go down that path so **please** help us reinforce **under no circumstances is any garden club or district to use the name of California Garden Clubs, Inc. or CGCI's EIN**. Please double check your district and club records to confirm that you are in compliance. This is important - are you listening? Let me repeat PLEASE DOUBLE CHECK YOUR DISTRICT AND CLUB RECORDS TO CONFIRM THAT YOU ARE IN COMPLIANCE. Every member of CGCI's Board of Directors has a responsibility to assist in this endeavor.

Pursuing CGCI's objectives is our primary focus. A good example of that is the support received for both the President's Project and Project Mission Blue. A preview to Linda Simonds' President's Project report is the fact that we are getting close to ordering the first sign for Sonoma State University's Native Plant Garden - the Riparian Plant Community. I now travel with Mission Blue butterfly pins to give to anyone who makes a donation of \$100 and I sent \$300 to the chairman, Shane Looper, last week.

I hope you plan to join us for CGCI's 10th Wildflower Conference scheduled for April 4-6, 2012 in Palmdale. Merrilee Ray, Wanda Hewett and Donna Thomas have worked together as a team to put together a program of interesting speakers covering a variety of subjects. A highlight is the tour arranged to visit the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve that CGCI members, clubs and districts contributed to for almost twelve years and was dedicated April 17, 1982. You will find more information in the CGCI eNewsletter, the winter issue of *Golden Gardens* and posted on CGCI's website.

In conclusion, the team effort witnessed in so many different areas as people work together to solve various challenges that may arise has been commendable as we all work together for CGCI as an organization. I am proud to be included in the team effort demonstrated. Exploring the possibilities in conservation, gardening, creativity and inspiration together is how we can make the difference! As always, it is an honor to serve as your representative.

Respectfully submitted, Julie A. West

**CGCI 2012 Winter Board Meeting, Pismo Beach---Attachment B**

**STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Scholarships Committee, co-Chairman Albert Chang.** The Scholarship Committee met at Winter Board and selected the following recipients for the CGCI Scholarships. The winner of the Bob Gordon Scholarship is Stacy Hishinuma, a graduate student from UC Davis. The winner of the Maryanne Lucas Scholarship is Elizabeth Bowman, a graduate student at Antioch College in Los Angeles. The committee has chosen Margaret Maratsos to be our candidate for the Pacific Region Scholarship. The committee asks for the cooperation of all CGCI organizations to provide the chairman with the details of their scholarships.

**Endowment Committee, Chairman, Bob Gordon.**

We are still in the Endowment Charter Membership Year which will close June 1, 2012. We are having a special event at convention 2012. An Endowment Thank You Dinner with the President Monday June 4, reception 6PM dinner 7 PM at Maxies in the convention hotel. Cost \$95. If you donate a total of \$500 or more to an Endowment your evening is free. If you donate less than \$500 to an endowment you will receive free drink tickets. The event is open to all. Invitations in "The Call" to convention. Please join us for this evening of celebration.

Bob Gordon, Chair, Endowments

**Fall Board Meeting 2011, Stockton, Chairman—Chelsea Wilson.**

Hosted by Valley Lode District at the Stockton Hilton.

Registration:	Board members	88
	Club Presidents	5
	Spouses	10
	Guests	9
	Host district members	25
Total		138
Hotel Rooms:	Total 98	(27,38,33)
Meals:	Dinner	106
	Lunch	86
	Dinner	78
Total Revenue	\$14,193	
Expense	\$11,779.78	
Gain	\$2,413.22	\$300 donation to CGCI's President's Project.

We had underestimated the audio-visual expenses.

Those who attended and completed evaluation forms, your feedback has been considered and forwarded to the CGCI board for review.

Submitted by Chelsea Wilson, [gardenlark@yahoo.com](mailto:gardenlark@yahoo.com)

**Golden Gardens Editor---Julie A. West**

**No-one has stepped forward to be the Golden Gardens Editor, and Golden Gardens continues to rely on volunteers to fill the position.** While serving as Editor of *Golden Gardens*, this chairman is concurrently serving as President of CGCI. While each of these positions is a full-time job alone, having to perform the duties of both is double-duty! Each issue has taken 100+ hours gathering articles, having them proofread, making the suggested changes and corrections, etc. and these hours do not include the layout aspect. Proofreading assistance has been generously provided by Robin Pokorski, Pat Claves and Rita Desilets.

As stated at Fall Board, to assist with the layout situation for the remainder of this term, each Vice President will do one issue of the four quarterly issues. Pat Clayes did the layout for the Fall issue that included Seasons Greetings, Sue Bennett just completed the layout of the Winter issue (currently at the printer) and Rita will handle the Spring issue while I continue to layout the Summer issue. This continues to be a band-aid approach without going outside CGCI to hire professionals. The problem arises in the fact that the bulk of the work involved has fallen on CGCI's President and all three vice presidents in addition to their other duties. **Let there be no doubt, this is a burden for each one of us!** What choice do we have when no one wants to be the Editor or Assistant Editor in charge of Layout and the future of *Golden Gardens* relies on volunteers to fill these positions?

