

California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Minutes of the 2018 Winter Board Meeting
Palm Garden Hotel, Thousand Oaks, California
January 31 – February 2, 2018
Host: Channel Islands District
President: Krystal Migliore

Business Meeting #1

President Krystal Migliore called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31.

The Recording Secretary was present.

Board Meetings and Conventions Timekeeper Jeanne Desilets gave the Inspiration.

President Krystal Migliore called for a moment of silence in memory of former CGCI President Maryanne Lucas, 2009-2011.

Vermiculture and Vermicomposting Chairman Paul Vander Werf led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Krystal Migliore introduced the 2017-2019 Executive Committee and welcomed the former CGCI Presidents in attendance: Bob Gordon (2003-2005), 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 members serving on the 2017-2019 National Garden Clubs Board of Directors, including two members serving as officers: Corresponding Secretary Robin Pokorski and Historian Shane Looper.

Those members serving on the 2017-2019 Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Board of Directors were acknowledged.

Winter Board Co-Chairmen Lisa Cosand and Judy Doane welcomed the CGCI members to Channel Islands District.

President Krystal Migliore thanked and recognized Channel Islands District Co-Chairmen Lisa Cosand and Judy Doane, the host committee and the district volunteers for hosting the Winter Board Meeting.

The pages for this meeting were introduced: Sandy Richeson as the President's page and P. J. Oakie as the general page.

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

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

Excused: Mary Arakelian, Mary Brooks, Roxanne Campbell, Anne Capes, Nancy Compton, Janet Eyre, Helen Gates, Josephine Goodenow, Chuck Goodwin, Mary Lou Goodwin, Berni Hendrix, Joelle Holford, Rosalie Hooper, Marjorie Johnson, Bette Langford, Cindy Martin, Nancy McDougal, Judy Powers, Dorothy Roton, Hoberley Schuler, Bob Taylor, Linda Tucker, Gloria Utlej, Carlotta Wixon-Welker, and Pat York.

Registration Chairman Robin Pokorski gave the registration report with a total registration of 143.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported that the Rules of Order for Board Meetings were accepted at the Organizational Meeting on June 3, 2017 for this entire term. They are on pages 33 and 34 of the 2017-2019 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* and on page 7 of the Winter Board Meeting Program.

Winter Board Meeting Co-Chairman Lisa Cosand moved to adopt the Winter Board Meeting Program as corrected. **Motion Passed.**

Chairman of the Minutes Review Committee Greg Pokorski moved to adopt the minutes of the October 4-5 2017 Fall Board Meeting in Oroville as distributed by Jane McKee for Gail Vanderhorst on November 16, 2017. **Motion Passed.**

Without objection President Krystal Migliore appointed the following committee to review the minutes of this meeting: Greg Pokorski, Chairman, Judy Bates and Martha Smyser.

Financial Report

Treasurer George Perko reported. See Attachment A.

December 31, 2017

Net worth:

Total cash in checking/savings accounts	\$132,511	
Total other assets	\$376,819	
TOTAL ASSETS		\$509,330
of which restricted funds are	\$328,059	
Cash Balance Available		<u>\$181,271</u>

The Treasurer's Report will be filed as presented.

Officers' reports

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported. See Attachment B.

Communications Director Jane McKee reported.

Financial Secretary Launa Gould reported (see Attachment B) and moved to apply for a CGCI Corporate Credit Card, authorized users to be CGCI President, 1st Vice-President/President-Elect, Financial Secretary and Treasurer. **Motion Passed.**

Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst reported that the deadline for reports to be emailed is Tuesday, February 6, 2018.

Corresponding Secretary Marlene Kinney reported. See Attachment B.

3rd Vice-President Martha Smyser reported. See Attachment B.

Membership

Number paid as of January 28, 2018

Clubs – 247 (14,629 members)
APS - 56 (4,254 members)
AFF- 3
Total - 306 (18,883 members)

Membership

As of 2017 Fall Board-Paid

Clubs – 226 (12,925 members)
APS - 34 (2,738 members)
AFF- 1
Total – 266 (15,663 members)

Martha Smyser moved to ratify Ohara School of Ikebana in Greater Los Angeles District transferring from club membership to APS status. **Motion Passed.**

2nd Vice-President Lynne Batchelor reported on the Making Connections: Resources & Community Outreach Committee, the Chairmen's Forum and is providing a resource list for Clubs and Districts.

1st Vice-President Shane Looper reported on Board Meetings and Conventions and District Directors.

President Krystal Migliore reported. See Attachment B.

The meeting was recessed at 2:57 pm.
The meeting was reconvened at 3:15 p.m.

3rd Vice-President Martha Smyser moved to ratify Los Angeles Geranium Society transferring from APS status to Club status in the Greater Los Angeles District. **Motion Passed.**

Flower Show Judges Credentials Chairman Kathy Bramhall presented boxes of postage stamps to be given to Stamps, Used Postage Chairman Claudia Marsh for Boys Town of America in Nebraska.

Committee Reports

Corresponding Secretary Marlene Kinney reported for Awards Chairman Berni Hendrix.

Special Awards Chairman Bob Gordon reported.

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

Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP) Chairman Ilene Heringer reported that GTEP renewal applications are coming in at a slower pace than last year. The renewal application form was revised and has resulted in fewer errors and omissions. Those organizations that have not submitted applications will be notified.

2nd Vice-President Lynne Batchelor reported for Life Membership Chairman Carlotta Wixon-Welker and moved to ratify Carol Denton of Lodi Garden Club, Valley Lode District, as a new Life Member in CGCI. **Motion Passed.**

Nominating Committee Secretary Kathy Taylor de Murillo reported on the progress of the Nominating Committee and encouraged willingness to serve on the CGCI Board.

Scholarship Chairman Martha Smyser reported on scholarship recipients:

Guy Hernandez - Robert Gordon Scholarship
Katherine Bocskor - Susan C. Bennett Scholarship
Marcus Goncalves - *Golden Gardens* Scholarship

2017 Convention Chairman Bob Gordon reported.

2017 Fall Board Meeting Chairman Ilene Heringer reported.

Bylaws & Policy Committee Chairman Shane Looper reported, introduced the committee members and moved on behalf of the committee that the following bylaws amendments be recommended to the voting membership at the 2018 CGCI Convention in Tuolumne, California:

1. Article VII – Board of Directors

Sec. 4. Change 3rd 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 all 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.

Passed.

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.

Passed as amended.

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.

