

**California Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Minutes of the 2018 Convention**

June 5-7, 2018

The Hotel at Black Oak Casino Resort, Tuolumne, California

Host: Valley Lode District

**President: Krystal K. Migliore**

**Business Meeting #1**

President Krystal Migliore called the meeting to order at 3:49 p.m. on Tuesday, June 5, 2018.

Reuse, Recycle & Repurpose Chairman Chuck Goodwin led the NGC Conservation Pledge.

President Krystal Migliore introduced the members of the 2017-2019 Executive Committee and welcomed the former CGCI Presidents in attendance: Mary Lou Goodwin (1991-1993), Elisabeth Tufo (2005-2007), Robin Pokorski (2007-2009), Julie A. West (2011-2013), Rita Desilets (2013-2015), and Sue Bennett (2015-2017).

President Krystal Migliore recognized Circle of Poppies members in attendance: Myrtle Findley and Joan Craig.

President Krystal Migliore acknowledged those serving on the 2017-2019 NGC Board of Directors including two members serving as officers: Corresponding Secretary Robin Pokorski and Historian Shane Looper.

President Krystal Migliore acknowledged those serving on the 2017-2019 Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Board of Directors.

President Krystal Migliore introduced and welcomed Pacific Region Director Peggy Olin.

The delegates representing CGCI members at the Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention at Chena Hot Springs Resort in Alaska April 6-9, 2018 were acknowledged: Sherry Molinari and Cynthia Frederick.

The delegates representing CGCI members at the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 21-24, 2018 were acknowledged: Josie Goodenow, Rosa Radicchi, Brent and Carol Vallens and Gail and Hank Vanderhorst.

Credentials Chairman Greg Pokorski gave the initial Credentials Report with a voting strength of 94 and moved for its adoption. **Motion Passed.**

The Chair declared a quorum.

The pages for this meeting were introduced: Carol Mann as the President's page and Shirley Day as the Pacific Region Director's page.

Timekeeper Jeanne Desilets was introduced and explained the time limits for oral reports.

Registrar Robin Pokorski gave the initial registration report with a total registration of 212.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski read the Convention Rules of Order on pages 16 and 17 of the 2018 Convention program and moved their adoption. **Motion Passed.**

Convention Chairman Bob Taylor reported schedule changes. The Convention Program was **adopted as corrected.**

President Krystal Migliore thanked and congratulated Valley Lode District and the many volunteers for hosting the Convention.

President Krystal Migliore announced the 2017 convention minutes were approved at the 2017 Fall Board Meeting in Oroville, California.

Without objection, the Chair appointed the following committee to review the minutes of this meeting: Greg Pokorski, Chairman, Shane Looper and Lynne Batchelor.

**Financial Report: April 30, 2018**

Treasurer George Perko presented the Financial Report.

Net Worth:

Total cash in checking /savings accounts	\$141,528.	
Total other assets	\$374,896.	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$516,424.</b>
Of which restricted funds are	\$338,180.	
Cash Balance Available		\$178,244.

The Treasurer's Reports will be filed as presented.

**Officers' Reports**

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported. See Attachment A.

Communications Director Jane McKee reported.

Financial Secretary Launa Gould reported. See Attachment A.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst reported that the deadline for reports to be emailed is Monday, June 11, 2018.

Corresponding Secretary Marlene Kinney reported. See Attachment A.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President Martha Smyser reported. See Attachment A.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Lynne Batchelor reported. See Attachment A.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Shane Looper reported.

The Meeting was recessed at 4:51 p.m.

**Business Meeting #2**

The Meeting was reconvened on Wednesday, June 6, at 1:31 p.m.

President Krystal Migliore reported.

**Committee Reports**

Board of Trustees Chairman Julie A. West reported.

Awards Committee Chairman Berni Hendrix reported.

The Meeting was recessed at 2:27 p.m.

The Meeting was reconvened at 2:46 p.m.

Bylaws and Policy Committee Chairman Shane Looper reported, introduced the members of the Bylaws and Policy Committee, and on behalf of the committee and as recommended by the board of directors at the 2018 Winter Board Meeting, moved to adopt the following proposed amendments to bylaws:

1. Article VII – Board of Directors

**Sec. 4. Change 3<sup>rd</sup> sentence.** ~~Thirty (30)~~ **Forty-five (45)** days' notice of the fall and winter board meetings shall be given.

**Strike Thirty (30) and Insert Forty-five (45)**

**Rationale:** 30 days does not allow enough time when most hotel deadlines are 21 to 30 days before meetings to obtain special room rate. Time is limited when the Call arrives during summer while on vacation or during holidays. 45-day notice allows adequate time to make reservations needed for both fall and winter board meetings.

**Motion Passed (two thirds vote).**

2. Article XII – FINANCES  
Section 6.(d)

Pacific Region director's reimbursement of up to ~~\$1,500.00~~ **\$2,000.00** annually for verified expenses when **the director is** from California.

**Strike \$1,500.00 and Insert \$2,000.00 and the director is**

**Rationale:** Directors expenses have increased for hotel stays and flights since the last director was from California.

**Motion Passed (two thirds vote).**

Items #3 and #4 considered in seriatim.

