



# COUNCIL THYMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CONSULTANTS COUNCIL  
Published since 2013

CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC. - NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

## Chairman's Message

Thanks to Brenda Leal and members of Sequoia Foothills District, a special CCC Members only tour has been arranged to Belmont Nursery for Thursday, February 5, 2015, immediately following CGCI's winter board meeting. The owners, Connie and Jon Reelhorn, are excited about our visit with refreshments, guided tour, preview of new plants and a discount for CCC members planned. See the last page of this newsletter for details and we hope you can join us for this exclusive member-only event!

A Nominating Committee will be elected consisting of three CCC members at this winter board meeting. A slate of candidates for the CCC convention meeting is needed for the offices of Vice Chairman, Environmental Consultants; Vice Chairman, Gardening Consultants; Vice Chairman, Landscape Design Consultants; Secretary and Treasurer. Additional nominations may be made from the floor, provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained at the CCC convention meeting.

Thank you for supporting the CCC endeavors. We look forward to seeing you at the next CCC meeting at the Fresno Hotel & Conference Center at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, February 2, 2015 (open to all) as well as the CCC member-only tour on Thursday, February 5, 2015. We hope you can join us!

## Next Meeting



The next CCC meeting will be held at the CGCI Winter Board Meeting at the Fresno Hotel & Conference Center in Fresno on **Monday, February 2 at 8:00 p.m.** Your input is

invaluable to the success of the CCC. We hope to see you there!

All are welcome to attend the Council meeting.

## Council Thymes

This is YOUR newsletter, everyone is encouraged to submit articles of interest to the editor on any subject of horticulture, landscape design or environmental topics. Send articles to Robin Pokorski, [RobinP@juno.com](mailto:RobinP@juno.com). **Deadline for next issue: April 15, 2015.**

## Member News

*By Shane Looper, Council Treasurer*

### We're glad you've joined us!

**Current Membership: 47**

**Pay your council dues so we can keep this number growing!**

## Council Officers

Chairman: Julie West, [JulieAWest@aol.com](mailto:JulieAWest@aol.com)

Secretary: Pat Clazes, [PatClazes@aol.com](mailto:PatClazes@aol.com)

Treasurer: Shane Looper, [Sloopers@sbccglobal.net](mailto:Sloopers@sbccglobal.net)

Parliamentarian:

Robin Pokorski, [RobinP@juno.com](mailto:RobinP@juno.com)

Vice Chairmen:

Environmental Consultants:

Dave West, [JDavidWest@aol.com](mailto:JDavidWest@aol.com)

Gardening Consultants:

Carole Lung, [CKLung@verizon.net](mailto:CKLung@verizon.net)

Landscape Design Consultants:

Josie Goodenow, [JosephineGoodenow@gmail.com](mailto:JosephineGoodenow@gmail.com)

## School Daze

### Landscape Design Schools

April 23-24, Course II, Santa Rosa

Contact: Mary Ann Swanson,  
707-762-3118 [emswanson@comcast.net](mailto:emswanson@comcast.net)

See flyer posted on CGCI's website calendar.

Course III, October 22-23, 2015

Course IV, April 28-29, 2016

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN CONSULTANT OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Certificate may be awarded to an individual

*Sponsor: California Consultants Council*

Submit recommendations by February 10 to California Consultants Council Chairman, Julie West

The Landscape Design Consultant of the Year may be awarded annually at the CGCI Convention to a Consultant or Master Landscape Design Consultant in recognition of non-professional achievement, involvement and/or service as a landscape design consultant in either the community or the NGC Landscape Design program.