Passed (items 3 and 4 together).

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.

Passed.

Standing Rules Amendments

Bylaws & Policy Committee Chairman Shane Looper moved on behalf of the committee that the following standing rules be amended, to become effective immediately upon a two thirds vote:

6. **Standing Rule # 5.** ~~Bylaws and policy committee shall total five (5) members including the first vice president/president-elect, policy chairman and others appointed by the president.~~ **Strike and insert: The President shall appoint a Vice President, preferably the Third Vice President, to chair the Bylaws and Policy Committee which shall include the Parliamentarian and three additional members. The other Vice Presidents may attend the meetings and participate except for the right to make motions and the right to vote.**

Rationale: The 1st Vice President/president-elect needs time to plan for the future president's term and may not be able to attend the committee meeting regularly. However the 1 Vice President/president-elect may attend the meeting without the right to vote or make motions.

Passed.

7. **Add New Standing Rule #6 and then renumber this section.**

The Bylaws and Policy Committee shall collect and review information and advise on the meetings/convention procedures and any other procedures deemed to be important to the organization.

Rationale: The meetings/convention procedures and other procedures essential to the organization are usually maintained by the President and/or a specific position, but should be more broadly reviewed for accuracy and relevance.

Passed.

8. Add New Standing Rule #16

The President-Elect shall set his/her board (invite, select and confirm those serving as committee chairmen) no later than March 1 of the year he/she is installed.

Rationale: The committee chairmen need to be set in order to sign hotel contracts for meetings, begin work on the changeover of personnel in the yearbook, include new chairman in the CALL to convention as their presence is required at the organizational meeting, ensure a smooth transition to the incoming chairman and secure chairmen commitments before they commit to some other entity.

Passed.

9. Standing Rule #104

Permission shall be required from the executive committee to use the logo in the design of any fundraising merchandise sponsored by a member club, district, flower show judges council, ~~landscape design council, gardening consultants council, environmental council,~~ the California Consultants Council or any combination thereof.

Strike and insert the California Consultants Council.

Rationale: California Consultants Council replaced landscape design council, gardening consultants council, environmental council.

Passed.

10. Standing Rule #107

Budgeted funds for officers, chairmen and district directors are for reimbursement of administrative expenses and for outreach activities on behalf of CGCI objectives. This excludes all expenses **for purchasing equipment unless specifically approved by the Board of Directors and expenses** incurred in attending conventions and board meetings except for the president and president-elect.

Insert wording in bold to the last sentence.

Rationale: CGCI is not in the business of purchasing equipment whether it is a printer, filing cabinet, paper cutter, etc. When CGCI funds are used to pay for items of this nature, CGCI owns items purchased and items may not be compatible or desired by their successor so storage becomes an issue. Board of Directors approval should be required in advance of any equipment purchased by an individual expecting reimbursement, e.g. digital projector replacement.

Passed.

The meeting was recessed at 4:50 p.m.

Business Meeting #2

The meeting was reconvened at 10:20 a.m. on Thursday, February 1, 2018.

Valley Lode District Director Pam Fish invited the CGCI members to the 2018 CGCI Convention in Tuolumne, California June 4 – 7, 2018.

Registrar Robin Pokorski moved to elect the following as delegates to the Pacific Region Convention in Chena Hot Springs, Alaska, April 6-9, 2018: Carolyn Villi, Ron Villi, Hank Vanderhorst, Gail Vanderhorst, Milly Benson and Sherry Molinari.

Motion Passed.

1st Vice President Shane Looper moved to elect the following as delegates to the National Garden Clubs Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 21 – 24, 2018: Pat Clayes, Josie Goodenow, Rosa Radicchi, Brent Vallens, Carol Vallens, Gail Vanderhorst and Hank Vanderhorst.

Motion Passed.

CGCI and Pacific Region Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski explained the requirements for state garden clubs to elect the Pacific Region Director and Alternate Region Director on a rotational basis.

Landscape Design Schools Chairman Alexis Slafer moved to nominate Robin Pokorski to serve as the 2019-2021 Pacific Region Director. **Motion Passed.**

Registrar Robin Pokorski moved to nominate Susan C. Bennett to serve as the 2019-2021 Alternate Pacific Region Director. **Motion Passed.**

Executive Committee Recommendations

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Recording Secretary Gail Vanderhorst moved to ratify or approve the following recommendations:

1. To amend Line Code 1607, State Pins and Misc. Sales, in the 2017-2018 budget to a) add \$500.00 to comply with previous policy (increase to \$1,000.00) and b) add an additional \$500.00 because of anticipated expenses (increase to \$1,500.00). **Motion Passed.**
2. That the \$5,486.02 check received from Palms to Pines District, restricted to the Scholarship Endowment, be accepted by CGCI. **Motion Passed.**
3. To ratify the appointment of Ilene Herringer to the position of Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP) Chairman and as a member of the Budget and Finance Committee.
4. To approve Ilene Herringer to serve concurrently as Buttes District Director, Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP) Chairman and as a member of the Budget and Finance Committee. **Motion Passed** (items 3 and 4 processed jointly).
5. To ratify the appointments of Pat Gutierrez and Terry Fairfield to the positions of Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Co-chairman.
6. To approve Terry Fairfield to serve concurrently as Desert Empire District Director, Rare Plant Treasure Hunt Co-chairman and Arbor Day Co-chairman. **Motion Passed** (items 5 and 6 processed jointly).
7. To ratify the appointment of Linda Malone to the position of 2018 Winter Board Meeting Treasurer. **Motion Passed.**
8. That the 2018 Convention registration fee be \$70 and early registration fee be \$45.
9. To ratify the appointment of Penny Binney to the position of 2018 Convention Treasurer, the appointment of Robin Pokorski to the position of 2018 Convention Registrar, and the appointment of Greg Pokorski to the position of 2018 Convention Credentials Chairman. **Motion Passed** (items 8 and 9 processed jointly).
10. To fund the Mi-Wuk Community Cultural Plant Demonstration Garden at Mi-Wok Ranger Station, Stanislaus National Forest. Funding in the amount of \$5,000.00, monies to come from Reforestation & Restoration Project Fund without Donor Restrictions Board Designated (line code 31010). **Motion Passed.**
11. To ratify the unbudgeted payment of \$26.86 to the Stamps Chairman for reimbursement of postage for Stamps (line code 1569). **Motion Passed.**
12. To ratify the 2019 Pacific Region Convention dates, April 7-10, 2019, and place, Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys. **Motion Passed.**
13. To ratify the appointment of Adele Kelly as 2019 Winter Board Meeting Chairman and approve her serving concurrently as Palomar District Director and 2019 Winter Board Meeting Chairman. **Motion Passed.**
14. To ratify the appointment of Laura Crenshaw as 2019 Winter Board Meeting Treasurer. **Motion Passed.**
15. To rescind the motion approved at the 2017 Fall Board Meeting that bank account and line code information be masked from publicly posted minutes and be available only by request to an Executive Committee member. **Motion Passed.**
16. To have a membership booth at the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show, April 4-8, 2018. **Motion Passed.**

The Meeting was recessed at 11:31 p.m.