In addition to lack of volunteers willing to serve as Editor, there is the financial aspect. *Golden Gardens* costs over \$20,000 to produce four issues a year with a declining subscription base. Both printing and mailing expenses have increased with each issue. CGCI is the largest paid subscriber. When you remove CGCI as the largest subscriber, only 2,850 members representing 13.5% of CGCI's 21,000 members subscribe to *Golden Gardens*. CGCI's monthly eNewsletter currently has 1,256 subscribers that is free of charge and less than \$500 a year that represents 36% of the current *Golden Gardens* subscribers.

The following are excerpts from NGC President Shirley Nicolai's message from the November 2011 issue of *Keeping in Touch*...

A huge topic discussion at all levels of our organization is the print versus digital approach to publications. In many cases, the decision to "go digital" is a financial one, which leaves some of our members unhappy or even unable to cope. It is incumbent upon those of us who have adapted our lifestyles to communicating electronically and have access to good internet service to be supportive of those who feel left out.

Situations vary from club to club. However, let's have a buddy system to spread electronic communication and boost confidence. Done the right and fun way, mentoring and workshops can have truly positive life-changing results too. Let's have a win-win situation for all of our members. They are all special people who deserve our TLC.

CGCI is not the only state facing this dilemma. This could be an educational opportunity presenting itself for computer-savvy members within each club to mentor other club members. It may also open a whole new world to members who do not know what is available when they learn to use their computer. Often times this training session can be accomplished over the telephone. Whether we like it or not, electronic communication is likely our future with less expense and monthly newsworthy articles that has the potential of reaching more of CGCI's 21,000 members than the 3,500 members it currently reaches only four times a year.

What is the future of *Golden Gardens*? What suggested solutions do you have as a member of this Board of Directors? We would like to hear them. We only received one letter after fall board. So I ask you again, what suggested solutions do you have as a member of this Board of Directors?

As stated at Fall Board, this chairman does not like to present a report of this nature but I believe it is this chairman's duty as Editor to be honest and direct with you as to the precarious situation *Golden Gardens* is currently in.

#### **IRS Required Filings and Non-Profit Group Exemption, Mary-Jo Noth and George Perko.**

CGCI Tax-Exempt Group: Mary-Jo Noth, Chairman. Since Fall Board 2011, Atherton Garden Guild and Carlsbad Community Gardens Collaborative were notified that they had been accepted as members of the CGCI Tax-Exempt Group. Renewal packets were mailed September 30 to 116 clubs and 5 districts. Clubs were given advice as requested or needed. Reminder e-mails were sent to 56 clubs and 2 districts that had not returned renewals by December 18. The "Current IRS List" was received and reviewed, and corrections will need to be made. All but 9 clubs have returned their renewal information by the postmark deadline of February 1. Cash receipts have been processed.

**Life Memberships, Chairman--Carlotta Wixon**

Since the fall board meeting, only four (4) CGCI, one (1) Regional and two (2) National Applications have been processed. Promoting Life Memberships can be financially rewarding for your district. The G-12 and G-13 awards are cash awards. Each term, this chairman awards a certificate to each district that welcomes at least two new CGCI Life Members. The applications for the three (3) Life Memberships may be found on the CGCI website, from your district directors or from this chairman. If you are not presently a Life Member and would like to become one, we can start the process. If you have any questions about Life Memberships, please see this chairman during this board meeting.

After dealing with severe computer problems, this chairman will again be able to submit articles to Golden Gardens, which should boost the applications coming in. This chairman humbly apologizes to all that have been inconvenienced by the lack of email connections. Only my email was down, all other Life Membership work continued as before.

**Names to be ratified:**

**CGCI:**

Annie Hall-Bosché	Lake Forest G C.	Orange County District
Jane Berger	Walnut Creek G C.	Diablo Foothills District
Debbie Chan	La Penta G C.	Sacramento River Valley District
Ruth Strange	Cactus Wren G C.	Roadrunner District

**Pacific Region:**

Josephine Goodenow	Divide G C.	Golden Foothills District
--------------------	-------------	---------------------------

**National Garden Clubs, Inc:**

Josephine Goodenow	Divide G C.	Golden Foothills District
J.David West	Santa Rosa G C.	Luther Burbank District

**Youth Activities Coordinator, Maryanne Lucas:**

One New Club for Ratification:

**JUNCTION ELEMENTARY AFTER-SCHOOL GARDEN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club  
Golden Foothills District  
27 Members

On the first day of Spring, March 20, the CGCI Youth Program 2.0 will be rolled out with a announcements sent to all youth groups and garden clubs inviting them to take advantage of the new opportunities to be offered to youth gardeners. A small glimpse includes: 35 Free seed kits available twice per year for each group; "Garden Fair-In-A-Box"; monthly newsletter with ideas, activities and resources; Buttons for Bodacious Gardeners (BBG) with "Deeds and a Dollar" reward program.