Article XIV- Board of Trustees

3. **New Sec. 9.** The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for the monthly internal financial review.

**Add Sec. 9**

**Rationale:** It insures the ongoing monthly review of CGCI financial records.

4. **New Sec. 10.** The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for collecting and maintaining Important CGCI documents.

**Add Sec. 10**

**Rationale:** CGCI's important papers need to be centralized and updated as necessary.

**Motion Passed (two thirds vote).**

5. Article XX- Amendments

**Sec. 3 Insert as last sentence.**

**Sec. 3** Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the board of directors for recommendation at the winter board meeting before being submitted to the voting membership. **Written notice of proposed changes shall be distributed at least one week prior to the meeting.**

**Rationale:** Members of the Board of Directors should have advance notice of the proposed bylaws amendments to allow adequate time for study and preparation to vote at winter board. When handed the proposed amendments as one walks in the door and then be asked to vote on changes with no time to review may not result in good decisions being made for the organization. Sec. 1 of this article requires all voting members at convention shall have been sent a copy of proposed amendments with rationale. The same requirement should apply to winter board for members of the board of directors.

**Motion Passed (two thirds vote).**

President Krystal Migliore stated the adopted amendments are effective immediately.

Group Tax Exemption Program Chairman Ilene Herringer reported. See Attachment B.

Nominating Committee Chairman Sue Bennett reported.

Organizational Study Committee Chairman Robin Pokorski reported.

President's Project Co-Chairman Carolyn Hoyum reported. See Attachment B.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Martha Smyser reported. See Attachment B.

Yearbook, Manual and Roster Chairman, Elisabeth Tufo reported and distributed YMR update sheets.

Winter Board Meeting Co-Chairman Lisa Cosand reported on the CGCI Winter Board Meeting in Thousand Oaks January 30 – February 2, 2018.

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst read the Executive Committee Recommendations approved by the Board of Directors at the Pre-Convention Board Meeting. See the minutes of the Pre-Convention Board Meeting.

In accordance with Article XI, Section 1, Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski moved that the voting membership approve the 2019 CGCI Convention be held June 3-7, 2019 at the Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys. **Motion Passed.**

The Meeting was recessed at 3:33 p.m.

The Meeting was reconvened at 3:44 p.m.

2019 Pacific Region Convention Chairman Sue Bennett and helpers invited all members to the Pacific Region Convention April 5-10, 2019 at the Airtel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys.

2019 CGCI Convention Chairman Rita Desilets and members of Southern California Garden Club invited all members to the CGCI Convention June 3-7 at the Airtel Plaza Hotel in Van Nuys.

Financial Secretary Launa Gould conducted a memorial service, remembering those members who have passed.

The Meeting was recessed at 4:05 p.m.

**Business Meeting #3**

The Meeting was reconvened on Thursday, June 7 at 10:17 a.m.

District Director Coordinator Shane Looper reported and introduced those District Directors who reported. See Attachment C.

The Meeting was recessed at 11:24 a.m.

**Business Meeting #4**

The Meeting was reconvened at 1:48 p.m.

Project Mission Blue Chairman Shane Looper introduced Price Sheppy from the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy who reported on the progress of Phase 2 of the Mission Blue Project.

Chairmen Coordinator Lynne Batchelor introduced those Chairmen who reported. See Attachment D

President Krystal Migliore announced that Sue Bennett and Alexis Slafer will serve on the Board of Trustees for the 2018-2024 term.

President Krystal Migliore congratulated Shane Looper on becoming President-Elect at the conclusion of this convention.

President Krystal Migliore thanked the staff of Black Oak Resort Hotel for their service.

Credentials Chairman Greg Pokorski gave the final credentials report with a voting strength of 103 and moved for its adoption. **Motion Passed.**

Convention Registrar Robin Pokorski gave the final registration report with a total registration of 213.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m. Sine die.

Gail Vanderhorst \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
CGCI Recording Secretary

## Attachment A, 2018 Convention Minutes Officers' Reports

### **Parliamentarian, Greg Pokorski**

Usual duties of this office continue to include minutes review after meetings and agenda review prior to meetings. Convention Rules are reviewed annually. Active participation in the Bylaws & Policy Committee takes place. Issues and inquiries are responded to. Bylaws review has been done for various clubs and this officer visited one club to assist with a meeting involving significant bylaws changes.

This officer served as Convention Credentials Chairman again this year. In reviewing Registration and Credentials Forms it is always concerning that some board members do not seem to recognize that they are board members. Our president asked me to remind you who makes up CGCI's board of directors. See page 92 of our *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*, Article VII, Section 1: officers, district directors, members of the nominating committee, members of the board of trustees, members of the advisory council, members of the bylaws committee, members of the Circle of Poppies (ex officio) and all committee chairmen.

If you are a board member you have a vote at convention. So if you are also a club president you can send someone else to convention to represent you and your club – because you do not get an additional vote for being club president.

Club members cannot designate themselves as convention delegates. They need to be elected or appointed by the club and the president needs to advise who they are by submission of a Credentials Form as explained in the Call to Convention.

Fewer Credentials Forms were received this year than were received the last two years. It is disturbing that only 21 clubs from 11 districts are represented here (other than by board members). Our challenge that I repeat from last year is more urgent this year – to generate more interest, enthusiasm and attendance.