Business Meeting #3

The meeting was reconvened at 2:00 p.m.

Paradise Garden Club Co-President Ward Habriel gave a presentation on "Daffodils Across The Ridge" about how his club distributed Bags of Hope to the community that had suffered a wildfire in 2008.

2nd Vice-President and Chairmen Coordinator Lynne Batchelor introduced the Chairmen who reported. See Attachment C.

The meeting was recessed at 3:13 p.m.
The meeting was reconvened at 3:34 p.m.

The Chairmen reports continued.

The meeting was recessed at 4:28 p.m.

Business Meeting #4

The meeting was reconvened at 8:32 a.m. on Friday, February 2, 2018.

District Director Coordinator Shane Looper introduced the District Directors that reported. See Attachment D.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Gail Vanderhorst _____ Date _____
CGCI Recording Secretary

1:05 PM

California Garden Clubs, Inc
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2017

01/26/18

Accrual Basis

	Dec 31, 17
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10100 · Cash in Checking Accounts	
10102a BofA CGCI Checking	21,930.27
10101 · BofA Business MMA .03%	101,739.29
10105 · Symposium BofA Checking 8298	3,561.51
10106 · Events BofA Checking	5,279.64
Total 10100 · Cash in Checking Accounts	132,510.71
Total Checking/Savings	132,510.71
Total Current Assets	132,510.71
Other Assets	
18500 · US Bank CD 3/8/19 1.49%	102,458.08
18600 · US Bank CD 12/24/21 1.49%	96,552.02
19000 · CGCI Endowment	
19110 · Vanguard Endowment-CGCI	50,126.00
19150 · Allowance for Change FMV Vgd	15,321.63
Total 19000 · CGCI Endowment	65,447.63
19500 · Scholarship Endowment	
19610 · Vanguard Endowment-Scholarship	85,599.01
19650 · Allowance for Change FMV Vngd	26,762.52
Total 19500 · Scholarship Endowment	112,361.53
Total Other Assets	376,819.26
TOTAL ASSETS	509,329.97
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
30500 · Net Assets w/o Donor Restrict'n	
30700 · General Activities	
30701 · Available General Activities	154,611.78
Total 30700 · General Activities	154,611.78
31000 · Board Designated Net Assets	
31001 · Blue Star Memorial	3,878.43
31002 · Educational Schools	5,099.66
31007 · Honor Book	6,665.67
31009 · Liability Insurance	66,065.82
31010 · Reforestation Fund	10,970.09

1:05 PM

01/26/18

Accrual Basis

California Garden Clubs, Inc
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2017

	<u>Dec 31, 17</u>
31011 · Symposium	
31011-1 · Symposium Reserve	13,770.62
31011-2 · Symposium Checking	3,561.51
	<hr/>
Total 31011 · Symposium	17,332.13
31012 · Wildflower Conference	
31012-1 · Wildflower Conf Reserve	11,630.68
31012-2 · Wildflower Conf Checking	1,279.64
	<hr/>
Total 31012 · Wildflower Conference	12,910.32
31013 · Youth Fund	1,842.48
31015 · Scholarship frm GoldGrd Transfr	1,483.98
31016 · CGCI Endowment	40,000.00
31017 · State Projects	8,000.00
31025 · Scholarship Endowment	15,000.00
	<hr/>
Total 31000 · Board Designated Net Assets	189,248.58
	<hr/>
Total 30500 · Net Assets w/o Donor Restrict'n	343,860.36
31400 · Net Assets w/ Donor Restrict'ns	
31500 · Net Assets w/ Restriction--Temp	
31501 · Awards	7,571.95
31503 · E. Miller Memorial Fund	3,250.00
31504 · H. Minor Memorial Fund	3,213.65
31509 · Judges Council	1,289.47
31511 · Presidents Projects	
31511D · 2017-19 President's Project	1,138.00
	<hr/>
Total 31511 · Presidents Projects	1,138.00
31512 · Project Mission Blue	2,009.53
31513 · Scholarship Donations Life Mbr	9,868.24
31514 · Endowment Marketing & Publicity	841.91
31516 · Anza-Borrego Desert Project	31.49
31517 · Scholarship Endowment Income	19,266.52
31518 · Sempervirens Fund	610.00
31519 · California Consultants Council	5,579.96
31521 · Rare Plant Treasure Hunt	205.00
31522 · Stagecoach Hill Azalea Project	3,209.73
	<hr/>
Total 31500 · Net Assets w/ Restriction--Temp	58,085.45

1:05 PM

01/26/18

Accrual Basis

California Garden Clubs, Inc
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2017

	<u>Dec 31, 17</u>
31800 · Net Assets w/ Restrict'n--Perma	
31805 · Endowment - CGCI	10,126.00
31810 · Endowment -Scholarship	70,599.01
	<hr/>
Total 31800 · Net Assets w/ Restrict'n--Perma	80,725.01
	<hr/>
Total 31400 · Net Assets w/ Donor Restrict'ns	138,810.46
	<hr/>
Net Income	26,659.15
	<hr/>
Total Equity	509,329.97
	<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>509,329.97</u>