**President's Project, Chairman---Linda Simonds**

Thanks to all of you for the generosity of the districts, clubs and individuals who have contributed to President Julie West's project. As of January 31, 2012, we have collected a total of **\$6108—\$1470** from individuals, **\$2485** from garden clubs and districts across the state and **\$2153** from "other" sources. Our goal is to fund and install three signs, an expense of \$22,500, during President Butterfly's term at the Native Plant Garden at Sonoma State University. We are currently working on the content of the Riparian sign—the first sign in the project which will be installed this spring.

**CGCI 2012 Winter Board Meeting, Pismo Beach – Attachment C**

**DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS**

**Arboretum, Shirley Stewart:** Our District is has ten clubs and approximately 600 members. Our goal this term is getting to know all our clubs/members better. We wear name tags at all meeting and encourage our members to attend our social/refreshment time before meetings. I started a newsletter for the District that is published every other month. We encourage all clubs to send in articles about upcoming events in their clubs. I spotlight one club in each issue. The President submits information

about the club past and present. We meet at the LA County Arboretum, which was badly damaged in the early December windstorms that hit our area.

**Bay Bridges, George Perko:** Summary of Activities Year to Date for Year Ended June 30, 2012  
The Bay Bridges District held its fall meeting on Sept. 22, 2011 in the historic Alta Mira House in San Leandro. 39 people from 9 member clubs attended. After an initial breakfast, the attendees picked up awards from the previous convention, learned about procedures for the current year's district awards program, and voted on the amount to award for the current year's scholarship for Merritt College horticulture students. They also learned about new IRS tax reporting requirements. Barbara Post reported on Plant Nomenclature for the Garden—(for Design, Too). Lita Gates, the guest speaker from Western Gardens Nursery in Livermore, gave a very entertaining, hands-on demonstration of putting together a container planting: everyone got potted with color. The container, a California Victory African violet, and Ice Follies daffodils from Julie West's garden were auctioned. Plans for placing a Blue Star marker were also initiated.

**Bay Ocean, Nancy McDougal:** District meetings have been better attended and increasingly seen to be both interesting and useful. We welcomed our 18<sup>th</sup> member club this fall and held our final Environmental Studies Course. We earned enough on our show garden at the County Fair that no other fund-raising was necessary and cut expenses by sending as many newsletters as possible as email attachments. Among the suggestions for interesting activities reported by member clubs was a progressive garden visitation, where the gardens were to be viewed 'as is', without the usual 'sprucing –up' necessary for a tour and followed by a pot-luck.

**Buttes, Krystal Migliore:** Look for Opportunities-  
Tap into talent: With a large number of very artistic members, Lake Oroville Area GC is holding a garden boutique sale rather than a traditional plant sale.  
Create your own: GC of Colusa County joined forces with other organizations to create a new community event. Instead of a stand alone plant sale, attendees can enjoy wine tasting, quilt show, art show and historic skit, too.  
Win-Win: Paradise GC formed a strategic alliance with a college nursery. At the end of the school year the college donates plants to the club. Once sold, the club sponsors college scholarships.

**Channel Islands, Beverly Switzer:** The Westlake Village GC held their annual anniversary lunch just this week. Proceeds from their In April, 2011, annual garden tour historically funds college scholarships. The Pleasant Valley GC opted to use co-presidents this year and it is working well. This club is well known for its Christmas Wreath project. Sharing seeds and the bounty of the harvest with fellow members is a foundation of the Conejo Valley Organic GC. This casual, low key club doesn't even provide a membership list, but meets in the evenings to accommodate its working members. Ojai Valley Garden Club is hosting this year's Channel Island District luncheon. OVGC is the oldest club in the district and mentored a group of ladies 50 years ago to form the Conejo Valley Garden Club. CVGC is holding a standard flower show in March and their very popular high Tea in May. 5 ladies representing 3 clubs decorated the dining room of the Stagecoach Inn Museum in Newbury Park for the Christmas holidays. The district held a program on Leadership in the fall and is looking forward to a program on "Romancing the Rose" this February.

**Costa Verde, Lorraine Orneals:** Members of Costa Verde District have changed their bylaws to meet only 3 times a year due to time constraints and member obligations. The meetings occur after the Director has had an opportunity to fulfill the obligation of attending the CGCI fall and winter board meetings and the convention feeling that this is the opportunity to share the important information obtained at the state meetings. Members of Costa Verde District were hostesses for the final course of the Landscape Design Study School chaired by Alexis Slafer. My heartfelt thanks to all the members who attended and worked so hard to make it a success. We were pleased to be able to return the initial grant of \$500 to CGCI for their advance seed money. One other strictly fun and fundraising day is our trip to the Costa Mesa Flower Show the third Thursday in April. We spend the entire day at the show in this three-level mall where you can buy everything and anything pertaining to gardening. Workshops are presented and we charge members \$10.00 to attend. Members look forward to this outing yearly.

