

California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Minutes of the Winter Board Meeting
Feb. 3-4, 2015
DoubleTree by Hilton Fresno Convention Center
Fresno, California
Rita Desilets, President
Host: Sequoia Foothills District

President Rita Desilets called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2015.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst was present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Diane Lane, 2015 CGCI Winter Board Meeting Co-Chairman.

The inspiration was given by Judy Silguero, Sequoia Foothills District Director.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Lorraine Ornelas.

President Rita Desilets presented the CGCI Executive Committee, former CGCI Presidents and Pages.

Winter Board Co-Chairmen Diane Lane and Carley Metcalf welcomed the CGCI Board of Directors to the Winter Board Meeting in the Sequoia Foothills District.

The Host Committee was thanked for their support and hospitality.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst called the roll and the Chair declared a quorum.

EXCUSED: Mary Bettlach, Beverly Brune, Anne Capes, Diane Charbonneau, Roseann Costabile, Joyce Dean, B.J. Doerfling, Mona Dunlop, Dann Dunst, Helen Gates, Chuck & Mary Lou Goodwin, Launa & Mike Gould, Rosalie Hooper, Joelle Holford, Gudy Kimmel, Marlene Kinney, Linda & Ron Lang, Maryanne Lucas, Carole Lung, Angela Michaels, Doris Nagy, Marilyn Oberti, Gertrude Paul, Dorothy Roton, Hoberley & Robert Schuler, Shirley Stewart, Margaret Strachan, Bev Switzer, Bonnie Wagner, Martha Ann Walter, Emily Wisneski, Pat York.

President Rita Desilets announced that the Rules of Order for Board Meetings were accepted at the Organizational Meeting in June 2013 for this entire term and can be found on page 6 of the Winter Board Meeting Program as well as on page 27-28 of the 2014-2015 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*.

Diane Lane, Co-Chairman of the 2015 CGCI Winter Board Meeting moved to adopt the Winter Board Meeting Program as printed. **Passed.**

Registrar Robin Pokorski presented the Winter Board Registration Report with a total of 124 registrants.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski moved to adopt the Minutes of the September 4-5, 2014 Fall Board Meeting in Redding as distributed for Gail Vanderhorst by CGCI Mail Distribution on September 23, 2014 – Lorraine Ornelas, Chairman, Sue Bennett, and Greg Pokorski. **Passed.**

Without objection the Chair appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of this meeting: Greg Pokorski, Chairman, Sue Bennett and Rosa Radicchi.

Robin Pokorski moved to elect Gudrun Kimmel, Sue Bennett and Rebecca Ferguson as delegates to the Pacific Region Convention, April 20-23, 2015 in Eugene, Oregon. **Passed.**

President-Elect Sue Bennett moved to elect Sue Bennett, Josie Goodenow and David West as delegates to the NGC Convention, May 15-17, 2015 in Louisville, Kentucky. **Passed.**

Financial Reports

Treasurer Joan Patten reported.

- **Financial Reports: as of January 30, 2015**
Net Worth
Total Cash including CD's: \$ 209,818.74
Other Assets including GG: \$ 244,802.19
Total Assets: \$ 454,620.93
of which Restricted Funds are: \$ 322,689.85
Cash Balance Available \$ 131,931.08

Officer's Reports

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported. See Attachment A.

Communications Director Jane McKee reported. See Attachment A.

Financial Secretary Shane Looper reported.

Corresponding Secretary Rosa Radicchi reported. See Attachment A.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst reported. See Attachment A.

2nd Vice-President Krystal Migliore reported (see Attachment A) and moved to ratify the following clubs for membership in CGCI.

- Clubs: Cupertino Green Club, 19 members
President: Pati Palmer, Santa Clara Valley District
- Redwood Coast Succulent Club, 10 members
President: Larissa Haney, Humboldt District
- San Francisco Fern Society, 14 members
President: Daniel Yansura, Bay Ocean District **Passed.**

President-Elect Sue Bennett reported (see Attachment A) and read the President's Project Resolution for the 2015-2017 term.

Whereas, National Garden Clubs, Inc. provides many educational opportunities youth at the pre-school, elementary, middle and high school level; The purpose of the youth gardening programs is to introduce gardening, conservation, protection of wildlife, recognition of plants, trees and shrubs,

basic flower arrangements, and a love and appreciation of nature; The goal is that they will be future citizens who will be responsible and capable with greater self-expression, dignity, integrity and knowledge of their environment; and

Whereas, California Garden Clubs, Inc. has been supporting youth gardening groups in California since 1931 and the goals and development are consistent with those of NGC; and

Whereas, The goal of this project is to raise awareness of CGCI by distributing/ mailing an “*Encouraging Future Gardeners Kit*,” and

Whereas, A letter promoting CGCI and a questionnaire will be sent to established youth organizations such as 4-H groups, Future Farmers of America (FFA), Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, after school programs, Community Gardens and CGCI youth groups; and

Whereas, The kit will contain donated seeds, printed instructions, a pot and a reporting form; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That California Garden Clubs, Inc. adopt “*Encouraging Future Gardeners*” as the 2015-2017 President’s Project; and

Resolved, That donations from individuals, clubs, districts and businesses shall be held in a CGCI Restricted Fund – “*Encouraging Future Gardeners*” until such time the monies are used to purchase material for gardening kits and mailings; and

Resolved, That any funds remaining in the CGCI Restricted Fund – “*Encouraging Future Gardeners*” as of June 30, 2017 shall be donated to the CGCI Youth Awards Program.

President Rita Desilets reported. See Attachment A.

Standing and Special Committee Reports

Board of Trustees Chairman Julie West reported. See Attachment B.

Endowment Funds Promotion Chairman and Awards Co-Chairman Bob Gordon reported.

Life Membership Chairman Carlotta Wixon reported. See Attachment D.