1:07 PM

01/26/18

Accrual Basis

California Garden Clubs, Inc
Profit & Loss
July through December 2017

	<u>Jul - Dec 17</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
5200 · Dues	
5201 · Dues - Affiliates	150.00
5202 · Dues - APS	9,307.75
5203 · Dues - Clubs	38,708.10
	<hr/>
Total 5200 · Dues	48,165.85
5601 · Interest	1,496.07
5700 · Membership	
5701 · Membership Banners	9.08
5703 · Member Award of Distinction	150.00
	<hr/>
Total 5700 · Membership	159.08
5800 · Miscellaneous Income	
5801 · Bad Check Fees Reimbursements	24.00
5803 · 3 Year Calendars	90.00
	<hr/>
Total 5800 · Miscellaneous Income	114.00
6001 · Scholarship - Transfer Funds	4,000.00
6101 · State Pins and Misc. Sales	686.00
6301 · Yearbook Sales	1,041.72
	<hr/>
Total Income	55,662.72
	<hr/>
Gross Profit	55,662.72
Expense	
100 · Administration Expense	
1001 · Yearbook Printing	4,771.89
101 · Auditor	4,500.00
102 · External Treasurer	900.00
301 · Dues - NGC	20,611.00
302 · Dues - NGC Youth	10.00
303 · Dues - Pacific Region	360.00
500 · Filing Fees & Taxes	
501 · Attorney General	50.00
502 · Franchise Tax Board	10.00
	<hr/>
Total 500 · Filing Fees & Taxes	60.00
801 · Vonage 888#	160.64
901 · Website	2,440.00
	<hr/>
Total 100 · Administration Expense	33,813.53

1:07 PM

01/26/18

Accrual Basis

California Garden Clubs, Inc
Profit & Loss
July through December 2017

	<u>Jul - Dec 17</u>
1500 · Chairman Expenses	
1567 · Donation Administrator	68.79
1569 · Stamps	101.86
	<hr/>
Total 1500 · Chairman Expenses	170.65
1600 · Chairman with Special Funding	
1601 · Awards	
1601.A · Awards Expense	9.40
	<hr/>
Total 1601 · Awards	9.40
1607 · State Pins & Misc Sales (50%)	460.00
1608 · Yearbook (incl. distd & mail)	291.88
	<hr/>
Total 1600 · Chairman with Special Funding	761.28
1700 · District Directors	
1703 · Bay Ocean	125.00
1718 · Palms to Pines	21.64
1725 · Top O'the State	6.16
	<hr/>
Total 1700 · District Directors	152.80
1800 · Membership Expense	
1802 · Membership Cards (printing)	721.06
	<hr/>
Total 1800 · Membership Expense	721.06
1900 · Officers Expenses	
1905 · President-CA Tvl & Office	378.62
1906 · President-NGC & Pac Region	888.70
	<hr/>
Total 1900 · Officers Expenses	1,267.32
2000 · Other Expenses	
3101 · Scholarship (2 at \$2000)	4,000.00
	<hr/>
Total 2000 · Other Expenses	4,000.00
4000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	
4003 · Memorial Donations	100.00
4015 · NGC Awards #20	100.00
	<hr/>
Total 4000 · Miscellaneous Expenses	200.00
	<hr/>
Total Expense	41,086.64
	<hr/>
Net Ordinary Income	14,576.08

1:07 PM

01/26/18

Accrual Basis

California Garden Clubs, Inc
Profit & Loss
July through December 2017

	<u>Jul - Dec 17</u>
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
7000 · Investment Income	
7001 · Investment Inc-Endowment CGCI	758.71
7002 · Investment Inc-Endowment S/Ship	1,250.49
	<hr/>
Total 7000 · Investment Income	2,009.20
Total Other Income	2,009.20
Other Expense	
7500 · Investment Exp/(Gain)/Loss	
7501 · Investment(Gain)Loss-Endow CGCI	-3,828.73
7502 · Investment(Gain)Loss-Endow S/Sh	-6,245.14
	<hr/>
Total 7500 · Investment Exp/(Gain)/Loss	-10,073.87
Total Other Expense	-10,073.87
Net Other Income	12,083.07
Net Income	<hr/> <hr/> 26,659.15

Attachment B Officers' Reports

Parliamentarian, Greg Pokorski

Since Fall Board Meeting this officer has reviewed the minutes from that meeting, worked with the president on preparation for this meeting, worked with the Bylaws & Policy Committee, and responded to inquiries and requests from several districts and garden clubs, including the review of bylaws.

District Directors are reminded that if you are unable to attend any state meeting you can and should send your Assistant Director or authorized alternate to represent your district. They will have voting privileges and should attend the District Director Forum and bring information from the meeting back to your district.

Our next meeting will be the annual convention. Presidents and delegates representing clubs must submit the Credentials Form that will be sent with the Call to Convention. It is not sufficient to mark on the registration form that you are a president, president's alternate or delegate.

Many of the club and district issues and questions that I have been receiving involve personnel problems and personality conflicts and not just parliamentary issues. This points out the importance of Nominating Committees and the need for thoughtful and careful deliberation in selecting future officers. Not only do candidates need the appropriate skill sets to carry out the duties of their offices, but you also want to identify candidates with good people skills who will "work and play well with others." And above all, candidates need to put the interests of the organization above their own personal interests.

I too often hear about parliamentarians running meetings, directly or indirectly, and making decisions. This should never happen. The presiding officer (president) runs meetings and makes rulings.

Financial Secretary, Launa Gould

Worked with the Treasurer to maintain detailed spreadsheets of all expenses and revenue transactions. Issued Warrants as necessary.

Monthly audits have been conducted by Robin Pokorski.

Revenue checks. Submit them monthly or twice a month if you have lots of checks. Checks should not be held longer than 1 month. This is to allow time for processing by Financial committee.

Review the budget and make recommendations to President Krystal and Financial Secretary.

Make motion at Board of Directors meeting.

Apply for a CGCI corporate credit card. Authorized users to be CGCI President, 1st Vice President/President elect, Financial Secretary and Treasurer.

Recommendation to Executive Committee.

A. RE: Line Code 1607 State Pins. Expenses. To increase the current budget \$500 to comply with previous policy.

B. To allot an additional \$500 for expenses for a total expense budget of \$1500.

How to submit Expenses

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

Budget is Annual, from July 1 to June 30

Expenses need to be recorded within the fiscal year

Submit your reimbursable receipts soon so they can be processed before year-end.

Reimbursable expenses are ink, paper and supplies needed for your position

Line Codes – help us to keep track of Revenue and Expenses. Ask if you do not know yours.

How to submit Revenue

Submit checks immediately after receipt or twice a month.

Fill out Cash Receipts Report-online or 3 part paper form.

Send one to CGCI PO Box 75 along with checks.

Send a copy to Financial Secretary.