**Diablo Foothills, Jane Berger:** Board Members voted to delete their meeting in January, a third meeting of the year. Now, both Directors and some members feel the time from our last meeting in September is too long. To recharge their memories, minutes of the October Membership meeting were emailed to the Board. A cover letter asked members to approve the minutes and report back if this is sufficient to be prepared for the upcoming Membership meeting. There will be a short discussion at our April Board meeting to decide if we will/not have a third annual Board meeting on January 24, 2013.

**Golden Foothills, Josie Goodenow:** The Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club in the Golden Foothills District has started a youth garden group. This dynamic group of 28 participants ranges from kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and meet weekly. The students are encouraged to talk, write and draw about their experiences. They are asked to try new fruits and vegetables, to eat healthier and to share their new knowledge with others. The group publishes a newsletter, which is sent home with students detailing the progress of the garden program, a calendar of upcoming events and opportunities for parents to expand their participation.

**Humboldt, Janean Guest:** Humboldt District has 5 clubs with some of the clubs memberships growing strong. The clubs support each other by attending each others fundraisers and community events such as the Fortuna Garden Club's annual Holiday Tea and Home Tour. The clubs continue to work on community beautification projects, like wildflower plantings and tree plantings and upkeep on their Blue Star Memorials. District Treasurer Anne Van Zandt and District Director Janean Guest will attend their 4th and final Flower Show School in Sacramento in April. They have learned a lot and had fun getting to know CGCI members from all over the state. The Eureka Sequoia club has been holding flower arranging workshops before each meeting to encourage members to enter in the 2 upcoming spring Flower Shows, Fortuna Garden Club's 37th Annual Daffodil Show and Southern Humboldt's Flower Show.

**Luther Burbank, Bev Davies:** The Windsor Garden Club, the district's youngest club has more than ever been innovative, energetic, and prosperous. As developer/ manager of the Town Green Community Garden, the club has finished the final stage of construction of planting boxes bringing the total to seventy one which most are already rented. Compost bins, fruit trees, and picnic table have been added to this one acre site. The club continues to plant seasonal drought tolerant plants at the Civic Center Demonstration Garden as well as conduct plant biannual plant sales, host a flower show, and create a cookbook. Members spearheaded raising funds to plant 5,000 daffodil bulbs at the Windsor Town Green. They initiated and raised \$2,000 toward a \$10,000 scholarship endowment through the Santa Rosa Junior College benefiting Windsor High School students. Since their beginning in 2009, they continue to promote their activities and have grown to more than 75 members.

**Mendo-Lake, Virginia Stranske:** Mendo-Lake is a very diverse District, consisting of 6 clubs, with three different climates, ranging from the pacific coast at Fort Bragg, inland to Lake County and south boarding on the grape vineyards with a mileage of as much as 100 miles in distance. Working together to educate their youth, to beautify their communities and to bring an awareness of a very delicate environment. Always trying for growth in numbers. Thank you President West and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Desilets, for being at Mendo-Lake, winter board meeting, January 25, 2012.

**Palms to Pines, Dann Dunst:** I would like to take this opportunity to share with you my DD project which has been met with great enthusiasm throughout our District. I have always been interested and promoting the creation of natural habitat sites. Borrowing from CGCI natural habitat award and the NWF, I created a project in which members of our district could be recognized for setting up a Natural Habitat Site and also receive awards and recognition. All they have to do is complete a one page application and send me at least one picture of their habitat. Upon doing so they receive a certificate recognizing their habitat. They can also make a donation and receive a plaque to post in their habitat, which I designed. The district also offers monetary awards (1st, 2nd, 3rd) to individual clubs who create the most habitats by membership and by percentage. Of course I encourage all applicants to carry it over for the CGCI Natural Habitat Award. Madam President I will look forward to presenting many of these awards at our annual

June Picnic, with you as our guest. I would also like to recognize the Redlands Horticultural and Improvement Society who will be conducting their 100th consecutive flower show in April.

**San Fernando Valley, Pat Zarnoski:** District has changed its emphasis from emulating a garden club to supporting and aiding our clubs. This is being done by disseminating information effectively and having programs that inspire the clubs to grow in strength and / or numbers. The district theme is "A Time to Grow." George Speer, CGCI District Director Coordinator, was our speaker in October. He presented ideas on "change" – how and why change can improve your club. Next week Maryanne Lucas, immediate past CGCI President, will speak on how technology will influence the character and function of garden clubs. As to individual garden clubs, the big news is that Southern California Garden Club will sponsor a Gardening Study School beginning this July 2 and 3 in Encino. Brochures are available from Robin Pokorski or me with all the details. Burbank Valley Garden Club will be installing a butterfly garden at the Boys & Girls Club of Burbank. West Valley Garden Club held a fundraiser tea in October. Woodland Hills Floral Designers held a flower show in December and Pauline Sechi presented a flower arranging program in January. Toluca Lake Garden Club's Spring Tea is coming up in April, along with Sherman Oaks Garden Club's "Roaring 20s" tea. San Fernando Valley District is exploring the possibilities and growing strong! Thank you.