Carlotta Wixon moved to ratify the following CGCI and Pacific Region Life Members. **Passed.**

CGCI

Black, Carmen	Santa Rosa GC	Luther Burbank District
Craig, Joan	Colfax GC	Golden Foothills District
Chang, Albert	Southern California GC	San Fernando Valley District
Hinrichs, Annette	Green Thumb GC	Luther Burbank District
Metcalf, Carley	Four Seasons GC	Sequoia Foothills District
Munoz, Judy	Cactus Wren GC	Roadrunner District
Van Velson, Connie	Long Beach GC	Costa Verde District

Pacific Region

Metcalf, Carley	Four Seasons GC	Sequoia Foothills District
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CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program Chairman Bev Davies moved to ratify the following groups to the CGCI Tax Exemption Program:

Cupertino Green Club, Santa Clara Valley District

Sunshine Garden Club, San Fernando Valley District. **Passed.**

Bev Davies moved to ratify the withdrawal of the following GTEP groups from the CGCI Tax Exemption Program:

Burlingame Garden Club, Bay Ocean District (disbanded 12/31/14)

Flora Dora Design Guild, Buttes District (disbanded 12/16/14)

Gardeners92130, Palomar District (disbanded 1/31/15)

Huntington Beach Community Garden, Orange County District (received 501(c)(3) directly from IRS)

La Casa Garden Club, Sequoia Foothills District (requested no longer participation in GTEP 11/25/14). **Passed.**

President Rita Desilets recessed the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

Business meeting #2

The meeting was reconvened on Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Bylaws and Policy Committee Chairman Sue Bennett introduced committee members and announced that the Executive Committee recommends approval of the following amendments to the Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Bylaws and Policy Committee Chairman Sue Bennett moved on behalf of the Bylaws and Policy Committee that the following bylaw amendments be recommended to the voting membership at the 2015 Convention in Reno, Nevada.

PROVISO: proposed bylaw amendment ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP & DUES Sec. 3 (a); shall take effect July 1, 2016, if raising dues from \$.50 to \$1.00 per capita is approved at the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention in May 2015. NOTE: if not approved, no change is necessary.

1) Now Reads:

Sec. 3 (a) Garden clubs and associate plant societies shall pay annual dues of two dollars twenty-five cents (\$2.25) per capita, which shall include dues to NGC.

Amend by replacing “two dollars twenty-five cents (\$2.25)” with “two dollars seventy-five cents (\$2.75)”

To Read:

Sec. 3 (a) Garden clubs and associate plant societies shall pay annual dues of two dollars seventy-five cents (\$2.75) per capita, which shall include dues to NGC.

Rationale: To include National Garden Clubs price increase in CGCI dues.

President Rita Desilets recessed the meeting at 9:12 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 9:20 a.m.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP & DUES Sec. 3 (a) PASSED

2) ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS (page 88)

Now Reads:

Sec. 2. The board of directors shall be the governing body of this corporation and shall: (a) at no time modify action taken by members at the annual convention; (b) transact routine business; (c) adopt standing rules; and (d) ratify all classes of membership.

Amend by deleting “(a) at no time modify action taken by members at the annual convention;” and renumber remaining items.

To Read:

Sec. 2. The board of directors shall be the governing body of this corporation and shall: (a) transact routine business; (b) adopt standing rules; and (c) ratify all classes of membership.

Rationale: To clarify, not necessary since there are bylaw protections for the membership.

PASSED

3) ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS (page 89)

Now Reads:

Sec. 7. Business of the board of directors (including all committees and the board of trustees) may be conducted by mail (electronic or postal) or by telephone conference (as long as all members may simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting). A report of any action taken by the board of directors by mail or by telephone conference shall be announced and made part of the minutes of the next board meeting.

Amend by replacing “telephone conference” with “electronic communication” in both occurrences and replace “as long as” with “provided”

To Read:

Sec. 7. Business of the board of directors (including all committees and the board of trustees) may be conducted by mail (electronic or postal) or by electronic communication (provided all members may simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting). A report of any action taken by the board of directors by mail or by electronic communication shall be announced and made part of the minutes of the next board meeting.

Rationale: To update conducting of meetings and allow for new technological advances

PASSED

4) Article XI – ANNUAL MEETINGS Section 8 (page 91)

Now reads:

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

Amend by deleting “registration and credentials” in first line and change chairmen to chairman. Add new sentence that reads “Registrar and credentials chairman, may be members of a club in the host district(s) or may be standing committee chairmen appointed by the president.”

To Read:

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

Rationale: Reduce the number of functions that must be performed by the convention host district. The CGCI Registrar can easily adopt processes established for board meeting registration to handle

convention registration. Credentialing is technical and can be difficult for a host district chairman who does this only once. Confusion can be eliminated and expertise established by having a CGCI board member perform the function annually.

PASSED AS AMENDED

5) ARTICLE XII – FINANCES (page 91)

Now Reads:

Sec. 4. Interest from investments of scholarship funds shall accrue to the scholarship fund. Interest from all other investments shall accrue to the general fund.

Amend by deleting.

Rationale: Not current practice.

PASSED

6) ARTICLE XII – FINANCES (page 91)

Now Reads:

Sec. 6. The budget and finance committee shall: (a) include the financial secretary, who shall serve as the chairman, first vice-president, treasurer, chairman of the board of trustees, and up to three (3) members who shall be appointed by the president; (b) submit the annual corporation budget for adoption at the organizational board meeting; and (c) recommend on proposed transfers or increases to budget accounts or expenditures of money in excess of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) outside of budget before any action by the board of directors.

Amend by inserting “/president-elect” after first vice-president and insert after board of trustees “Group Tax Exemption Program Chairman”

To Read:

Sec. 6. The budget and finance committee shall: (a) include the financial secretary, who shall serve as the chairman, first vice-president/president-elect, treasurer, chairman of the board of trustees, Group Tax Exemption Program Chairman and up to three (3) members who shall be appointed by the president; (b) submit the annual corporation budget for adoption at the organizational board meeting; and (c) recommend on proposed transfers or increases to budget accounts or expenditures of money in excess of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) outside of budget before any action by the board of directors.

Rationale: To include Group Tax Exemption Program Chairman to committee.

PASSED

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Bylaws and Policy Committee Chairman Sue Bennett moved on behalf of the Bylaws and Policy Committee to amend the following standing rules. If passed, the Standing Rules changes become effective immediately.