Parliamentary procedure is a continuous learning and process and its administration is improved with practice and repetition. I attend parliamentary education presentations whenever possible. I recently learned at one such meeting that email voting is illegal in California according to the California Corporations Code. *Robert's Rules* frowns on email meetings and voting, but allows them if included in an organization's bylaws. But *Robert's* also states that organizations must follow local, state and federal law. CGCI has occasionally used email voting and will discontinue this practice.

There should be less need for clubs and districts to do email voting. Clubs and districts that are not incorporated would not be governed by the Corporations Code, but those that are incorporated should refrain from this practice.

You have probably noticed that this Parliamentarian has voted and made motions. In the interest of impartiality, *Robert's* provides that Parliamentarians should refrain from these actions. However California law provides that Parliamentarians who are members of the organizations they serve are entitled to all rights and privileges provided to any member

### **Financial Secretary, Launa Gould**

This financial secretary worked with the Treasurer to maintain a detailed record of all expenses and revenue transactions.

Monthly audits have been conducted by Robin Pokorski.

A CGCI Business Credit Card has been obtained from Bank of America which can be transferred from President to President.

Worked with the Budget & Finance committee and Executive Committee to establish a budget for the 2018-2019 year. The proposed budget will be presented at the organizational meeting.

Budgets are established for guidelines and limits on expenses.

**Expenses** – reimbursements for Chairmen and District Directors are for printing, ink and supplies necessary for your position. Fill out forms with details of transaction.

Fill out Request for Payment or Reimbursement form online. Send to Financial Secretary along with receipts or scan and email. Expenses are checked against budget.

Fiscal year ends June 30. **Final date to submit for reimbursement is June 15.**

**Line Codes** – help us to keep track of Revenue and Expenses.

**Revenue** – fill out Cash Receipts Report online or use the 3-part form. Send one copy to PO Box 75, Graton, along with check, a copy to Financial Secretary and keep a copy. Online form automatically goes to appropriate people but send a copy with checks.

**Corresponding Secretary, Marlene Kinney**

Sympathy Card Sent To: Sue Bennett – Loss of Dad

Thank You Card Sent To: Wanda De Groft – Cascade District Stamp Recycle Chairman

Get Well Card Sent To: Rilla Crane – Bad Fall

Thinking of You Card Sent To: Adele Kelly – DD Palomar District (Husband Diagnosed with advanced pancreatic cancer)

Thank you letter: Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy for CGCI gift of \$1,000 in support of Project Mission Blue

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President, Membership Chairman, Martha Smyser**

**Current Membership**

**Number paid as of June 2, 2018**

Clubs - 253 (15,123 members)

APS - 62 ( 4,688 members)

Aff - 2

Total - 317 (19,811 members)

**Last Year's Membership**

**As of 5/18/17**

Clubs - 271 (16,643 members)

APS- 60 (3,968 members)

Aff.- 11

Total – 342 (20,611)

**2nd Vice-President, Lynne Batchelor**

I enjoyed working with our wonderful group of knowledgeable, hardworking, dedicated committee chairs this year. In addition to their usual duties of keeping their committee organized, making presentations to clubs and serving as a state wide resource for solving problems, providing data, answering questions and cheerleading for their cause, they have been tasked with 3 additional duties: to write at least 1 article for *Golden Gardens*, to make at least 1 oral report to the entire board and to update their procedures. The chairs added an additional page of data to our resource list; please use the Revised Resource List (3 pages).

**Attachment B, 2018 Convention Minutes  
Committee Reports**

**Group Tax Exemption Program, Ilene Herringer**

In accordance with IRS requirements detailed in publication 557, Group Tax Exemption Reports must be filed at least 90 days before the beginning of the annual accounting period. There were no new GTEP applications for 2017-2018. A total of 106 organizations are participating, qualified for renewal and are exempt for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Our report was filed prior to the deadline.

In August the report will be filed with the Franchise Tax Board to fulfill their annual requirements.

Seven organizations withdrew from GTEP because the club disbanded or dropped from CGCI membership. Two of the clubs were ratified as withdrawing from GTEP. Four garden clubs and one district who will no longer be participating in our Group Tax Exemption Program known as GTEP need to be ratified.

They are:

Sea Isle Garden Club

Sunnyside Garden Club

Huntington View Garden Club

Donner Garden Club

Palms to Pines District

Note: The four clubs and one district were ratified at the organization meeting on June 7, 2018.

**President's Project Co-Chairman, Carolyn Hoyum**

Thanks so much for all you faithful garden club members who involved your selves, clubs, and districts in donating to the ongoing president's project. Not one to go get the mail often it is still amazing that each time there is an envelope for the project. As of this date June 1, 2018 the project has gained \$1700.00 since our last CGCI board meeting! We have as donors this time from: Colfax GC, Cascade District, San Clemente GC, Divide GC, Valley Oak GC, Chula Vista GC, Red Bluff GC, Burbank Valley GC, Multiflora GC, Cascade District, Diablo Foothills GC, Palomar District, Del Norte GC. Krystal, our CGCI President, the scholarship and the endowment fund all thank you very much.

We encourage you all to talk to your club about this project and possibly make a donation. If you need more info on this check out the CGCI yearbook or call the chairman.