**Santa Clara Valley, Roseann Costabile; Furyu Floral Designers** are hosting Janice Hamlin, judge and instructor for a floral design program on March 7 which is open to the public. **San Jose Garden Club** is celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. They donated \$1000 to the Veggilution Community Farm Project which promotes organic vegetable gardening in low income neighborhoods. **Marina Tree and Garden Club** together with the City of Marina established a greenbelt area along bike paths, ponds and highways where they plant native buckeye, coastal oaks and provide other seedlings, drip systems and planting materials.

**Valley Lode, Bob Taylor;** 18 clubs, 1432 members, 6 clubs visited Nov.- Jan. As our club membership ages we need to look for different ways to attract new members. Clubs are experimenting with different times for meetings; evening and Saturday meetings; and increased advertising. We are seeing an increase in member's reluctance to take on leadership roles. We are experimenting with skill training to build confidence in potential candidates. Communities are increasingly looking to local nonprofits, including garden clubs, to pick up the slack left by city downsizing of employees to help cleaning and maintaining public areas. Several of our clubs are responding to the need and consequently raising the club awareness in the community. Upcoming events: A Leadership Workshop will be held February 28<sup>th</sup> for all club leaders and potential leaders to teach basic skills along with topics of interest identified by club members. Workshop leaders will be club members from across the district.

**CGCI 2012 Winter Board Meeting, Pismo Beach, Attachment D.**

#### CHAIRMEN REPORTS

**Awards Finance, Win Archibald:** Only one sponsor has a balance owing and will send a check. Two checks, \$25 and \$40, were sent to two sponsors who had not renewed their sponsorships but had funds remaining. As of this date \$3590.00 in payment has been received. Awards Finance Records show a balance for Awards Restricted Fund of \$8707.64 including a carryover balance of \$5182.64. Awards Finance supports CGCI's awards process by collecting funds from sponsors to enable the prizes given at the CGCI convention each year.

**Banner Orders, Rita Desilets:** You can have a professionally designed (2ft by 6ft) banner to attract attention to your club or district. Use at plant sales, monthly meetings, flower shows or schools. A simple PVC stand can be ordered, or make your own using the free instructions on the CGCI website. Stands will be delivered at any board meeting or convention or they can be shipped. A FREE banner bag will be provided with orders of both the banner and stand. District Directors, if your district is hosting a board meeting or convention, ask each of your clubs to bring their banner to make an impressive display, hotel space permitting. Orders have been pouring in from Palomar District – our 2013 Convention hosts.



**Blue Star Memorial Markers, George Unrine:** CALTRANS ordered two highway markers to replace markers located at rest stops south of Tipton on Route 99 with a dedication this summer. El Cerrito GC ordered a byway marker for the Richmond Museum of History with a dedication on May 30th. Based on club inquiries, I expect several more markers will be ordered before Convention. CALTRANS is storing three old highway markers in the Oakland area and plans to return one to service as part of the Bay Bridge project. The other two markers need to be refurbished and suitable locations found before they can be returned to service.

**California Natives, Margaret Strachan:** Celebrate California Native Plant Week held each year in the third week of April. This year it will be from April 15- April 21. California has nearly 6000 native plants, each being perfectly adapted to grow in one or more of the diverse habitats in this state. They can thrive with little irrigation beyond rainfall, and require little or no fertilizer and pesticides. Dozens of public events will be held throughout the state to celebrate California Native Plant Week. Visit a local botanical garden or arboretum, or a native plant nursery. Join a native garden tour, attend a workshop, plant a native! For a complete list of local events, activities and more information on California native plants see [www.cnpweek.org](http://www.cnpweek.org) This information has been given to the district directors.

**Certificates, Lynne Hansen:** Since September, 2011 I have issued long term certificates have been issued to: Hoe and Hope Garden Club members of Bay Bridges District:

Joan Adams, 30 years

Flo Bryan, 57 years

Marilyn Clowdsley, 50 years

Sandy Forderer, 23 years

Ann Healy, 40 years

Marilyn Johnson, 49 years

Katie Nutting, 36 years

Suzi Soper, 31 years

Lodi Garden Club, Valley Lode District, 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Chula Vista Garden Club, Palomar District, 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Arvilla Luce, Naples Islands Garden Club, Costa Verde District, 39 years

Elizabeth Chapman, Crown Garden Club of Coronado, Palomar District, 44 years

San Jose Garden Club, Santa Clara District, 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Westlake Village Garden Club of Channel Islands District:

40 years: Barby Ballman, Millie Dove and Joyce Prouty

30 years: Beverly Brune, Annjane Clough, Edith Huse, Marion Ward and Molly Zimmermann

20 Years: Betty Rohan, Connie Higgins, Jo Maturo, Jackie Van Vechten, and Barbara Song

Floral Design Study Club – Montana de Oro District- 34th anniversary

Los Osos Valley Garden Club- Montana de Oro District – 79<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Conejo Valley Garden Club of Channel Islands District

40 years: Melanie Du Beau

30 years: Lisa Cosand, Sandy Richeson.