Corresponding Secretary, Marlene Kinney

- Sympathy Cards Sent To:
 - Family of Ruth Bancroft – Ruth Bancroft Gardens Founder
 - Bob Lucas & Family – Maryanne Lucas
- Get Well Cards Sent To:
 - Deen Day Sanders - NGC
 - Gloria Aminian - Chair of Judges Council of So. Cal & Flower Show Judge
 - Judy Unrine – Reforestation & Restoration Chair
 - Nancy McDougal – DD Bay Ocean District (Husband in Recovery)
- Thank You Note from Lincoln Memorial Garden & Nature Center
- Thank You Note from Judy & George Unrine
- Thank You Note from Bob Lucas & Family

3rd Vice President, Martha Smyser

Membership Report

Membership Totals as of January 28, 2018

Clubs --- 247 (14,629 members)

APS --- 56 (4,254 members)

Affiliates - 3

TOTAL --- 306 (18,883 members) Unprocessed or missing checks for 122 addl. members

Membership Totals as of October 2, 2017

Clubs --- 226 (12,925 members)

APS --- 34 (2,738 members)

Affiliates - 1

TOTAL --- 266 (15,663 members)

Requests to re-join or change Districts:

1. LA Geranium Society would like to rejoin the Greater LA District.
2. Gates Cactus & Succulent Society would like to transfer from Palms to Pines to the Greater LA District.

Request to move from a District to Associate Plant Society status:

The Ohara School of Ikebana club would like to transfer from the Greater LA District to Associate Plant Society status.

If anyone knows of anything else pending please let me know. Many thanks.

Martha Smyser

CGCI Membership Chairman

President, Krystal Migliore

Life's learning lessons

In the blink of an eye, oh so quick, as time passes we have the opportunity to create defining moments, those moments when we know we are making a difference by our lack of action or our actions.

The 2017 Fall Board meeting was a series of such moments. Never will this president forget all of the smiles that lasted for three full days, those smiles were on your faces and that even includes during the business meetings. For our Buttes District Volunteers it was a defining moment because they were rewarded with the smiles as feedback.

If the smiles and positive response weren't enough, they were rewarded when thank you cards and messages received were shared at the next Buttes District board meeting. District Director Ilene Herringer then displayed the thank you cards and messages on a bulletin board for everyone to see at the Buttes District general meeting in December. Isn't there power of two little words "Thank you"? Amazing! How many of you have been inspired, with energy and focus renewed when you hear a simple "Thank you"?

You are invited.

Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Director Peggy Olin has accepted our invitation to attend our 2018 Convention in Tuolumne at the Hotel at Black Oaks Casino Resort June 4 to 8. She is looking forward to traveling from her home near Portland, Oregon to California which she hasn't visited to for many years. Peggy's theme is "Spreading your Butterfly Wings to Fly: Sharing your Knowledge of Gardening". We will all have the opportunity to learn more about her Pacific Region Project: Plant Native and Pollinator Plants for Pacific Region. This president is confident at the convention you will share a bit of "California Style" with Peggy. Don't hesitate to share information about your chairmanship or your district. This is what makes official visits so special, the people.

The people...wow, aren't we already having a great time...and we are just getting started. Winter Board meeting co-chairmen Lisa Cosand and Judy Doane and the volunteers of Channel Islands District are so focused on you and you and you, for all of us, they are making every effort to ensure our comfort and enjoyment as we learn more about Channel Islands District.

It is the people that make life special. Please let the people, the Channel Islands District volunteers, know we appreciate their planning. A simple, smile and a heartfelt "thank you" spoken or written can make such a difference.

Our people are our volunteers...

Since our last meeting, a few chairmanships have new chairmen. You will learn more about this during the meeting. Currently we have the following vacancies:

1. Youth Chairman
2. New position—APS Chairman to work with our Associate Plant Societies.
3. California Consultants Council Chairman

Communication

The email monster lurks in my in box and those message multiply like bunnies, spoofing bunnies. And some of the bunnies apparently really like iTunes. If you receive a message from this president and the message contains something like "How are you?" and nothing else, that is not me. In case you haven't noticed I'm of the school of thought if five words are good, then ten must be better. My mother Ilene Herringer will confirm, there has not been many times when three words are it ...period. Also, this president loves music but has never purchased or even used iTunes. If you receive a "how are you? What's up? How was your trip? I need your help, go buy me iTunes.... Delete the message and go on about your day. Do not reply to the message because you likely doing exactly what the spoofers want you to do, reply. Then they move on to step two.

"If a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?"

If a tree falls and donations are needed for Penny Pines or Reforestation and Restoration does everyone know about our programs? When our military service personnel past, present and future needs to know that their service made a difference to us is there a Blue Star and Gold Star Families Memorial Marker in their home town?

When someone loses a loved one and wants to acknowledge the defining moments that the loved one made in their life, do they know that CGCI has a wide range of programs to which donations may be

made? What if the loved one loved botany and they had been concerned about those special and rare plants? Or that special someone who remembers walking in the hills north of San Francisco among the Lupine and the tiny Mission Blue Butterfly and wants the Mission Blue Butterfly to thrive. What about propagating wild azaleas, desert flowers and landscaping at Anza-Borrego, or those big trees that grow in the forest, the Sempervirens Fund? What about that special person, who cared about our future, our children, our environment, about leaving something that would survive them? Isn't it important that all of us provide opportunities by letting them know how they may make contributions in memory of or in honor of special people in their lives while making donations to projects that makes a difference? The 2017-19 President's Project: Sustainable and Ever-Growing Scholarships provides an opportunity to make a difference today and tomorrow while creating defining moments in the lives of scholarship recipients. The loved ones of those special people may never have heard about CGCI, but they will when you share the opportunities with them.

Always be marketing. Provide opportunities. Share our message and mission. Never assume everyone already knows...they don't. With so many marketing messages in today's world, even if someone has heard it before they will need to hear it again and then, perhaps, they will make the connection. Connections provide opportunities. Making connections make a difference and so do you our members.

Attachment C Chairmen and Committee Reports

Arbor Day, Co-Chairmen Mary Lou Goodwin & Terry Fairfield

1. Choose the type of tree planting project you'd like to organize.
Adult groups, youth groups, Scout groups, CGCI Youth Gardeners, schools
2. Decide who needs to be involved. Coordinate sponsors and garden clubs.
3. Organize a planning committee and set a date for the event. March 7-14.
4. Choose the planting site and species and get all necessary permits.
Review the success of last year's event and location
5. Analyze needs and costs. Set a Budget.
6. Raise Funds.
7. Recruit volunteers from sponsors and garden clubs
8. Order trees and supplies.
National Arbor Day Foundation has an online nursery, or local donations
9. Invite media participation. TV, Newspapers, Weekly Calendars, Social Media.
10. Schedule the event. Send out press releases to all media and interested groups
Select Moderator and special speaker.
11. Prepare the site. Check for good backgrounds for photos. Bring the Club banner and American Flag, if it is to be used.
12. Assemble equipment and supplies. Who is providing shovels and stakes?
13. Instruct participants and demonstrate proper planting. Have one person as the instructor.
14. Schedule routine maintenance and care for the following year.
15. Reward volunteers and others who helped. Action pictures in the newspaper are always a reward.
Send thank you letters.
16. Evaluate the event. Prepare a report and put it into an Arbor Day Folder.