7) SR70 MEMBERSHIP (Page 96)

Now Reads:

Membership chairman shall send, by July 1, a list of all clubs, associate plant societies and affiliates with names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of the presidents, treasurers and youth gardener leaders to the president, vice-presidents, corresponding secretary, CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program chairman, *Golden Gardens eNews* circulation chairman, *Golden Gardens eNews* editor, liability insurance chairman, website chairman, yearbook chairman, youth activities

chairman and zip code club finder service chairman. The list should follow the format of the state roster.

Amend by deleting SR70 and replacing it with new SR70

To Read:

Membership chairman and/or Communications Director provide reports, as requested, to NGC Chairmen, Pacific Region Chairmen, CGCI officers, District Directors and chairmen.

Rationale: To bring up to date.

PASSED

8) SR74 (page 96)

Now Reads

An associate plant society shall (1) be a member of a permanent statewide or national plant society, (2) be entitled to representation at annual meeting by its president or alternate, and delegates as specified in Article XI, Section 5, (3) pay annual dues according to Article IV, Sec. 3 (a), (4) be eligible to apply for liability insurance and (5) not be eligible to apply for CGCI group tax exemption program. In addition, an associate plant society may belong to a district.

Amend by replacing “and” with “,” at end of item (4); add a new “(5) be eligible to participate in the awards program and” renumber existing “(5)” to “(6)”; and replace last sentence with “An associate plant society may belong to a district and then shall be classified as a club and pay district dues that shall be at the option of the district.”

To Read

An associate plant society shall (1) be a member of a permanent statewide or national plant society, (2) be entitled to representation at annual meeting by its president or alternate, and delegates as specified in Article XI, Section 5, (3) pay annual dues according to Article IV, Sec. 3 (a), (4) be eligible to apply for liability insurance, (5) be eligible to participate in the awards program and (6) not be eligible to apply for CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program. An associate plant society may belong to a district and then shall be classified as a club and pay district dues that shall be at the option of the district.

Rationale: To clarify.

PASSED

9) SR76 MEMBERSHIP (page 96)

Now Reads:

A club shall pay annual per capita dues, belong to a district and be eligible to apply for liability insurance and CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program.

Amend by deleting SR76.

Rationale: Already in Bylaw Article IV, Section 3 and Article IX, Section 1.

PASSED

10) YEARBOOK Section including SR90-92 (page 96)

Now Reads:

YEARBOOK

90. Job descriptions in the yearbook may be changed only with the informed consent of the president and the chairman involved.

91. Complimentary copies of the yearbook shall be distributed to the board of directors and club, affiliate, and associate plant society presidents; distribution to be determined by the president and yearbook chairman. Copies may be purchased from the yearbook chairman. They shall not be given or sold to commercial firms.

92. Major changes in format of the yearbook shall be approved by board of directors.

Amend by replacing “yearbook” with “*Yearbook, Manual & Roster*” in all occurrences.

To Read:

YEARBOOK, MANUAL & ROSTER

90. Job descriptions in the *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* may be changed only with the informed consent of the president and the chairman involved.

91. Complimentary copies of the *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* shall be distributed to the board of directors and club, affiliate, and associate plant society presidents; distribution to be determined by the president and *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* chairman. Copies may be purchased from the *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* chairman. They shall not be given or sold to commercial firms.

92. Major changes in format of the *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* shall be approved by board of directors.

Rationale: To make consistent throughout the book.

PASSED

President Rita Desilets recessed the meeting at 10:24 a.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 10:37 a.m.

President-Elect Sue Bennett moved to ratify the following new Youth Groups for Youth Chairman Linda Riddle:

Sponsor: Lake Oroville Area Garden Club, Buttes District
(YAC) Anne Hogan anne@annehogan.com

The Green Garden Elves at Hearthstone School

Ecotots (pre-school-K), 6 members

The Green Garden Elves at Hearthstone School

Junior (1st-6th grade), 15 members

The Green Gardeners at Hearthstone School

Intermediate (7th-9th grade), 10 members

The Green Gardeners at Hearthstone School

High School, 6 members **Passed.**

The 2014 CGCI Fall Board Meeting Co-Chairman Carolyn Hoyum reported.

The 2015 CGCI Convention Co-Chairmen Joan Craig and Myrtle Findley invited CGCI members to the 2015 CGCI Convention to be hosted by Golden Foothills District.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst read the **Executive Committee Ratifications and Recommendations.**

Official Calendar Ratifications:

2015

- Sept 10 - 13 CGCI Fall Board Meeting, Hilton Concord; Host: Diablo Foothills District; Chairman: Marlene Kinney
- Sept 21 - 23 Flower Show School, Course I, San Diego Botanic Garden Encinitas; Host: Southwestern Judges Council; Chairman: Emily Troxell

2016

- Jan 31 – Feb 3 CGCI Winter Board Meeting, DoubleTree by Hilton, San Pedro - Port of Los Angeles; Host: Costa Verde District; Co-Chairmen: Gudy Kimmel and Alexis Slafer. **Passed.**

Ratify the Appointments of:

1. Mary-Jo Noth as member of the Bylaws and Policy Committee
2. Jeanne Desilets as Timekeeper. **Passed.**

Article VI, Sec. 1, c 3 on page 87 of the 2014-2015 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* requires an Election Board of five members from the Board of Directors be appointed for Convention:

Ratify the appointment of:

- Chairman: Robin Pokorski
 Teller #1: Gail Vanderhorst
 Teller #2: Alexis Slafer
 Clerk: Charlene (Shane) Looper
 Judge: Greg Pokorski **Passed.**

1. That CGCI accept the invitation to participate in the March 18-22, 2015 San Francisco Flower & Garden Show by having a membership table at no cost and by providing floral designs. **Passed.**
2. 2015 Convention registration fee be \$55 and early registration fee before May 1, 2015 be \$45, one-day fee \$20 and early one-day fee before May 1, 2015 be \$10. **Passed.**
3. Ratify the appointment of Diane Dillard as the Treasurer of the 2015 CGCI Convention. **Passed**
4. Ratify Greg Pokorski as 2015 CGCI Convention Credentials Chairman. **Passed.**
5. That CGCI donate \$25 to the Pacific Region Book of Recognition in memory of Della Barry, Pacific Region Director from 1997-1999. **Passed.**
6. 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, 2015) so that the list provided to the IRS by March 31, 2015 will be a true list of the current members of the CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program. **Passed.**
7. To transfer \$1000 from the Wildflower Restricted Fund (31012-1) to the Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Project (31521). **Passed.**
8. That CGCI produce a Three-Year calendar for 2017-2019, profits to support the CGCI Project: Anza Borrego Desert State Park. **Passed.**

9. To accept the invitation from Humboldt District to host the 2016 CGCI Fall Board Meeting. Chairman: Janean Guest. **Passed.**

10. To invite Dr. Daniel Gluesenkamp, Executive Director of the California Native Plant Society to dinner on Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2015 as a guest of CGCI. \$42 to be paid from the Honor Book Fund. **Passed.**

11. That an applicant is limited to two (2) CGCI scholarships. **Passed.**

President Rita Desilets recessed the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Business meeting #3

The meeting was reconvened at 2:09 p.m.