Colfax Garden Club of Golden Foothills District:

Myrtle Findley – 36 years

Gertrude Paul – 35 years

Doris Toms- 32 years

Juanita Lorang – 32 years

Caroline Hickson- 30 years

Addie Dougherty – 23 years

Mary Fletcher – 22 years

Mavis Wright – 22 years

Santa Rosa Garden Club of Luther Burbank District  
Pat Collins- 25 years  
Dana Lozano- 25 years

Information about these certificates can be found in the 2011-12 year book on pages 30 and 60.

**Flower Show Awards, Susan Coolidge:** In 2011, 14 flower shows were registered; twelve were evaluated. Seven applied for Awards. In 2012, 7 shows are registered. Please register *your* show. Many of us judge fairs, which do not register with CGCI. However, we use NGC standards while judging anywhere. Please register your show and have it evaluated; you'll learn a lot by meeting with the judges and hearing their comments. If you do prepare a Book of Evidence, Remember to include photos showing overall staging, and be sure to show evidence of publicity. Double check the Schedule against the Scale of Points for Judging a Schedule, found in the *Handbook*, p.306. Show evaluators don't always scrutinize the schedule, but Award judges must be thorough, and this can affect scores.

**Garden Therapy, Bonnie Wagner:** In this report I talk about my experience with Huntington View Garden Club's Garden Therapy project and the preparation of a Book of Evidence. I request information from clubs about their garden therapy projects including pictures, examples that they will be willing to share with other clubs. I hope to have the information available at the State Convention in June. I also request that information on public gardens designed for the handicapped be sent to me in order to continue compiling a list of gardens and facilities throughout the state to be published at a later day. I have included a form for this purpose in my report.

**Gardening Consultants Council, Myrtle Findley:** Two winners of our OUTSTANDING PRIVATE GARDEN Award will be presented on Wednesday:  
Cindy Roberts: 5458 High Ridge Road, Paso Robles  
Maude Leslie: 2100 Palomino Drive, Los Osos  
The council is considering a new award for individuals, clubs and districts to be awarded for Horticulture Excellence...in private and public gardens.

**Gardening Study Schools, Greg Pokorski:** Series 21 in Loomis/Citrus Heights concluded with Course IV in September. 10 tested – 8 completed the series to become full-fledged Consultants – 1 refreshed. Dos Valles GC presented an excellent Bi-Refresher (GSS and LD) in October. 22 attended – 7 Gardening Consultants refreshed. 12 Consultants lapsed (despite many reminders & numerous opportunities to refresh) as of 12/31/11. Southern California GC is sponsoring Series 22, ratified at this WBM. Course I – July 2 & 3, 2012; Course II – August 30 & 31, 2012. Flyers/registration forms for Courses I and II were placed in the District Director mailboxes.

**Golden Gardens Angels and Seasons Greetings, Carol Mayo:** First of all, we thank you for your financial support of the Angel Fund and Seasons Greetings. We received 28 greetings for our December *Golden Gardens* and only 9 of you sent Angel Messages. Your contributions to both of these came to nearly \$1,000. When this chairman was teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, extra credit words were listed on the blackboard. One of the words was preacher. Amy said, "A preacher is a man who talks about money in church!" This chairman doesn't pretend to be a preacher, but we certainly encourage you to keep our *Golden Gardens* operating in the black by remembering someone special with your \$25 gift to the Angel Fund. When September rolls around, we will remind you about getting your Season's Greetings in our December issue.

**Home Grown, Myrtle Findley:** Three winners were chosen in the HT-3 Green Recipe Award. A cook off was held in January to judge the best tasting. Entries still need to learn what Home Grown really means. NO commercially processed food is to be included. The evaluation sheet must be read and followed, as well as the recommendation to contact this Chairman and review ingredients before mailing, or faxing entry.

**Landscape Design Council, Patricia Clayes:** Since last summer, the California LDC awarded 12 awards. Particularly of interest, two Los Angeles County police officers were given Certificates of Appreciation in recognition of their outstanding skill in managing good land use at the 101 Hollywood Freeway tunnel and embankment at Lemon Grove Avenue and Kingsley Drive, Los Angeles. The sides of the Kingsley tunnel had always been plagued with gang tagging and illegal dumping of trash, etc., so the officers wanted to improve the landscape around the tunnel and to rid the area of graffiti and developed a simple beautification project.