Print out this 20 page manual on how to plan an Arbor Day event:
[Ca.arborweek.org/events/get involved arbor week planning](http://Ca.arborweek.org/events/get%20involved%20arbor%20week%20planning)

Backyard Habitat, Carolyn Villi

It's Winter in California and is the best time to take inventory, grade your gardens and Wildlife Habitat on their winter conditions. Check out Hummingbird feeders, seed feeders, water supplies, rain drainage, and make records of how your Backyard Wildlife Habitat withstood the harsh winter.

Bees, Co-Chairman Terry Sampson

At this time, I am getting ready to do presentations at middle schools in my area. My goal is to get the kids interested in gardening and bees. I hope to attain seeds for planting from various seed companies to hand

out to the children. Hopefully, we can have the teachers involved and set up something at the school. There are quite a few groups here in the High Desert that are looking for speakers so I will be available to them as well. I have been in touch with a few “beekeepers” in order to learn more about bees so I can pass on that information to all who are interested.

Blue Star & Gold Star Families Memorial Markers, George Unrine

Coming Blue Star Marker Dedications. Highway-Cambria, 5/28/18, Cayucos GC; Byway-Squaw Valley, 6/14/18, Four Seasons GC; Byway-Linden, 5/27/18, Linden Community GC. Past Gold Star Dedication. Memorial-Big Bear GC, 11/1/17, “A” Garden Club.

Board of Trustees, Julie West

The Scholarship Chairman met with the Board of Trustees to select three winners from seven applicants. The following were awarded:

\$2,000 Robert L. Gordon Scholarship - Guy Hernandez, Cal Poly in Pomona, Graduate Student - Masters of Science in Agriculture, Plant Science major

\$2,000 Susan C. Bennett Scholarship - Katherine Bocskor, San Diego State, Graduate Student - Masters of Science, Marine Biology - Ecology major

\$1,500 *Golden Gardens* Scholarship - Marcus Goncalves, UC Irvine, Graduate Student - Masters of Environmental Science, Dept. of Ecology-Conservation and Restoration major

NOTE: NGC Scholarship Guidelines were unanimously adopted with the addition of eligibility for doctorate students as CGCI Scholarship Guidelines beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year.

The Endowment Committee noted a 12-13% rate of return from December 2016 through December 2017 on investments with Vanguard. December 31, 2017 balances for CGCI Endowment Fund was \$65,447.63 and Scholarship Endowment Fund was \$112,361.53. As a means of increasing both endowment funds, the **BOT requests that donations to the endowment funds be solicited on CGCI Registration Forms with monies raised to be split equally 50/50 between the two funds.**

The Board of Trustees met with the Golden Legacy Chairman and discussed an article to be in an upcoming issue of *Golden Gardens eNews*. Members also reviewed CGCI's 2017-2018 financial reports year to date as well as discussed monthly review performed. Progress continued reviewing the CGCI Important Papers/Documents Binder project to determine its contents, bring up to date including a timeline of activity and check list. Goal is to have project completed by end of this term in 2019.

Flower Show Awards, Pat Claves

For Awards Year 2017:

- 13 Flower Shows were registered
- 7 books of evidence were submitted – 1 sent to NGC; 1 sent to Pacific Region
- 35 entries for Flower Arranger of the Year
- 1 entry for Designer's Choice Award

Flower Show Symposia, Co-Chairman Mary Arakelian

Symposium 2018 is only weeks away. Save the dates of **May 4-6, 2018**. Floral Arts Judges and Designers, **why must you attend** Symposium? We now have the **totally new** 2017 Handbook for Flower Shows with many new designs and rules. The Design Instructor will be Penny Decker, the NGC design expert who masterfully created the new **Botanical Arts for Design** division in the 2017 Handbook. She is a widely known presenter, designer and artist. Penny's topics will include **Cascade and Featured Plant Material** Designs, both of which are new designs for our Flower Show Schools' brand new handbook. The Horticulture Instructor will be Dottie Howatt, the NGC expert on horticulture and judging. Dottie will instruct on the judging of **tulips, displays and collections**. Where better to update our knowledge and skills, than at this symposium, to be held at the **Best Western Grosvenor Hotel, 450 South Airport Blvd. in South San Francisco**. A **free shuttle awaits you** from the San Francisco International Airport.

Sign up early with a roommate to get best possible seating for lectures. Registrar Shane Looper awaits your positive response at 213 Carmelo Lane, South San Francisco 94080-2204. Her email is cgc1stvp@cagardenclubs.org.

Flower Show Symposia, Co-Chairman Lili Aram-Bost

The upcoming 2018 CGCI Flower Shows Symposium will be held Friday May 4 through Sunday May 6, 2018 at a NEW location. The Best Western Grosvenor Hotel, 380 S. Airport Blvd., South San Francisco, CA Due to remodeling of the Pleasanton hotel location this change has been made. Ratification of the Symposium will occur at the upcoming CGCI Winter Board meeting in Thousand Oaks next week. After that time Symposium registration form and schedules will be available. Please let Mary Arakelian or Lili Aram-Bost, CGCI FSS Symposium co-chairpersons know if you plan to attend the Symposium and would like a registration form and schedule

Gardening Schools, Greg Pokorski

Gardening Schools are one of the four NGC Schools given nationally and by our International Affiliates. Each school consists of four two-day courses, each course comprised of six classes and ten hours of education. 25 schools have been held in California, but nothing since 2016. Because some of you may not know about these schools since they have recently been held less frequently than in the past, copies of my GS Information Sheet and the Consultants Council newsletter, the *Council Thymes*, were made available to the District Director Coordinator for you. Share these with your clubs. All NGC schools are great opportunities for a team project that provides education to members and the public and which can result in being a fundraiser for your club or district and which can bring you new members.