District Director Coordinator Julie West introduced the District Directors who reported. See Attachment C.

President Rita Desilets recessed the meeting at 3:09 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 3:25 p.m.

Chairmen Coordinator Bob Gordon introduced the Chairmen who reported. See Attachment D.

Chairman of the Nominating Committee Shane Looper presented the slate of officers for the 2015-2017 term of office to serve with President Sue Bennett.

1 st Vice-President	Krystal Migliore
2 nd Vice President	Rilla Crane
3 rd Vice President	Lynne Batchelor
Treasurer	Sandra Graff
Financial Secretary	Rebecca Ferguson
Corresponding Secretary	Carolyn Hoyum
Recording Secretary	Gail Vanderhorst
Communications Director	Jane McKee

Communications Director Jane McKee gave a presentation on the website.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Gail Vanderhorst, Recording Secretary

Date

2015 Winter Board Meeting
Attachment A - Officers Reports

Parliamentarian, Greg Pokorski

This officer continues to deal with minutes review from previous meetings, agenda review for upcoming meetings and bylaws review. Since our next meeting will be the convention, all are reminded that all clubs and associate plant societies are entitled to representation at convention (by presidents and delegates; delegates need to be elected by the club). See Bylaws Article XI, Sections 4, 5 and 6 (page 90 of the current *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*). Credentials forms are sent with the Call and are to be completed by each club. Very few were received last year. Some of you are club presidents and will need to deal with this. District Directors should be familiar with this so they can both encourage club participation and be able to respond to any questions from clubs about the credentialing process. We hope to make revisions to the Credential Form to make this clearer this year. Because of a chairmanship in the Southern Area of California State Association of Parliamentarians, I have copies (hardback, softback and spiral-bound) of the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order available for sale. Let me know if you need one. Anyone in the vicinity of Pasadena City College is invited to the February 28 meeting of the Southern Area of California State Association of Parliamentarians (subject: "Committees: Create, Conduct, Conclude"). Because of the outreach to the college community, this is being offered at \$15, half the customary fee. If interested, see me for details.

Communications Director, Jane McKee

Website: The upgraded and redesigned website has been released

Features: "responsive" design (displays properly on all platforms); drop down menus; videos and more

Several Forms have been added or updated:

NEW: contact information form for district directors, treasurers, yearbook and newsletter editors

NEW: contact information form for Officers and chairmen

UPDATED: Annual contact information form (Clubs/APS): adds yearbook and newsletter editors (name and email only)

Editors will be added to the *Golden Gardens eNews*, *Council Thymes* and *WACONIAH* distribution (if not already subscribed)

"yearbook info" (NGC, Pac Reg, CGCI officer info/theme etc plus the CGCI official and NGC Schools calendar dates) will be sent directly to yearbook editors

Corresponding Secretary, Rosa Radicchi

The CALL was once again distributed electronically through the CGCI Website and also hard copies were mailed to those without electronic access. In addition, the IRS Letter was also sent out to board members.

Correspondence:

1. Thank you email from Bobby Verser, NGC Awards Chairman, for the \$100 donation to sponsor the Roadside Beautification Award #20.
2. Notice of contribution to the Pacific Region Book of Recognition has been made in memory of

Della Barry from the Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

3. Thank you card from Sempervirens Fund for the \$1,000 donation from the CGCI Sempervirens Fund to dedicate a tree in honor of Linda Yule, Sempervirens Fund Forest Manager at Big Basin State Park for the past 26+ years.

Recording Secretary, Gail Vanderhorst

This officer distributed the Minutes of the CGCI Fall Board Meeting. The deadline for reports to be e-mailed is Saturday, February 7, 2015. No hard copies of reports will be accepted. Reports can be sent prior to the meeting need to be sent in WORD MS.

2nd Vice-President, Krystal Migliore

Membership Matters-

Why does membership for some clubs and APS decline to dangerous or even critical levels while others increase membership nearly every month? The answer to this question and others will be the topic of the MEMBERSHIP MATTERS workshop to be held at the CGCI Convention in Reno this June.

MEMBERSHIP DOES MATTER—When we work together to spread awareness IT IS POSSIBLE to make a difference.

President-Elect, Sue Bennett

First the bad news: as of this board meeting, no district/club has stepped up to the plate to host either the Winter Board 2017 or Convention 2017; thus instead of dealing with the 1st Vice President, they will now be dealing with the President-Elect; okay it is the same person; just make sure you are paying attention.

Now for the good news: Dates and places have been established for the September 2015 and February 2016 board meetings as announced earlier/as ratified earlier. This chairman is currently working with Annie Hall Bosche, Orange County District Director for Convention 2016 and on the 18th of February this chairman will be traveling to Humboldt meet with Janean Guest, Humboldt District Director to tour a location for the September 2016 board meeting.

Once again, this Chairman should not have to keep pestering District Directors – District and Clubs should be eager to hold a meeting or convention – this is the future of CGCI. If your District can help, don't hesitate to call this chairman.

President, Rita Desilets

I was proud to represent California at the NGC Fall Board Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa. Being in farm country reminded me of my childhood growing up on a 200-acre dairy farm in Wisconsin. It was great networking with other state presidents and sharing ideas at the Roundtable-Dialogue Meeting sponsored by the Strategic Planning Committee.