### **Scholarship Committee Chairman, Martha Smyser**

CGCI awarded three students scholarships for the 2018-19 academic year: Guy Hernandez won the \$2,000 Robert Gordon Scholarship. He is Master's candidate at Cal Poly Pomona studying Plant Science. His research area is invasive plants. The winner of the \$2,000 Susan Bennett Scholarship is Katherine Bocksor, a Master's candidate at Cal State San Diego who focuses her research on marine resources. Both Guy and Kate won \$4,000 National Garden Clubs Scholarships. The winner of the one-time \$1,500 *Golden Gardens* Scholarship is Marcus Gonzalves who is working towards a Masters in Conservation and Restoration Sciences at UC Irvine.

## **Attachment C, 2018 Convention Minutes District Directors' Reports**

### **Bay Bridges District, Bonnie Smith**

Bay Bridges District held the Spring Board Meeting, April 27, 2018, at the Lake Merritt Garden Center, Oakland, CA. Eight clubs attended. Total Balance: \$25,551.87. Two Scholarship checks, \$1000, each, were awarded to two students of Horticulture from Merritt College, Oakland, CA. Also, two presentations were given, on bees, and the other on Presidents' Gardens/Museums. Lunch menu: Roast Chicken, three styles of salad, chocolate cake, coffee, tea, lemon water, and lemonade. Director's Report: 2017 Fall Board Meeting, and Hosting Convention/Board Meeting.

### **Buttes District, Ilene Herringer**

Recently Chico Horticulture Society had a plant sale and flower show during the Chico Home & Garden Show. At the greeters table they provided club information and membership applications. If someone was interested in joining the organization they were offered a nice plant if membership application and dues were submitted that day. Five people became members during the two day event. Paradise Garden Club recently had a Home Garden Tour. One of the homes had fire safe landscaping which was very educational because Paradise is in a Fire Risk Area as well as much of Buttes District.

### **Channel Islands District, Lisa Cosand**

The District has celebrated the completion of hosting the Winter Board Meeting. Its aim was to be inclusive and delightful. To fulfill this, we invited the whole district to the Thursday luncheon to meet the President. To be delightful, we invited the hawk to meet the guests and had Nancy perform Audrey Hepburn songs. The District along with several clubs, donated to the Ventura Botanical Garden which was burned in the Thomas fire. The District will contribute \$500 to the district lunch location at the Malibu Lake Club House, site of many movies.

### **Costa Verde District, Gudrun Kimmel**

All the clubs in Costa Verde serve their communities with plantings, programs, awarding scholarship and donating to CGCI projects. I would like to single out San Pedro Garden Club for my report. San Pedro celebrated their 90th birthday on April 24th, 2018. Attending this celebration were our State President, Krystal Migliore, 1st Vice President, Shane Looper, former President Robin Pokorski and CGCI Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski and this District Director. Awards were presented to them by CGCI, Costa Verde District and the City of Los Angeles honored them with a Los Angeles City Council Resolution Certificate. San Pedro held their first meeting on April 5, 1928. They planted a tree in their town and have planted one every Arbor Day since. In 1931 they became a founding member of the California Garden Club Federation. For 90 years they have contributed to their community by planting in parks, giving scholarships to High School students and being a vital part of their community.

### **Desert Empire District, Terry Fairfield**

The two clubs in the DED are Oasis and Desert Rose Garden Club.

Oasis just celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a luncheon. Many members of both clubs attended, Many Past Presidents were also in attendance. We celebrated with a beautiful delicious cake and Camellias from Janice Wagner's yard. Who would of ever thought that Camellias would grow in the Mojave Desert? Oasis has had a busy year with plant sales, trips and even a Tea.

Desert Rose Garden Club has been very busy. With typical plant sales, city improvement projects and planting 3 Windmill Palms at the new Fire Station to celebrate Arbor Day. This year the club trip was to Huntington Botanical Garden. Ann Richardson, one of our members previously worked in the Japanese Garden at Huntington. Ann was able to get free entry and two guided tours for our club, on a day when they were closed to the public! We also had lunch at the cafeteria. It was a long day with the 2.5 hr. drive each way but was well worth it.

### **Diablo Foothills District, Gloria Utley**

We have a new garden club in our district. It is the Happy Valley Garden Club in Lafayette. We are currently encouraging them to join the Diablo Foothills District. This year, Clayton Valley Garden Club has again assisted the Clayton Historical Society with their Annual Garden Tour. They provide a greeter at each garden on the tour. The club provides a plant as a door prize at each garden as well as handing out tour programs. Of course, members answer gardening questions as they come up as well as promoting membership in the Clayton Valley Garden Club.

New endeavors this year included revising our bylaws to address issues that were of concern to our members. That included meetings that they thought lasted too long and were held too often. Garden clubs that had to deal with bay area commute traffic had to allow extra time on the road. Arriving for District Meetings by 10:00 a.m. allows for time to enjoy a continental breakfast of sorts that is provided by one or two clubs selected by alphabetical order. The business meeting begins at 10:30 a.m. lasting until approximately 1:00 p.m.