**GARDENING CONSULTANT OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Certificate may be awarded to an individual

*Sponsor: California Consultants Council*

Submit recommendations by February 10 to California Consultants Council Chairman, Julie West

The Gardening Consultant of the Year may be awarded annually at the CGCI Convention to a Consultant or Master Gardening Consultant in recognition of non-professional achievement, involvement and/or service as a gardening consultant in either the community or the NGC Gardening Study program.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Certificate may be awarded to an individual

*Sponsor: California Consultants Council*

Submit recommendations by February 10 to California Consultants Council Chairman, Julie West

The Environmental Consultant of the Year may be awarded annually at the CGCI Convention, to a Consultant or Master Environmental Consultant in recognition of non-professional achievement, involvement and/or service as an environmental consultant in either the community or the NGC Environmental Studies program.

for items that embody the concept of reuse. For example: wooden toys made from scrap wood, craft kits that take advantage of used goods and discards, and drawing boards that can be erased and reused. Thousands of paper and plastic shopping bags end up in landfills every year. Reduce the number of bags thrown out by bringing reusable cloth bags for holiday gift shopping. Tell store clerks you don't need a bag for small or oversized purchases. Use reusable cloth bags instead of disposable ones.

Wrap gifts in recycled or reused wrapping paper or funny papers. Also remember to save or recycle used wrapping paper. Give gifts that don't require much packaging, such as concert tickets or gift certificates. Buy rechargeable batteries to accompany your electronic gifts, and consider giving a battery charger as well. Rechargeable batteries reduce the amount of potentially harmful materials thrown away, and can save money in the long run.

When giving flowers as gifts, consider buying potted plants, or live bushes, shrubs, or trees that can be planted in the ground as gifts.

Where possible, compost leftover food scraps, leaves, and grass clippings.

Fill your dishwasher to capacity before running it. You will run fewer cycles, which saves energy.

Wash and reuse empty glass and plastic jars, milk jugs, coffee cans, dairy tubs, and other similar containers that would otherwise get thrown away. These containers can be used to store leftovers as well as buttons, nails, or other loose items.

[www.epa.gov/epawaste/wycd/shomeandgarden.htm](http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/wycd/shomeandgarden.htm)

**Series 26, Course I  
Landscape Design School Success**

*By Julie West, CCC Chairman*

In October, Luther Burbank District hosted the above with 50 attendees plus three on a waiting list. The room pictured below was full and NGC newly accredited instructor, Thomas Eddy, was fabulous! Twenty-three attendees took the exam (who all

**Green Tips from the EPA**

*Submitted by Pat Clayes*



Think "green" while shopping. Try to buy items with minimal packaging and/or made with recycled content. Check product labels to determine an item's recyclability and whether it is made from recycled materials.

Consider the durability of a product before you buy it as a gift. Cheaper, less durable items often wear out quickly, creating waste and costing you money. Look



passed) and seven Landscape Design Consultants refreshed their credentials.

The food was delicious with brunch items, lunch and snacks. There was much comradery among those who attended and 39 of the 50 indicated they plan to return for Course II.



*NGC Accredited Instructor, Thomas Eddy, MA, ASLA*

Course II of Series 26 is scheduled for April 23-24, 2015 with two additional newly accredited NGC instructors, Laura Kelly (ASLA, LEED AP) and Sarah Sutton (ASLA, LEED AP, BFQP) + Thomas Eddy will return. You will find the flyer and registration form on CGCI's website calendar. We expect Course II to fill up quickly so don't procrastinate and end up on the waiting list. The class is limited to 50 participants.



*Committee Members (L to R): Cindy Moore, Registrar; Mary Ann Swanson, Chairman; Bev Davies, Publicity; Julie West, Proctor; Dave West, District Director; Thomas Eddy, Instructor; Linda Simonds, Instructor Liaison and Ruth Browning, Treasurer & Hospitality*

### **Calendar of Events**

- Feb 2 CCC Meeting, 8:00 p.m., Fresno
- Feb 5 CCC Members' Only Tour, Belmont Nursery

### **Gardening Study School Sponsor Wanted**

*By Greg Pokorski, GSS Chairman*



It is time to start working on California's next Gardening Study School. This four-course (six classes and ten hours of instruction per course) program is one of National Garden Clubs' four major educational programs.

Curriculum and general information are posted on the CGCI website.

Interested clubs or districts should contact [Greg Pokorski](#), CGCI and NGC Gardening Study Schools Chairman.