The CGCI “10-day Colors of Fall Cruise” was a smashing success! The 23 attendees reported they had a wonderful time. We had reserved tables for dinner each night giving us the opportunity to share what we did that day. The food was absolutely delicious and never ending! The weather cooperated; after New York there was no rain to spoil the well-planned tours. The fall colors improved as we approached Quebec – the best in my opinion being on the Île d'Orléans where the 8-hour tour of Quebec headed for lunch. The cruise earned \$2,450 for CGCI. This is \$450 over the anticipated amount.

One of the joys of being President is accepting invitations from clubs and districts. In November my travels took me to Buttes District where your President was treated like a queen. From the spacious suite at a local inn, a dinner ending with three giant scoops of ice cream, the great District Meeting featuring a design program, the entire visit was perfection.

Speaking of perfection, the Blue Star Dedication in Palomar District conducted by George Speer was so beautiful and well-received.

In February your president is looking forward to visits to Valley Lode District and Sacramento River Valley District.

The President's Project, Habitat for Humanity Landscaping is doing very well thanks to the dedication of Chairman, Sara White. There is still time to apply for one of the many grants.

We hope your plans for 2015 include attending the CGCI Convention from June 8-11 at Circus Circus in Reno, Nevada. Sue Bennett will be installed as the 2015-2017 CGCI President.

Amazing tours are planned for June 12! We hope to see all our District Directors, Chairmen and many club members at what should be a fabulous convention thanks to Joan Craig, Mrytle Findley and the members of Golden Foothills District.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your president; for your kind words and for your thoughtful gestures. All are appreciated...

Attachment B - Standing and Special Committee Reports

Board of Trustees, Julie West

Two recommendations to Executive Committee were generated:

An individual may receive no more than two (2) CGCI scholarships.

Net proceeds from sale of CGCI 2017-2019 three-year calendars be designated to CGCI project Anza-Borrego Desert State Park project.

Golden Gardens Board Designated Restricted Fund reviewed and generated a recommendation to Executive Committee for Pre-Convention board meeting. Restricted Fund Guidelines last updated in 2011 are being reviewed with goal to present at Pre-Convention board meeting for approval. Met with Scholarship Chairman to determine 2015 CGCI Scholarship winners and met with Endowment Funds Promotion Chairman.

Attachment C - District Director Reports

Arboretum District, Mary Betlach

The garden clubs and Arboretum board meetings: very good attendance! Program planners did their job.

Events Coming up:

Arboretum

March 28 – Walkabout#2 - the Nature Center – bird talk live, followed by a guided walk around lake.

April 30 – Fundraiser - Santa Anita Golf Club, speaker Mickey Long – Attracting Birds to Your Backyard

Clubs:

March 7 & 8 – Monrovia: Rockhounds LA City Arboretum
March 15 – Sierra Madre – Plant sale – Wisteria Festival
April 18 – Green Scene, California Organic Plant Sale – Fullerton Arboretum
July 26 – LAIFS – Fern Show - LA County Arboretum

Bay Bridges District, George Perko

An unusual, .05 of a percent dousing of rain (the first of the 2014-15 rainfall season) the night before did not deter Friends of Heirloom Flowers Garden Club and the members of Bay Bridges District from enjoying an unusual beginning-of-year meeting on September 25: a garden picnic, followed by a house and self-guided garden tour of Shinn House and Arboretum in Fremont. Bay Bridges was joined by Diablo Foothills District, and all clubs participated in the picnic, house and garden tours, and club reports. As if from the past, the “founders” of the Shinn estate led us through the premises!

The district clubs reported on their many plans for the upcoming year. Berkeley Garden Club hosted a special floral design presentation and auction of the resulting arrangement by the San Francisco firm Ixia. Eden Garden Club held a bazaar on October 27 called Hearts & Flowers—A Lot of Heart. El Cerrito GC announced a November fundraiser featuring noted floral designer Nancy Colvin. Fremont Garden Club discussed its upcoming community project. Friends of Heirloom Flowers discussed their participation in the “Hidden Treasure of Fremont,” a large, citywide affair. “Lose Your Lawn” was a luncheon fundraiser for Hillside Gardeners of Montclair. They had a Membership Tea in the fall. Orchid Society of California, a new Bay Bridges member, announced their Mother’s Day weekend show and sale.

Bay Bridges looks forward to its April 23 meeting at Lakeside Park and Garden Center in Oakland, where the year’s district awards and scholarship winners will be announced, and officers for 2015-17 will be elected and installed.

Bay Ocean District, Nancy McDougal

This autumn’s Rainbow Report was also used in our District to record information on the totals of club activities beyond regular meetings. Initial reluctance to participate broke down when I sent out a partial list of activities I knew of. Not to be outdone, the reports came tumbling in. There were group tours, maintenance of rose, butterfly & historic gardens, children’s workshops, Arbor Day participations, and civic beautification at civic meetings and plantings in a local business district. Clubs seeing the list at a later meeting were surprised at the amount of ‘good’ they had accomplished in just one year.

Buttes District, Carol Jauregui

The Buttes District is named for the Sutter Buttes, an extinct volcano that rises out of the valley floor. It is an agricultural area of diverse products. Likewise, our clubs many interests are addressed by their speakers. The drought is still a prominent topic. Water-wise gardening talks were given at the flower show. The foothill clubs learned about fire safety as a result of the dry trees. Valley clubs learned how to dwarf their fruit trees, to use green cover crops, and intensive vegetable gardening techniques.

It was our honor to have President Rita attend our fall district meeting.

Cascade District, Carolyn Hoyum

I am singing praises of Lake California Garden Club! They are putting in a community park using drought tolerant plants. Called *Edgewater Park Project*, it overlooks the Sacramento River. They have planted the trees and secured them with deer protection. Foundations for benches and picnic tables are ready to be poured. The irrigation will be in shortly. Another interesting thing I learned from them was that they will be putting in “trails” not “paths”. The difference is that paths have to be ADA compliant and trails do not!