Landscape Design Schools, Alexis Slafer

This Chair is pleased to report that 8 LDS Consultants and Master Consultants refreshed at the recent Tri-refresher held in Long Beach. Credential cards were distributed to those consultants in attendance. LDS Series 27, sponsored by Colfax Garden Club, has been postponed with plans to offer Course 1 in November. Discussions are underway for a multi-refresher to be held in southern California in June. This Chair is available and eager to assist clubs and districts with sponsoring a new Landscape Design School.

Penny Pines, Carol Vallens

At the Winter Board, I reviewed how to use the new online Penny Pines form. The form was projected onto the screen and I showed the members how to fill it out and submit it. I also showed them how to download a Penny Pines brochure from the CGCI website, that they could handout at their club meetings. I also provided them copies, so they could see how they would look. Finally, I showed them that their donations appear each month in the *Golden Gardens e-New* and that they can always check there to make sure CGCI recorded their donation.

Scholarship, Martha Smyser

The Scholarship Committee met January 30 and voted to award three scholarships for the coming academic year. The \$2000 Robert Gordon Scholarship is awarded to Guy Hernandez, a Masters' candidate at Cal Poly-Pomona. His research interest is controlling invasive plants. The \$2,000 Susan C. Bennett scholarship is awarded to Katherine Bocskor, a Masters' candidate at Cal State San Diego and her research interest is market squid. She is aiming to be a conservation biologist. And the one-time \$1500 *Golden Gardens* Scholarship is awarded to Marcus Goncalves, a Master's candidate at UC Irvine. His research area is habitat preservation and the maintenance of biodiversity.

Sempervirens Fund, Rosa Radicchi

Communications is my issue; feeling disconnected from donors since we brought program in-house. Need to find new ways to build bridges & reconnect with donors. Sempervirens Fund, however, is going strong. Successful programs & events include: 117th Annual Picnic; CGCI sponsored Dedicated Tree for \$1,000, I attended sponsorship event; we rec'd good publicity; Cotoni-Coast Dairies National Monument; San Vicente Project; Castle Rock getting ready to celebrate. Planning for upcoming event for CGCI Education Grove Sign with Judy Unrine, Reforestation & Restoration, Chair between June & October 2018. Thank you for your continued support!

Stagecoach Hill Azalea Management Area, Mary Lou Goodwin

Humboldt District of California Garden Clubs, Inc. is sponsoring a "Come Work In The Azaleas" event on

Sunday March 4 and Saturday March 17 and 31. Volunteers will gather at 10:00 am at the Stagecoach Hill Azalea Management Area north of Trinidad. You can reach the area by turning on Kane road from Highway 101 and following the signs to the parking lot. Each person should bring their own garden clippers or battery powered pruning shears to spruce up the azaleas and remove lots of invasive plants that are crowding out the native azaleas in the 40 acre plot owned by the California State Park. Please bring along a sack lunch, beverages will be provided. All of the workers will receive a coupon for free admittance to Patrick's Point State Park to enjoy at another time as a thank you for their labor.

Water Conservation & Education, Ward Habriel

Federal inspectors determined shortcomings with DWR management of the Oroville Dam and Spillway have gone on for over twenty years. Repairs now exceed \$870 million. And citizens have filed over \$1 billion in legal claims against DWR. Confidence in DWR has fallen to near zero. DWR just announced the release of water thru the State Water Project for 2018 would be 20% of requests. Gov. only modified the enforcement provisions of the Drought Ordinance, but has not relaxed the standards. On average we Americans use 144 gallons per person per day; compare that to China at 20 GPPD. If you don't know your usage, you don't know if you are conserving.

Attachment D District Directors' Reports

Bay Bridges District, Bonnie Smith

What Does the District Mean to your Club? (Responses from Bay Bridges District Clubs)

Love it. Love...sharing...information with other clubs. I think it is...Important for our new officers to attend.
Kathy Flowers
Eden Garden Club

...I agree..."Love the sharing of information with other clubs." ...great ideas about speakers and field trips. Our club...like(s)...meetings...held at Lake Merritt...enjoys taking a little stroll through the gardens after the luncheon. Thanks, Angie Schmidt, Friends of Heirloom Flowers

BBD is a steadfast umbrella for the San Leandro Garden Club. The support makes it possible for us to function. Insurance coverage is essential... sharing... information is paramount! We greatly enjoy... twice yearly meetings with all the Bay Area garden clubs. Thank you BBD, Sincerely, Kathleen Williamson

Buttes District, Ilene Herring

Garden Club of Colusa County is planning a new, unusual project. A Garden Niche for Women will be like a man cave, only an outside garden area. When enough members create their space, Garden Club of Colusa County will conduct a garden tour. Lake Oroville Area Garden Club had a sale of recycled Christmas decorations that were donated by members. The sale took place after the November meeting. The remaining items were sold at a Holiday Festival. Profit realized was over \$500.00. Paradise Garden Club celebrates Camellia Month in March. Members bring camellias to the meeting and they are distributed to care facilities to be on dinner tables.

Channel Islands District, Lisa Cosand

The Channel Islands District has been very busy preparing for the Winter Board Meeting. We decided to combine our district lunch into the state meeting so members could get a feel of the overall club. This has helped in participation with most all clubs doing something. Club Presidents reported at the lunch. Many of the clubs sent a representative to the monthly planning meeting and all helped provide two raffle items to help fund the district. We are going to celebrate the completion of the task on March 16th, we just haven't decided the details.

Costa Verde District, Gudy Kimmel

One club in our district is inviting an author of past local history this month to their meeting. The past land use history of our now urban area is the subject of her talk. Another club will take small succulents to the local Farmer's Market and have shoppers plant them in tiny pots. They hope to attract new members that

way. All the clubs are planning on trips and plant sales.

Desert Empire District, Terry Fairfield

This chairman designed an online district yearbook. Since the clubs are going electronic I decided to save the \$250 a year by sending one to each member's email address. I recommend that they save it to their computer. If they want to print it they have that option. I did a two year book and told them I would send an updated copy for next year. For members that don't have a computer, the Club President can let me know and I will print a copy for them. It works well for new members that have email, I can just send them a welcome to the Desert Empire District and attach their DED Yearbook.