### **Gardening Study School Consultants Lapsing**

*By Greg Pokorski, GSS Chairman*



We are sorry to lose the following Gardening Consultants, who lapsed December 31, 2014, and thank them for their past participation in the Gardening Study School program and hope the knowledge gained will

continue to benefit them personally, as well as their clubs and communities:

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| BJ Boland       | Nancy Lee Loesch |
| Michelyn Devine | Chris Lutz       |
| Kris Ethington  | Paddee Neff      |
| Kay Havens      | Lyndsay Pasarow  |
| Jack Jewell     | Jane Strait      |
| Arthur Loesch   | Jean Van Derford |

Consultants are reminded that in order to maintain good standing, they are required to attend a refresher program (which may be a Gardening Study School Course) by the end of the fifth calendar year after becoming a Gardening Consultant, or after the last refresher.

### **NGC Schools News**

*By Greg Pokorski, NGC Schools Coordinator*

All Consultants should be subscribing to *The National Gardener* and reading the schools-related articles for official news about the NGC school programs. Schools-related information is also contained in all issues of NGC's *Keeping in Touch*, available through your club president and at the NGC website.



Thursday, February 5, 2015

[www.belmontnursery.com](http://www.belmontnursery.com)

As a benefit of membership in the California Consultants Council, a special tour has been organized for CCC members. Brenda Leal, member of the host Sequoia Foothills District has made arrangements to visit Belmont Nursery – “The Go-To Place for Plants” for over sixty years and designated a California Certified Nursery. Not a member of the CCC? Send your \$20 dues payable to CGCI to CCC Treasurer, Shane Looper, 213 Carmelo Lane, So. San Francisco, 94080-2204



Belmont Nursery is located on a 10-acre site that specializes in catering to wholesale growing, landscape professionals and retail garden centers in California's Central Valley and most of California as well. Designers, architects and landscapers often tour with their customers to select trees, shrubs, perennial and topiary options. Belmont provides consultants including eight California Certified Nursery Professionals to help plan and create your landscape. Belmont Nursery propagates a vast majority of the trees, shrubs and perennials they sell. The nursery will likely be filled to the seams with plants, preparing for their spring shipping. Members of the CCC will be among the first to see what the garden centers will have available for our gardens this spring!

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- **Refreshments will be provided** by the owners, Connie and Jon Reelhorn, who are thrilled about our visit.
- **We need your RSVP by February 1, 2015** if you plan to attend – cell # 707-484-6199 or [julieawest@aol.com](mailto:julieawest@aol.com).
- **CCC will have a guided tour** of the hot houses as well as a special presentation previewing the new plants for the 2015 Spring Season.
- **BONUS: Nursery and Gift Store will offer 20% off to CCC members** so be sure to have your CGCI membership card with you!
- **Bring this page with you** so you have the itinerary and details.

NOTE: The exact time of the tour will be announced at the last business meeting of CGCI's winter board meeting. If the meeting concludes at Business Meeting #3 on Wednesday, February 4, we will meet at 10:00 a.m. at Belmont Nursery. If Business Meeting #4 is held on February 5, we will meet at the nursery within 45 minutes of its conclusion to allow time for you to check out of the hotel and drive directly to Belmont Nursery located 9 miles (12 minutes) from the Fresno Hotel & Conference Center.

**Directions:**

**From Hotel (1055 Van Ness Ave., Fresno, CA 93721-2006)**

Go southeast on Van Ness Ave. toward Tulare Street

Take the 1st left onto Tulare Street .9 mile (if you reach Kern St, you've gone too far)

Merge onto CA-41 North .6 mile (if you reach Divisadero St., you've gone too far)

Take the CA-180 Exit. Exit 128A toward Kings Canyon (.6 mile)

Merge onto CA-180 E Exit. Exit 128A toward Kings Canyon/CA-180 E. Sanger 4.5 miles

Take the Fowler Ave Exit, Exit 64 .3 mile

Turn right onto N Fowler Avenue .1 mile (if you reach CA 180E, you've gone .2 miles too far)

Take the 1st left onto E Belmont Avenue 1.8 miles (If you reach E McKenzie Ave, you've gone too far)

**Destination: 7730 E Belmont Ave is on the left (west side) .2 miles past N. Locan Avenue**

**\*Just reverse to get back to Hotel area.**