Channel Islands District, Maggie Crane

The clubs are busy with their monthly meetings, fundraisers and workshops. Several programs on Waterwise and succulent plants have been presented. Fundraisers support many Scholarships and school grants, donations to local botanical gardens and to beautify local buildings as well as other activities. Several of the clubs have had a large increase in membership with the rest of the clubs experiencing a normal amount of growth. This is a nice change from past years when our memberships were decreasing. It does seem like gardening is becoming a trendy activity and it seems we are reaping the benefits.

Costa Verde District, Kitty Guzman

Long Beach submitted for 13 CGCI Awards, volunteered 90 hours for community gardening projects raised \$800 for a scholarship. Their Habitat for Humanity Home Landscaping Project flourishes well. Hermosa helped restore Theodore Payne’s Native Flower Garden and had a Blue Butterfly Native Plant Project. San Pedro sells recycled jewelry as their main fundraiser. Doris Nagy’s Beacon House Sober Living Christmas project continues through two granddaughters. Two members decorated and rode in a flower decorated truck representing the club in San Pedro’s Christmas Parade. Riviera maintains five community flower gardens, provides two scholarships and funds a mural at El Retiro Library.

Desert Empire District, Cecile Campbell

Both Clubs in the district participated in a Near Club Flower Show with Floral Design Classes provided by CGCI and DED members. They also participated in a district fundraiser, the Petroglyph Festival and Street Fair in Ridgecrest, making originally designed desert dish gardens. DRGC replanted their Blue Star Marker for Veteran’s Day, held a fundraiser to support their ongoing Median Project and a Christmas Potluck for members. Oasis Garden Club took a trip to Manzanar, visited their Blue Star Marker and a Christmas Potluck for members.

Diablo Foothills District, Rebecca Ferguson

We had a very successful co-board meeting with the Bay Bridges District in late September. We are very busy planning for the 2015 CGCI Fall Board meeting in Concord. Our Antioch Riverview GC celebrated their 25th year.

Clayton Valley GC is working with their town to revitalize with native plants the gardens next to the Clayton Museum. They also are receiving a grant to help provide small living plants to shut ins through hospice for Valentines Day.

Concord Garden Club donated \$1,400 to our CGCI affiliate, Markham Arboretum. The funds will be used towards the irrigation system in an area of mostly Mediterranean type plants.

Walnut Creek is getting ready for their wonderful annual fund raising tea. Propagation is being

done by many of the clubs to prepare for the up coming plant sales.

Golden Foothills District, Carlotta Wixson

Our district will host the 2015 Convention.

This director was invited to various club meetings and attended several parties during the holidays. To raise money to support our district expenses, we have a "Granny's Attic" silent auction and a plant sale.

Each president reports their club's activities and goals. Several clubs have civic projects and/or scholarship programs. Recently the district has compiled a list of speakers for the clubs. One club decided to leave the District and CGCI. They are a "social club" and not interested in being part of the larger organizations.

Humboldt District, Janean Guest

There are seven garden clubs in the Humboldt District, that consists of approximately 260 members.

The clubs are always busy with their beautification projects throughout the county.

We are pleased to announce a new garden club to the Humboldt District to be ratified by CGCI.

The name of the club is the North Coast Succulent Club.

Fortuna Garden Club will be having it's 40th Annual Daffodil Show on March 28 and 29, 2015.

Members of the Humboldt District are getting geared up and excited to plan for the 2016 Fall Board meeting for CGCI. Later in February, President-Elect Sue Bennett will be visiting to check out the venue.

Luther Burbank District, David West

This Director is please to announce a new Assistant DD has been found for the 2017 term.

The first Course of Landscape Design School is complete and was successful.

Santa Rosa Garden Club and Santa Rosa Flower Arrangers Guild held a joint Standard Flower show 11-1-14.

11-14-14 General District Meeting program was from Sonoma Land Trust on purchasing additional land to create connectivity across highway 12 near Sonoma CA. A fascinating process was described.

Mendo-Lake District, Rhea Pitchard

Mendo-Lake is trying a new schedule this year. Instead of 4 District meetings a year, we are having 3, each right after Convention, Fall Board and Winter Board. We hope to have better attendance and update the clubs quicker. February's meeting will include a floral demonstration by Mary Arakelian, CGCI's floral judge of the year, to spark interest.

Fundraisers this year for some of clubs will be garden tours. A new community garden built within a city park will be included. It has several 3' high raised beds, wheelchair accessible. The garden was built by a local Indian youth group.

Orange County District, Annie Hall Bosché

At our February District meeting at Crystal Cove State park we will presenting our new slate of officers.

Our current project is the Madam Modjeska Estate working to restore the gardens back to the original design of 1880.

We're getting organized for hosting the 2016 Convention searching for hotels, organizing the board and involving clubs.

I am working on a smooth transition between the existing board and the incoming board. I'm schedule an 'In and Out' meeting and working on organizing the district 'stuff' to pass along to the new DD.

Our clubs are gearing up for spring garden tours, scholarships, plant sales, boutiques, membership drives, seminars, incoming boards etc.

San Fernando Valley District, Albert Chang

The West Valley Garden Club earned over \$6000 hosting a fundraiser tea in October. The main program was led by an "Antiques Roadshow" appraiser who evaluated the treasures brought by the attendees.

The Cherry Blossom Garden Club earned money by attending a TV game show. They were paid by the number of members who actually attended the show.

Southern California Garden Club donated the dinner and ran the silent auction portion of the local CANGC plant auction which raised \$11,000 for area schools' horticulture programs.

District members volunteered to grade this year's club yearbooks. Everyone had a great time, and all learned about the CGCI Award process.

The Seed Library of Los Angeles hosted twenty-five government officials from Shensi Province, China. The visitors are interested in applying organic growing techniques to commercial farms.

Sequoia Foothills District, Judy Silguero

Maintained many plantings, gardens. Designed 1,000 brochures that include photos, plant information, garden maps and native garden information. Designed and landscaped an area, incorporating native, drought-tolerant & evergreen plants and made gopher guards. We held meetings with educational and garden-related programs. We were involved with "Comfort for Kids" project—sewed/donated quilts for children at Valley Children's Hospital. Held teas, arts/crafts fair, plant sales, ice cream social, Christmas luncheons/parties. Donated \$300 in sports equipment for abused women and children. Worked on 2015 Winter Board planning and preparation. Field trip to Riffelhoff Vineyards/Orchards; learned about grapes, stone fruit & nuts.