By holding the meetings at the same location, members know approximately how long their drive will be. Driving in calmer traffic can also allow for less stress. We still schedule time for speakers and questions. The June meetings will probably last a little longer to allow for distribution of club awards.

Increasing Executive Committee Meetings has helped us to cut back on Board Meetings. All of these changes have resulted in more participation from the clubs in the Diablo Foothills District. As these revisions have been in place for only nine months. We hope other benefits will continue to emerge.

### **Golden Foothills District, Ann Wallace**

Eight clubs of the Golden Foothills District are busy with end of year activities: Colfax Garden Club has a beautiful video presentation of the year's activities, Thank you luncheons are a part of most groups as well as installing officers for the clubs with changes. The Chicago Park Garden Club went on a concentrated hunt for new members and were rewarded with five new enthusiastic workers. Auburn Garden Club has a chairman who enjoys finding and previewing potential tours for their group. Lake of the Sky Garden Club is disbanding, and concentrating on disbursing their monies for local scholarship needs

### **Humboldt District, Jeanne Johnson**

Our District is growing; including younger members.

We presented Rieblie Elementary School and the Pepperwood Preserve, both in Santa Rosa, checks for \$500 each to replace gardens ruined or lost because of the fires.

One of our goals is to have the clubs in the district support each other by attending regular meetings or special events of the other clubs. This encourages stronger clubs. This was seen at the Ferndale Club's 80<sup>th</sup> year celebration. We had almost each club represented at their beautiful tea.

A change we have made at the district and club level is to encourage supporting all the CGCI special projects, not just Penny Pines. Many club members thought this was the only project. They had no idea we supported so many. Now, each club votes for the project or projects they will be supporting throughout the year. The District does the same thing. Proudly, Stagecoach Hill is most often the top of the list. There have been several work days and tours as well as financial support.

We have added a "science chairman" who will give a short presentation at each of our District meetings regarding recent research in the life of plants and pollinators. It has been well received. She's finding very fascinating studies.

Most of our clubs give scholarships to local high school students. This trend within the District is growing.

The Fortuna Club had their annual Daffodil Show. People from a large area come to take part or just observe all the hundreds of daffodils. The Southern Humboldt Club had their 67<sup>th</sup> annual Flower Show, with five generations from one family entering the show. There were hundreds of flowers for this small community to come and see. We are very grateful to the judges from CGCI who support our shows. Again, many of the other club members came and supported the clubs who put on these shows.

We started our year with Robin coming and presenting her Leadership seminar. People are still taking about how much they learned. We would like to encourage each District in our state to have her come and give this workshop for you. It was a very educational and fun day as only Robin can produce!!

### **Luther Burbank District, Marybeth Hull**

- Petaluma Garden Club won the National Garden Club's Plant America Grant. The planting of the hedgerow was on April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Santa Rosa Garden club postponed Arbor Day to April 28<sup>th</sup> due to the Santa Rosa Firestorm. Reibli School and Schaeffer School had to replace contaminated soil in their community gardens before the trees could be planted.
- Clubs created business cards and post cards listing hours of meetings to give to potential members.
- District paperwork is being scanned and saved in iCloud.
- Luther Burbank will host the Fall 2019 CGCI Board meeting & make it a District Clubs Team Building Activity.



### **Montana De Oro District, Cathy van Orman**

- I. Contacted all Clubs in the District and handed out brochures from District meeting.
  - II. Held two District meetings with speakers. First speaker was Randall K. Parker, a Wildlife Specialist from the United States Department of Agriculture. The second speaker was Ken Byrne, from the Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society.
  - III. Attended Blue Ribbon dedication on Memorial Day, 2018, with Cayucos Garden Club and the American Legion of Cambria. Several luminaries attended including City Council Member, Bruce Gibson.
  - IV. Talked one Club from leaving the California Garden Clubs, Inc.
  - V. Attended services for deceased members.
  - VI. Attended ceremonies for local scholarship recipients.
- To do:
- I. Attend more Club meetings and meet newly elected Board officers.
  - II. Try to get Clubs to submit applications for rewards.
  - III. Give Clubs all the help I can: get speakers, etc.
  - IV. Try to raise money for the District – most members not interested.

### **Palomar District, Adele Kelly**

Asst. District Director Sharon Tooley reported for Adele Kelly.

The membership of Palomar District has been busy this past Spring. Within the District, six flower shows, numerous garden tours and teas, and many prosperous plant sales were held. Another flower show sponsored by the District will be held this Summer with the San Diego Dahlia Society on August 4-5, 2018. The show will feature horticulture (including hundreds of beautiful dahlias) and NGC designs. In the design division, there will be a section for Club Competition in table designs. Also, Palomar District welcomes the San Diego Bromeliad Society as a new member. They were founded in 1965 and have 115 members.

### **San Fernando Valley District, Rita Desilets**

Southern California Garden Club has discovered a fantastic fundraising idea. The club has a Country Store at each monthly meeting which takes up six-8 ft. tables and about 25 feet of counter space in three separate areas. A 6' clothes rack made from PVC pipes displays new and gently used clothing. Where does all this inventory come from? Some items are donated by members. Members visit garage sales and offer to take the left-overs at the end of the sale. Members moving to assisted living or down-sizing offer items free for pickup. The club held an estate sale last spring to empty the entire contents of a home.