**Landscape Design Schools, Alexis Slafer:** Congratulations to the 40 new Landscape Design Consultants & 10 refreshing consultants of 2011. The 2 Landscape Design Schools took advantage of the newly relaxed time restrictions between courses. Costa Verde District completed their school in just over a year and Colfax in just over 2 months. This Chair would like to work with your district so you could have a school in your own backyard. Landscape Design courses provide opportunities to learn about good land use and have a lot of fun at the same time.

**Liability Insurance, Gloria Aminian:** Many clubs have applied for CGCI's Insurance. Those that haven't can do so but **must** send in the \$20 late fee. Additional insured certificates don't incur late charges. Membership and district dues have to be paid for the coverage to be in effect. Dues and Insurance are separate entities and are paid at different times. Many treasurers had the opportunity to disclose their number of members or how many attendees hopefully will attend their events. This information is required by the insurance company. Nothing is processed until all the lines are answered so PLEASE give all info being asked.

**Member Award of Distinction, Lynne Hansen:**

I have issued one Member Award of Distinction certificate. Honoree was Windsor Garden Club of Luther Burbank District.

**National Garden Week, Helen Gregory:** The following materials were distributed to district directors:

- 1) NGC National garden Week promotional Materials Order Form
- 2) NGC Email-National Garden Week Information and Websites
- 3) National Garden week Proclamation
- 4) National Garden Week Poster.

Clubs should be encouraged to promote and participate in this worthy project. Page 109 of CGCI's Yearbook contains information regarding awards which should interest your awards chairman. The attractive proclamation and poster can be used in your local libraries, florists, nurseries and garden centers to attract and interest new members. The above listed items are free from NGC. The proclamation can be downloaded from NGC's website at <http://gardenclub.org/SpecialProjects/NationalGardenWeek.aspx>. The posters can be ordered by using the NGC order form. Please feel free to call me with questions.

**Natural Resources, Dwight Holford:** "Climate Change Projections for California's Bay Delta System: 5 things Resource Managers should know.: USGS This Bay-Delta system provides a) Essential habitat for aquatic species, including Pacific salmon, steelhead trout and delta smelt. b) Irrigation water to millions of acres of farmland that produce crops valued at \$36 billion per year. c) Water to 25 million people. % **conclusions:** 1) There is uncertainty about how the Bay-Delta system will evolve in the future (Flexibility and adaptability will be necessary for effective adaptation strategies. 2) Today's extremes could become tomorrow's norms. 3) It's not just climate change (it's also land-use change. 4) Biological community changes are inevitable. 5) The challenge of meeting California's water demand will intensify.

**Operation Wildflower, Merilee Ray and Wanda Hewett:** The planning for the CGCI Wildflower Conference 2012, is now complete. All that is lacking is your registration forms to be turned in. The date to remember is April 4<sup>th</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup>. The committee has planned a very educational and enjoyable event, and will expect each one of you to be registered by the end of this meeting. One of the special events will be a meet and greet reception on the evening of April 4<sup>th</sup>. Beginning at 8:30 am on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 7 well known and knowledgeable speakers will begin presentations and at 12:15 all will enjoy a lunch break. After lunch the presentations will continue until approximately 4:30 pm. A wonderful dinner is scheduled from 6:00 to

9:00pm, with entertainment at 7:00p.m. The following morning the group will depart at 9:00 am for a tour of the Antelope Valley Poppy Reserve. This will be car pool. A box lunch at the Reserve will be enjoyed by all. The day's activities and close of the Conference is scheduled to end at approx 2:00 pm. There is much to see, and many places to visit in the Antelope Valley, should you have some extra time. We hope you will all come and enjoy....

**Penny Pines, Pat York:** Happy New Year to all of you from me, your Penny Pines Chairman—I hope that you all had a good Holiday Season and as we move into the 2012 year, that your clubs in your districts are ready to continue their clubs generous support of the Penny Pines Program. The last few years our California Garden Clubs have really outdone themselves in supporting our forest service in their donation of monies for replanting the many forest areas of our state that were destroyed by fires, some by mother natural's lightening strikes, but mostly by the carelessness of human visitors to the forest. So, when you, especially our District Directors, return to your districts that you continue to remind your clubs to continue their generous support of this very worthwhile project and keep California green and golden.

**Permanent Files, Rita Desilets:** The permanent files are kept safely in a designated closet in this chairman's home.

**NGC President's Project Coordinator, Linda Simonds:** Thanks to all of you for the generosity of the districts, clubs and individuals who have contributed to President Julie West's project. As of January 31, 2012, we have collected a total of **\$6108—\$1470** from individuals, **\$2485** from garden clubs and districts across the state and **\$2153** from "other" sources. Our goal is to fund and install three signs, an expense of \$22,500, during President Butterfly's term at the Native Plant Garden at Sonoma State University. We are currently working on the content of the Riparian sign—the first sign in the project which will be installed this spring.