Valley Lode District, Penny Binney

I want to share this one grand idea that Lodi Garden Club uses as their fundraiser. 'Game Day' which is 5 hours long, cost \$15. Per person and each member brings a salad for lunch. Games that are played are: Bridge, Bunco, Canasta, Mexican Train, Dominos, and ECT. Gordon, president of the Lodi Garden Club says the Bunco players are usually the loudest. This is a great fundraiser/concept if your garden club has older members that cannot get down on their knees to plant or carry heavy objects.

Attachment D - Chairman Reports

Arboreta and Botanic Gardens, Sherry Molinari

Nearly every great city has a great park. Not so for Los Angeles, until now. As the city core grew into an endless sprawl of industrial buildings, rail yards and ethnic neighborhoods a park was never

in the picture. The city center's one great natural asset, the Los Angeles River, was paved over with concrete 80 years ago.

Today the development of the Los Angeles State Historic Park, 13 years in the making, began in April and is on track for completion late next spring. The scale is modest-32 acres to start, with plans to later connect with other parkland across the L. A. River to create 150 acres of continuous open space in the heart of Los Angeles.

This first phase has a stunning, unimpeded view of the L.A. skyline, the Metro Gold Line running on elevated tracks to the east, Chinatown to the west, Union Station and Historic Olvera St. four blocks distant, the light standards of Dodger Stadium visible across the freeway.

By this time next year, all this will be enhanced by 1,000 trees, a wetland, a citrus grove and open space designed to host festivals and outdoor concerts. The Los Angeles State Historic Park will become a centerpiece for two developing movements in the L.A. urban core. It is at the midpoint of an emerging 52-mile greenway the planners hope will fully developed along the L.A. River.

Awards Finances, Launa Gould

Awards Sponsor Statements for the 2014 awards to be given out at the 2015 convention were mailed in August of 2014.

As of January 31, 2015, Awards Finance received \$2740 and it has been reconciled with the CGCI Treasurer. An additional \$235 is outstanding.

Backyard Habitat, Carolyn Villi

This report is quite a distance from my chairmanship of Backyard Habitat; but it involves our wildlife and our planet and that makes it important to this chairman. Quite by accident I have witnessed something that's being promoted as the turning point in green energy, when actually it's a terrible waste of our government's money (our tax money) and a disaster for our bird and animal population.

Our government convinced one of the central valley oil companies, along with funding from Good Old Uncle Sam, to build a solar tower in the Coalinga oil field. The plant uses power tower technology that trains concentrated solar power onto steam boilers. The estimated cost to build was 90 million dollars. With much interest of all the people working in that area the tower was built, the cost running into more than \$300 million.

Do we really want this power, do we want to live on a bird free planet? There is a plan to put a 75 ft. story solar tower near California's Joshua Tree National Park, its now on hold. The state of Oregon is much smarter than California. They have outlawed these Bird-Killing Towers from coming into their state. We as educated gardeners need to always ask questions when learning of some earth changing technology. Where will it go? What damage can it do? How much will it cost our taxpayers and will it pay for it's self in our children's, grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's lifetime's???

Bee Chairman, Josie Goodenow

Are you aware that native bee populations are in decline? There are many potential reasons for this. We may never know what caused so many bees to die but we know how we can help. Bee Gap, a partnership between National Garden Club and Crown Bees, brings us information in an educational and entertaining format.

Club members love the program but I need help! My goal is to have one Bee Chairman in every District.

Folks must be made aware of the importance of our pollinators. 1/3rd of our food is directly dependent on pollinators! Will you help?

Calendar, Official, Sue Bennett

REMINDER: **Before** choosing dates for your event, please check with the Official Calendar Chairman to avoid unnecessary scheduling conflicts. Visit the calendar web page for a list of upcoming events. This chairman is excited to report that the dates are starting to fill in.

Jane McKee mentioned District Directors and Chairmen can now enter their information online; This information needs to be completed by July 1, tentative deadline for the CGCI Yearbook. Speaking about chairman, I will be looking for chairmen for my term and will be contacting everyone soon.

California Consultants Council (CCC), Julie West

Three various Landscape Design CCC awards were given at winter board to the Leo Politi Garden (CSU-Fresno) and Robert Boro, ASLA plus Belmont Nursery. A benefit of CCC membership is the CCC members-only tour to Belmont Nursery on Thursday, February 5. The tour includes their greenhouses, propagation/growing location and CCC discount at their retail shop. One-Third of the 47 CCC members signed up to attend the event. The CCC will sponsor a workshop at the 2015 CGCI convention in Reno, *The ABC's of NGC Schools* that will consist of a panel discussion of questions and answers.

District Director Coordinator, Julie West

Distributed district reimbursement policies for expenses incurred as District Director and attending CGCI meetings shared at 2014 Fall forum. Transition tips between outgoing and incoming Directors were distributed and reviewed for the 2015 Convention. Distributed *Request for Payment or Reimbursement* forms, \$100 budget allotted, Standing Rule #107 and line codes for DD's. Yearbook information was reviewed - CGCI, district and clubs. Districts who have hosted an NGC school spoke about the benefits of sponsoring a school. Fundraising ideas at the district level were shared.

Flower Show Symposium, Mary Arakelian

This Symposia Chairman held two Symposia during 2014-2015. Since my last report the 2nd Symposium was held in Bakersfield January 23-25, 2015. Sixty-one Flower Show Judges and others attended. Former NGC President Barbara May instructed in Design and David Robson instructed in Horticulture.

This chairman also attended the NGC Instructors' Symposium in Las Vegas from Jan. 28-30, 2015. Information from that event is being shared with others on the committee.

As I will become the new Golden Foothills District Director, I will not be continuing as Symposium Chairman. I will assist incoming CGCI President, Sue Bennett, in finding a new chairman. I have enjoyed serving CGCI in this role.

Gardening Study Schools, Greg Pokorski

We need to get a GSS Series started. 2014 was the first year since 2003 that no GSS Course was held. Twelve Consultants (mostly from Orange County District) lapsed as of 12/31/2014. Another eleven (mostly from OC District) could lapse at the end of this year. Refresher possibilities for this year and next year are being explored. A Tri-Refresher is available at the NGC Convention in Louisville. Articles have been written for *The Council Thymes*, *The National Gardener* and

Keeping in Touch. A Schools Workshop is being planned for Convention. Come see how to conduct a school.