### **Santa Clara Valley District, Roseann Costabile**

Santa Clara Valley District Partnerships

**Marina Tree and Garden Club** volunteers with HOPE Services, the Veteran's Transition Center, and the Community Hospital Wellness Program at the Goodwill Garden. Members repair beds, plant seeds, harvest vegetables and discuss pollinators and safe pest management.

**The Gardener's Club** assist the Walnut Avenue Family and Women's Center in the Memorial Garden. The garden, dedicated in 2012, is meant to honor the goals of the Women's Center by empowering women and youth through education and community involvement. Included in the garden are plots to access fresh vegetables, a tranquility garden and a children's interactive garden.

### **Sequoia Foothills District, Linda Tucker**

Sequoia Foothills District trialed a two year yearbook and going paperless. Both trials were evaluated successful overall. Our Awards Chairman presented the new Awards Booklet at the Fall District Meeting and successfully encouraged more clubs' participation in various awards.

Hanford Garden Club installed a Blue Star Memorial at the Children's Storybook Garden and Museum (CSGM) with President Krystal in attendance. Site selection has proven positive as adults and children are educated on the meaning of the Memorial at the entrance of CSGM. Another Blue Star Memorial is planned by our Four Seasons Club. Fundraising luncheons, teas, and garden tours to support scholarships for students and school horticulture were plentiful this Spring. A garden that was a "work in progress" provided an opportunity to view ideas of transitioning a garden from one type to another. Hopefully this garden will reappear to display the outcome.

All clubs have been active with the District. This District Director would like to acknowledge all the supportive work being done by District Board members, the clubs, and CGCI Board members and chairmen. Sequoia Foothills District is going strong.

### **Yosemite Gateway District, Mary Brooks**

Yosemite Gateway District continues with three very active clubs: Atwater, LeGrand and Merced for an approximate total of 123 members.

All clubs are focused on participating in the Gold Star marker program

Merced Garden has recruited three young members who are now officers on our Board. For the first time in 10 years Merced Garden Club has a totally new Board.

Activities for the clubs has generated approximately \$7000.00 for scholarships to our local high schools and community colleges.

After a vote of our District we will have only one District meeting a year. Our president, Krystal, will be our guest in October, 2018.

### **Attachment D, 2018 Convention Minutes Chairmen Reports**

#### **Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Nancy Lee Loesch**

Borrego is Spanish for bighorn sheep. The park is home to about 600 bighorn sheep. The size of the park is more than 630,000 acres and it is one of the largest state parks in the United States. Elevations in the park range from 6,000 feet to 15 feet above sea level.

In 2012 CGCI resolved to donate \$15,000 to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park for upgrades to the park Visitor Center. To fulfill this resolution we still have about \$6,400 remaining to be donated. The restricted fund is now \$531.89. We are dependent on donations to fulfill the commitment

When I visited Anza-Borrego Desert State Park in April we met with State Park Interpreter II Sally Theriault. She said that they have two current needs for the Visitor Center. They need more desert plants and a new walkway lighting system.

This State Park that CGCI has supported for many years continues to have needs that our donations can help solve. I will keep in contact with the park and provide information in the Golden Garden E-News to make our Districts and Clubs aware of the park's needs.

#### **Arbor Day, Mary Lou Goodwin & Terry Fairfield**

Thanks to the passion and gusto of a tree-lover named J. Sterling Morton, Arbor

Day was first celebrated in Nebraska on April 10, 1872 by planting an estimated one million trees on the treeless prairie. Since its inception in the 1800's, Arbor Day has been celebrated around the nation as a day to plant and care for trees.

#### **California's Arbor Day is celebrated on March 7, in honor of famed horticulturist Luther Burbank's birthday. The celebration may continue until March 14<sup>th</sup>.**

Suggested activities include: Having a City Council Resolution adopted announcing Arbor Week (March 7-14), planting trees with children at schools, public buildings, churches, parks, and on private property. Creating a Press Release about your activities. Submit articles and pictures for the CGCI newsletter and web page.

Check the Cagardenclubs.org website for more details about trees and suitable ceremonies.

Morton believed that the beauty of trees was a reason unto itself: "To preserve beauty on the earth, to plant trees, and renew dead landscapes with the shadow and light of plant life flitting through the pendant limbs, the willowy boughs and the waving foliage of sturdy, yet graceful woods. Our ancestors planted orchards to fruit for us, and homes to give us shelter." He noted that Arbor Day was unusual among holidays: "Each of those reposes upon the past, while Arbor Day proposes for the future. It contemplates, not the good and the beautiful of past generations, but it sketches, outlines, establishes the useful and beautiful for the ages yet to come".

In 1893, Morton was made Secretary of Agriculture by President Grover Cleveland, and a few years later the Government Printing Office published a manual on the history and observance of Arbor Day. The publisher wrote that Arbor Day could not only teach students the importance of trees to the functioning of society, but also make them into "tree lovers. A tree sentiment will be created and established which will lead us to recognize and cherish the trees as friends."

A century after the holiday was first celebrated, the Arbor Day Foundation was created to continue encouraging people to plant and love trees and President Nixon proclaimed National Arbor Day to be the last Friday in April; however, a number of states honor Arbor Day at other times in the spring season to coincide with prime tree planting periods.