**Shrubs/Trees, Linda Smith:** It's time to plant and prune. Stroll through your gardens; make notes for spring and summer plantings, or changes. Visit your local nurseries. Many bareroot plantings are now available. It's the perfect time to plant bareroot roses, shrubs, fruit and nut trees, vines, native trees, berries and grapes. But remember, plants that are planted correctly, trained and pruned correctly from a young age are easier to maintain, will live longer, and be more structurally sound over the years. Pick the right tree for the right place. California Arbor Day – March 7, 2012 – Plant a tree!

**Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest, Denise Davis:** For the past 51 years the National Garden Club has been sponsoring the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl contest in order to teach school age children the importance of fire prevention and to encourage personal responsibility for the environment. This year, in California alone, more than 488 children participated by making and entering posters. This included 19 public schools, 3 private schools, 1 charter school, a Brownie troop and Cub Scout troop. Eighteen garden clubs and one horticulture society were represented from 11 districts. This chairman received 193 posters which were judged by her local fire department and a committee at the winter board meeting. The winners and the districts which represented them will be notified via letter in March with an invitation to attend the Youth Recognition Luncheon at the convention in June.

**State Parks, Janet Eyre:** Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve. The 1800 acre State Reserve, in The Antelope Buttes 15 miles west of Lancaster California located on California's most consistent poppy-bearing land. Other wildflowers share the desert grassland to produce the mosaic of color each year. As unpredictable as nature – the intensity and duration of the wildflowers varies yearly. The Poppy Reserve was established to protect and preserve countless areas of wildflowers, Joshua Trees and open land. The 2,000 square foot Jane S. Pinero Interpretive Center was opened in 1982 named after a longtime Antelope Valley resident. She dreamed of a poppy park where our state flower could be preserved for future generations.

**Website, Ed Dempsey:** All members have permission to add information to the web site. We have 64users that can add info to parts of our web site. Some are very active and others not so much. I would like to let you know if you asked for a change to a page on the site and you go back to see if it was done,

before you take a look be sure to clear your browser history and sometimes you may have to reboot your computer to force the system to go out and get the new page. Thank you.

**Yearbook Team Coordinator, Carmen Black:** This chairman has been updating and will continue to update our current yearbook. Work on the 2012-2013 yearbook (obtaining current information and policy changes, etc.) will begin after Convention. A printed sheet of our current "Yearbook Corrections" will be placed in district directors' mailboxes. Executive Committee's copy will be handed to them at this board meeting and Chairmen may pick their copies up at the Chairmen's Forum or at the "Gently Used Jewelry" table. President Julie West has asked all chairmen to create a procedure manual for each of our positions. This chairman is in the process of making that happen. The manual will be of great importance and usefulness to the next CGCI Yearbook Chairman. As soon as the Budget Committee determines what the final dollar amount will be to cover the cost of printing, etc., for the 2012-2013 yearbook, this chairman will begin to obtain quotes for the printing of the yearbook.

**CGCI 2012 Winter Board Meeting, Pismo Beach. ATTACHMENT E**

**COURTESY RESOLUTION**

WHERE AS,

The members of California Garden Clubs, Inc. attending the 2012 Winter Board Meeting "Explore the Possibilities Along the Central Coast:" at The Cliffs Resort, Pismo Beach, California, February 6-9, 2012 have benefited from information learned at this meeting and will disseminate this information to their districts, clubs, associate plant societies and affiliates; and

WHERE AS,

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

RESOLVED,

That CGCI President Julie A. West, through her gracious, informational and fun presiding, and the members, chairmen and officers, through their dedicated concern in the deliberations of this meeting, be commended for their spirit of cooperation; and

RESOLVED,

That sincere thanks be given to the Montana de Oro District, District Director Linda Hicks and Chairman of the Winter Board Meeting, Nancy Johnson, as well as all of her committee chairmen--- especially those involved with the lovely floral arrangements, gift bags, raffle baskets and those helping with the silent gently worn jewelry silent auction --- and all those who planned and participated in the success of the meeting and assured its success by their many courtesies extended; and

RESOLVED,

That appreciation be given to our workshop presenters Dr. Joe Sabol on grafting; and Peggy Cook on Monarch Butterflies; and to our speakers, Dr. Matt Ritter on trees of California; Melinda Lynch on creative table settings from the Dollar Store; and our speaker, on the career of Julia Morgan; and

RESOLVED,

That sincere appreciation be extended to those involved with the San Luis Lighthouse tour held on Tuesday; and to our very own V.I.P. person-in-the-know with the I.R.S, CPA George Perko; and,

RESOLVED,

That appreciation also be extended to The Bald Spots for their special entertainment this evening; and to the entire staff of The Cliffs Resort for their many courtesies extended; and,

RESOLVED,

That this resolution be incorporated into the minutes and that copies be sent to Madam Butterfly our CGCI President Julie A. West, Montana de Oro District Director Linda Hicks, Winter Board Chairman Nancy Johnson, Secretary Margaret Strachan and the staff of The Cliffs Resort.

Joan Craig

Courtesy Resolutions Chairman

(Adopted February 8, 2012)