Group Tax Exemption Program, (GTEP), Bev Davies

GTEP renewal packets mailed September 1, 2014 to 108 clubs and 6 districts. All current GTEP members have submitted their renewals. Six clubs requested withdrawal from GTEP. Disbanded were: Burlingame Garden Club, Bay Ocean District; Flora Dora Design Guild, Buttes District; and Gardeners92130, Palomar District. Huntington Beach Community Garden, Orange County District obtained their 501(c)(3) exemption directly from the IRS. La Casa Garden Club, Sequoia Foothills Dist., withdrew due to lack of club activity. Cupertino Green Club, Santa Clara Valley District and Sunshine Garden Club, San Fernando Valley District ratified for GTEP membership bringing the total to 106 clubs and 7 districts. This Chairman continues to respond to clubs inquiries on filing their annual reports to various governmental agencies.

Judges Council Liaison, Rilla Crane

GOALS 2013 – 2015

Actively assist garden clubs to present more flower shows

Help start more flower Show Schools – Accomplished

- Courses completed at the South Coast Botanic Garden
- Course IV – Livermore February 11, 2015
- Course I – San Diego September 21, 2015

Attend and assist with Symposiums - Successful

- Auburn Symposium 2014
- Bakersfield Symposium 2015

Special Goal: “Stories to Share”

Members were to share experiences and challenges in entering flower shows or presenting programs in horticulture or design. Stories were to educate, encourage more garden club members to participate, and contain 200 words or less.

It is hoped that in the future this goal will be continued.

Landscape Design Schools, Alexis Slafer

This Chair is pleased to report that the 26th series of the CGCI Landscape Design Schools is being sponsored by Luther Burbank District. Course two will be held April 23 & 24, 2015. Check with this Chair regarding questions about your credentials.

Remember, our Landscape Design Consultants are great resources that can participate in your local clubs or districts as speakers. Please don't forget them!

This Chair is available and eager to assist clubs and districts with sponsoring a new Landscape Design School.

Life Memberships, Carlotta Wixon

This chairman reports that we will be ratifying seven (7) new CGCI and one (1) new Pacific Region members.

Please send in the newly revised forms. This chairman is always prepared with applications. Fill out the application, write a check for the amount and send it to this chairman.

This chairman wants to thank all the presidents and directors that have forwarded to this chairman or the yearbook chairman the address changes or names of deceased persons that are listed in the

back of the *CGCI Yearbook, Manual & Roster*. We continue to try to keep this list accurate and updated.

Memorial Gardens, Groves, & Plantings, Bob Taylor

District Directors for all 24 Districts have been contacted by email twice to update their lists of memorial plantings. Nine (9) Districts replied almost immediately. The remaining Districts have not replied. The Districts who have not replied will be contacted by phone before final updating.

Post Office Box, Julie West

The IRS list of CGCI Group Tax Exemption Program members was received in January and delivered to the GTEP Chairman. The September and December quarterly statements from Principal Financial for the two endowment funds were also received.

NOTE: CGCI's permanent mailing address is NOT intended for membership dues, yearbooks submitted for award entries and items that should be sent directly to various chairmen designated to receive those items.

The intended use of CGCI's post office box is for official correspondence of CGCI.

President's Project 2013-2015

Habitat for Humanity, Sara White

CGCI President Rita Desilets' project, Habitat for Humanity Landscaping, has about 3.5 months to go before its completion. Since June 2013, we have collected \$6,660 in donations and we have granted out \$1,000 to four clubs. If there are any clubs or districts which have participated in a landscaping project without applying for grant money, please let this chairman know so they can be recognized for it.

All donations and grant awards must be completed by June 1, 2015.

Scholarship, Albert Chang

The Scholarship committee has awarded the Julie A. West Scholarship to David Jaeckel, an environmental studies graduate student at Yale University. The committee awarded the Robert Gordon Scholarship to Kelly Meehan, a graduate student in ecology and environmental management at the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University.

Clubs, districts and associate plant societies are asked to donate funds for the CGCI Scholarship Fund and the CGCI Scholarship Endowment Fund. If every organization in CGCI would just donate \$100 per year, we would generate over \$32,000 for scholarship. Consider giving a CGCI Life Membership.

Sempervirens Fund, Rosa Radicchi

Thank you for your continued donations and patience. All size gifts are welcome! For a gift of \$1,000 to \$15,000, you can dedicate a tree in the Grove. On Feb 12, 2015 there will be a kick-off campaign for a proposed Redwoods National Monument in Santa Cruz. In Dec. 2014, we donated \$1,000 to the Sempervirens Fund for a tree to be dedicated in the CGCI grove in honor of Linda Yule, Forest Manager, who is retiring after 26+ years of service. In April, a gathering is being held at Big Basin State Park in her honor!

Water Conservation, Marlene Kinney

Water = Liquid Gold

The historic California water crisis is now in its fourth year and daily makes the front page news. Unfortunately, most of the news is negative, no rain in the Bay Area for all of January. Farmers, our State's backbone, are using water from aquifers (essentially, a non-renewable resource) at an alarming rate while others are having their wells run dry. In urban areas the water providers lose about 23 billion gallons a year. The infrastructure is decades old and in need of \$1trillion in repairs and upgrading over the next 25 years. The most obvious and costly example was the catastrophic water main break last summer at UCLA with 20 million gallons of water wasted. **Fact: our water districts can add an additional tax assessment to our property taxes without our approval, and are moving in that direction.**

We need to ask if the passage of Propositions 1 & 2 in 2014 sufficiently defines **California State Water Policy** balancing today's needs and future consumption. Towns are approving large new building projects. Farmers are planting new water intensive crops in fields previously planted in seasonal crops. There are plans to expand the leases for oil fracking, the injection of water and chemicals into the ground to extract oil. Many of our manufacturing processes take lots of water, in many cases, contaminating the residual waters.

Become informed. Share information. Speak up. If we do not work together we all lose.