#### **MANY ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATE IN ARBOR DAY**

Arbor Day Foundation

California Releaf

California Arbor Week

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

National Wildlife Refuges

National Arbor Day

P G & E

USDA Forest Service

#### **Arboreta and Botanic Gardens, Sherry Molinari**

This chairman accepted this position in 2013. When the paperwork was received from the previous chairman it was found that the list had not been updated in several years. The first thing was to check the information on the list and then to proceed to build a new list. The current list of 101 gardens is updated once a year and this chairman has visited 27 of the gardens. The goal of this chairman is visit each one of the arboreta and gardens on the current list. The current list can be found on the CGCI website.

### **Blue Star & Gold Star Families Memorial Markers, Shirley Lipa**

There was a price increase for the markers effective May 1, 2018. The large highway or memorial markers now cost \$1,530 and the smaller by-way marker costs \$510. These prices will be in effect until May 1, 2020. Because of this increase, we saw an increase in clubs ordering markers.

It is important that before you order the marker, you have permission of the property owner of the site where you want it installed. Most often the markers are mounted on a small or even medium sized boulder. Obtaining a boulder, preparing a flat surface, mounting the marker and moving the boulder to the desired location will likely cost more than the marker itself.

We have had several dedications or rededications this past year. A Blue Star Highway Marker was purchased by the Cayucos Garden Club in cooperation with the Cambria American Legion Post 432. It was placed in May of this year on the original Highway 1 in Cambria. Also in May, the Linden Garden Club had a By-Way Marker rededication. The Four Seasons Garden Club in Squaw Valley, in cooperation with the local American Legion Club, will be dedicating a marker this June.

Our up-coming Pacific Region Director, our own Robin Pokorski, will be promoting Blue Star Memorials, so encourage your clubs to be thinking about placing a new marker or refurbishing and rededicating a current marker.

CGCI has a Blue Star Memorial Designated Restricted Fund. Clubs may apply for a \$100 grant for a by-way marker or a \$350 grant for a highway or memorial marker. If any districts or clubs would like more information on placing a marker, George Unrine or myself would be glad to help you.

Please invite either George or I to your dedications. I'm not promising that we will be able to attend, but we sure would like to be invited.

### **Calendar, Official, Carolyn Hoyum**

On the CGCI Web Site you can find the CGCI official calendar. This is where you check out what is going on In California Garden Clubs all over California! On the right side of the web page it says: **Calendar of Events**

Or you can look under member benefits and find calendar that way. It will list special member clubs happenings and there is also the official CGCI/NGC calendar listings.

Your club can toot your own horn by listing things you are doing in your area that people are able to attend.

If you are using the CGCI listing those dates that may conflict with other CGCI official events and schools, and board meetings are listed there. When you decide on a date for your flower show school or your Environmental classes you need to send the info to me so I can try to check with all involved to make sure the coast is clear to put it on that Official Calendar.

So this is what this chairmanship is all about!

### **California State Parks, Art Loesch**

From California State Parks website: [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)

Our Mission: To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

California Department of Parks and Recreation: Parks are essential to the well-being of environments, economies and all people. California's state parks and the recreational programs supported by the California Department of Parks and Recreation and its divisions of Boating and Waterways, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation, and Office of Historic Preservation, are gateways to these benefits and to opportunities to connect with families, friends, and communities. With 280 state park units, over 340 miles of coastline, 970 miles of lake and river frontage, 15,000 campsites, and 4,500 miles of trails, the department contains the largest and most diverse recreational, natural, and cultural heritage holdings of any state agency in the nation.

More than 67 million people annually visit California's state park system.

California State Parks are under the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Contact information for those without access to the website:

**Address:** 1416 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95814 | P.O. Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 94296

**Public Information Inquiries:** (916) 653-6995 | (800) 777-0369

### **Garden Therapy, Martha Smyser**

Congratulations to Del Norte Garden Club (Orange County) whose project won first place in California, the Pacific Region and at National. Thank you to all the clubs who do Garden Therapy projects. For clubs wanting to start, contact this chairman for ideas.

### **Gardening Schools, Greg Pokorski**

See article on page 5 of June's *Golden Gardens eNews* telling what Gardening School is, why you should have one and why you should attend. Chicago Park and Chula Vista Garden Clubs expressed interest in holding Schools, but need to defer this for some time. Another club/district should hold a school in the near term. The only 2018 California Refresher scheduled takes place June 25 in Encino – see the exhibit here and articles in the April and May *eNews* and in the current *Council Thymes*. Refresher reminders have been sent to all California Gardening Consultants. Lapse warnings have been sent to those who will lapse if they do not refresh this year. We're at risk of losing 30% of our Gardening Consultants. Contact me if you have questions about your status and to learn more about Gardening School.

### **Home Grown, Myrtle Findley**

This chairman gives Awards Number 22 and 23 one for your Vegetable/Fruit garden and the other for a Green Recipe. And do please call or e-mail this chairman before completing your entry. Read the EVALUATION FORM! Maybe the topic should read Only Home Grown.