Diablo Foothills District, Dolores Moffat

All of the clubs in the district have monthly meetings and programs, do fund raising, go on tours, have plant sales, donate to Penny Pines, etc. But some of the clubs in Diablo Foothills District are very creative Like: Tomato tasting, including tomato dishes, hot and/or cold, winners selected by popular vote. Seed sharing, packing and distributing the seeds to the public at the local libraries. Recycling. Growing vegetables for food banks. Flower give-a-way to meals on wheels recipients. And Last but not least: Collected and sent \$750 to Red Cross for the Napa fire victims

Golden Foothills District, Ann Wallace

Intriguing programs last Fall in the Golden Foothills District were "How to Create a Water Wise Landscape", "Soil-Food Web", "Plants for Medical Usage", "The Night Shift" (about moths), and "Chicks in the City" (yes, chickens). The annual Victorian Tea Affaire fundraiser in November yielded \$4,676.48 for one club. The Auburn Arrangers hosted a guest designer and workshop in December on "Freeform Ikebana" and will be holding a Small Standard Flower Show at the Auburn Oaks Senior Center (a convalescent hospital) at 3400 Bell Road, Auburn, 1:00 to 4:00 PM on Monday, February 19, 2018. The public is invited.

Greater Los Angeles District, Joyce Parrott

The Greater Los Angeles District (GLAD) had not met since 2002. We had a "contact person" assigned by CGCI, but communication among the eleven organizations comprising the district was pretty much nonexistent. An urgent bank situation required that a special meeting be called in July, 2017. At this time it was decided that an effort would be made to "reactivate" the district, as members were available to fill the positions of Director, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary. An interest survey taken prior to this meeting indicated that about half of the listed district members might be interested in again having meetings. Over the past six months five of the eleven listed organizations have transferred out of GLAD to become stand-alone Associate Plant Societies, and the six clubs currently comprising GLAD are as follows (you may want to correct your YMR): Culver City Garden Club, Ikebana International Los Angeles Chapter #4, Los Angeles Garden Club, Los Angeles Geranium Society, Pacific Palisades Garden Club, and Palisades Beautiful.

Appropriately, our theme for the year is "Getting to Know You". Activities are at a basic level right now: The finances have been corrected, a set of Bylaws are being constructed (none can be found from our previous 'life'), tax status will be updated, and a short newsletter is emailed every other month. We will be having our second Board meeting at the end of this month, and a general meeting is planned for June. To solidify the group, we hope to target a district project; possibly the sponsoring of an NGC school. Stay tuned. . .

Humboldt District, Jean Johnson

Robin Pokorski successfully presented "Seeding the Future Workshop". University of California Extension Master Food Preservers of Humboldt County have given presentations to most of the district clubs. Beautification projects include Fortuna Garden Club's Main Street gardens, Eureka Sequoia Garden Clubs' hanging baskets in Old Town and front yard landscape certificate awards in areas of Eureka. We are preparing for a March Daffodil Show in Fortuna and a May Flower Show in Weott. Eureka Sequoia Garden Club is celebrating a member's 99th birthday along with the club's 50 years. Stagecoach Hill Azalea project to clean out invasive plants crowding out the azaleas. The district has had \$1000.00 donated for the Santa Rosa area fire. This money is to be used for plant restoration. All clubs in Humboldt District are Blue Ribbon Clubs.

Luther Burbank District, Marybeth Hull

The Northern California Firestorm: 4655 homes lost in the Luther Burbank District. Seven Santa Rosa Garden Club members lost their homes. Alaska Garden Club gave a donation to the SRGC fire victims. From Wildfires to Wildflowers project: making seed balls of Northern California wildflowers and dispersing them to the community members. Each packet will include a card promoting the nine clubs within the district. Ball rolling get-togethers inviting non-members to join the event to share their story. An article was in the local paper. A Facebook page was created.

Plans are being made for SRGC to plant two trees on March 7, Luther Burbank's birthday/Arbor Day at two schools in the burned areas: LBD clubs will pass out seed ball packets. A decision was made to scan all district paperwork and put it in cloud storage because all could have been lost in the fire.

Palomar District, Adele Kelly

One of the ongoing projects at Palomar District is the Floral Design Forum and we are celebrating our 25th Anniversary Season. We meet on the 1st Monday, October thru May. The purpose of the program is to encourage appreciation of floral art forms and encourage members and the public to enter flower shows. On January 8th we held a Small Standard Flower Show, which featured new designs from NGC and innovative ways to display horticultural specimens.

Because of the recent devastating fires within California, this District Director plans to heavily promote the Penny Pines program at our next District meeting on February 26th.

Roadrunner District, Ted Benson

Three clubs in our district: Hesperia Club, Cactus Wren Club and Desert Crossroads Club have an association with middle schools in their respective communities with a focus on flower gardens, vegetable gardens, and butterfly gardens. All clubs have participated in the local County Home and Garden Show. The clubs promoted the garden clubs, membership recruitment and participation and provided plant sales. Our latest focus is to find "Seeds" to say to encourage friends, neighbors and the public to get involved into gardening. The "Seeds" we are pursuing to sow are:

- Seeds of excitement
- Seeds of expectation
- Seeds of explanation
- Seeds of Anticipation
- Seeds of Wonder
- Seeds of nature appreciation

We look forward to involving more nature minded community residents in the gardening experience.

San Fernando Valley District, Rita Desilets

One of the pleasures of being CGCI President is visiting clubs and Districts and meeting CGCI members. For that reason, San Fernando Valley District has invited President Krystal to attend the June 18 District meeting. At this meeting we will be hosting the children who entered the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest. The President is also invited to attend the June meeting of Southern California Garden Club the following day. This Director will host our President at her home.

Valley Lode District, Pamela Fish

New Club formed: **The Escalon/Farmington Community Garden Club** At February 8 meeting they will vote on officers. Judy Schepmann has worked hard to bring this about. District Meeting; February 13, hosted by the Lodi Garden Club. **Hot Topics Training** took place, November 14, 2017 in Ceres, CA 28 attendees, this year 11 out of the 18 clubs became Blue Ribbon Clubs. Linden Community Garden Club is placing a new **Blue Star Memorial By-Way plaque**, Dedication ceremony will be Memorial Day, May 28, 2018. The Valley Lode District Newsletter, "**Growing Valley Lode Style**" was submitted for an award.

Yosemite Gateway District, Mary Brooks

All three clubs of the Yosemite Gateway District are very active. All are preparing for their annual Spring Garden Tours. Atwater Garden Club is also preparing for their annual Rose Show. Merced is in the planning stages of dedicating a Gold Star Marker. Legrand Community Garden Club is always active in participating in their community events.