### **Judges Council Liaison, Myrtle Findley**

We have given you a Standard Flower Show, was it educational? Will all Judges of the CGCI Council, and all who exhibited and helped, please stand, and be recognized. It takes a big crew to put on a Show! Special thanks goes to Kathy Bramhall who wrote the schedule and chaired this show for our Convention 2018. If invited in two years we will do it again, as we promised to offer in even number years.

### **Landscape Design Schools, Alexis Slafer**

The recently planned Landscape Design School -- Series 27, being organized by Colfax Garden Club, has been cancelled.

Those consultants who need to refresh should plan on attending the Tri-refresher being held in Encino on Monday, June 25th. Southern California Garden Club is sponsoring this educational event.

This Chair is eager to assist with sponsoring a new Landscape Design School. Please consider sponsoring a Landscape Design School in your area. It is not difficult, you learn a lot, and it is a lot of fun!

### **Penny Pines, Carol Vallens**

The total amount donated to Penny Pines from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, Statewide was \$29,240.00, with the total number of plantings, 430. The club that donated the most Penny Pines Plantings with a total of 19 plantings was Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club, with 230 members, Diablo Foothills District.

The club that donated the most plantings, by the size of the club, with 28 members and 6 plantings was Lake California Garden Club, Cascade District.

### **Reuse, Recycle, Repurpose, Chuck Goodwin**

The Chairman reported on the National Garden Clubs program: Recycling Initiative, The Next Steps. The original initiative was directed towards keeping empty laser and ink jet cartridges and used cell phones out of the landfill. NGC is urging that these successful programs continue. The Next Steps will assist individual garden clubs and districts to look beyond curbside pickup. Take items that are discarded every day and find ways to recycle or reuse those articles.

Several successful examples were presented, including some from CGCI members. The NGC Recycling program is at <http://gardenclub.org/projects/recycling.aspx> NCG Recycling Chairman Teresa Walker is at [teresa@kayandkay.com](mailto:teresa@kayandkay.com)

### **Sempervirens Fund, Rosa Radicchi**

The Great Park Campaign completed; raised \$22 million over four years and protected 9,200+ acres in Santa Cruz Mountains. Proposition 68: Clean Water & Parks Act passed. Contoni-Coast Ridge property acquired, which connects San Vicente Redwoods, Cotoni-Coast Dairies National Monument, and Cal Poly's Swanton Pacific Ranch; totally 17,500+ acres. Castle Rock Celebrates 50th Anniversary: Sat, Sept. 29, 2018 from 10:00 am 4:00 pm. Volunteers planted over 200 Black Oaks & the Amah Mutsun Land Trust Native Stewardship Corps & members of Muwekma Ohlone planted an ethnobotanical demonstration garden at Castle Rock's entrance. Thank you for your continued support!

### **Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest, Charlotte Tucker**

Suggestions for clubs wishing to participate in the Youth Poster Contest.

Appoint a poster contest chairman NOW! That way they can research any information about the contest they don't already have and clear up any misconceptions about rules and submission dates before it's too late.

**In honor of Smokey's 75th birthday we will ONLY be doing Smokey posters in Fall, 2018.**

Remember this chairman is always at the end of the phone and checks e-mails every day.

Don't hesitate to get in touch with any concerns

Charlotte Tucker (209)533-9300 or [ctucker@mlode.com](mailto:ctucker@mlode.com)

Don't forget to celebrate Smokey Bear's Birthday on August 9<sup>th</sup>. I suggest a story time at your local library and you might consider inviting the U.S. Forest Service in your area to join in the celebration.

### **Stagecoach Hills Azalea Management Area, Mary Lou Goodwin**

Humboldt District of California Garden Clubs, Inc. sponsored

"Come Work In The Azaleas" events on Sunday March 4 and Saturday March 17 and 31. Volunteers gathered at 10:00 am at the Stagecoach Hill Azalea Management Area north of Trinidad. They reached the area by turning on Kane road from Highway 101 and following the signs to the parking lot. 30 persons brought their own garden clippers or battery powered pruning shears to spruce up the azaleas and remove lots of invasive plants that were crowding out the native azaleas in the 40 acre plot owned by the California State Park. Sack lunches were enjoyed with beverages provided by the committee. All of the workers received a coupon for free admittance to Patrick's Point State Park to enjoy at another time as a thank you for their labor. A total of 90 hours was donated to the California State Park. On May 26, cuttings were prepared for growing and seeds were collected to start new plants. The Mill Creek Nursery, part of Redwood National Park, will be doing the work. Tours of the Azaleas by docents are now being offered and the Southern Humboldt Garden Club will be coming on June 2, Another 6 local clubs have helped on the Azalea work days. The California State Parks is still designing the handicapped assessable trail to be built in 2019.

### **Water Conservation & Education, Ward Habriel**

The report from this Chair is highlighting the issues thru legislation that are affecting all water users in CA. Specifically: AB 2957, Gallagher, Yuba Cty; to help CA meet challenges in water planning, recycling, testing, treatment, distribution, and more. And about the dam; AB 1270 to enhance state inspections annually.

Then, SB 606 and AB 1668 recently signed by Gov. requiring stricter conservation by 2022 at 55 GPPD and 50 GPPD in 2030.

The lack of transparency in public agencies is affecting all of us. Call your local supplier, get the latest info from them.