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eNewsletter of California Garden Clubs, Inc.

November 2010 Vol. 2-11

[Maryanne Lucas](#), President
[California Garden Clubs, Inc.](#) is a Member of [Pacific Region](#),
[National Garden Clubs, Inc.](#)



Membership - "One by One"

CGCI Third Vice President & Membership Chairman, [Rita Desilets](#), reminds you that **CGCI Banners** are available -- the form is on the CGCI website; and, until June 2011, a **FREE** banner bag will be given to clubs/districts which order both the stand and banner; and CGCI promotional material: **RACK CARDS, BOOKMARKS & BROCHURES** are available. [Click here](#) for a complete list of promotional material. **Take advantage of your membership in CGCI!**

Don't forget about the Membership Team's theme -- *One by One* -- it was chosen because the personal touch is so important in gaining and retaining members. Look for articles in each issue of *Golden Gardens* about membership. **Membership Matters!** Share your love of gardening and garden clubbing! You are an important part of the Membership Team.

The following new clubs were ratified at the 2010 Fall Board Meeting:

- **Sacramento Orchid Forum** - 34 members - Sacramento River Valley District. President: Jose Rodriguez
- **Coastal Valley Orchid Society** - 30 members - Montana de Oro District. President: Phil Rietz
- **San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society** - 185 members - Arboretum District. President: Buck Hemenway
Changed from Associate Plant Society to Club!
- **Orange County Geranium Society** - 46 members - Orange County District. President: Candace Nakanishi
- **Conejo Valley Organic Garden & Herb Society** - 53 members - Channel Island District. President: Darcey Lober
One new Associate Plant Society!
- **Sonoma County Orchid Society** - 80 members. President: Susan Anderson
Two new Affiliates!
- **California Rare Fruit Growers**. President: Rose Arbuckle
- **Northern California Camellia Society, Inc.** President: Robert Ehrhart

Rita says: **"Let's keep on growing!"**

California State Parks

By [Barbara Dodge](#), CGCI California State Parks Chairman

A question that comes up frequently regarding contributions to a particular park is: **"Is my donation going where I think it is going?"** In many cases, your donation goes to a group that oversees multiple locations. In that case your money will be divided up among all of the locations in the group's jurisdiction. So be sure if you want your support to go to, for example, the Poppy Reserve, that you make sure you are sending it to the Poppy Reserve and not to an overseer group. There are a number of these situations throughout the state.

Another important item is the project to build a racetrack about a mile from the Poppy Reserve. Local residents and garden clubbers are vigorously opposing the establishment of this raceway.



The most current item is the November ballot issue regarding future financing of State Parks in California. There is an organization, [California State Parks Foundation](#), which has a website and is looking for members/supporters. Its basic membership, **The Parks Sampler**, is \$25 and includes information and member-only discounts around the state. For more information on our California State Parks, [click here](#) for the California State Parks Foundation's website or contact me, the CGCI California State Parks Chairman, [Barbara Dodge](#).



CGCI Blue Star Memorial Fund

In memory of the immediate past Blue Star Memorial Chairman for many years, **Ruth Angevine**, who passed away this summer.

Ruth's family has requested that donations be made to the CGCI Blue Star Memorial Fund. To do so, please send your check in any amount, payable to "CGCI," to either Blue Star Chairman: [Judy Laird](#), 3193 Willow Run Drive, Merced, CA 95340 or [George Unrine](#), 5005 Via el Sereno, Torrance, CA 90505. Donations to the Blue Star Memorial Fund are acknowledged in *Golden Gardens*.



Mark Your Calendars for the 2011 Northern California Wildflower Weekend

**It's Northern California's Premier
Wildflower Event!**

Sponsored by: CGCI

Hosted by: Buttes District

When: April 1-3, 2011

Where: Feather Falls Casino and Hotel, Oroville

Featuring:

- An array of fascinating talks by subject matter experts
- Guided tours with transportation to outstanding wildflower viewing sites
- Guided armchair tours (in indoor comfort)
- Vendors

- 1 dinner & 2 box lunches
- Housing, dining, live entertainment and gaming -- all literally just steps away

A portion of the proceeds will fund a school garden in Concow, CA which was hard hit by the fires of the summer of 2008. More info to follow. [Click here](#) for the website, [click here](#) for the email address or telephone 530-877-2432.

November Election

[Chuck Goodwin](#), Legislative/Government Chairman, wants to remind you to vote.

Chuck says that there will be many important issues to be decided by the voters this November. Chuck advises that one of our two US Senate seats is on the ballot, in addition to all of the US Representatives. All of the State Constitutional Officers are to be elected, and all of the State Assembly Members and all State Senate Members in even numbered districts. There will be nine statewide ballot measures -- Propositions 19-27.



Propagating Bulbs -- Chipping & Scaling

By [Lee Bathgate](#), Propagation
"Free Plants" Chairman

While many plants can be propagated by seeds, they may not produce a plant identical to the mother plant. This is also true of bulbs so most are propagated by other methods. My husband and I had an exciting lesson when digging some *Urginia maritima* (Squill) bulbs. A few cut pieces were put aside to heal before replanting. To our surprise, small bulblets formed along the cut edges. We inadvertently learned this is called "chipping." Only bulbs can be propagated by "chipping" and "scaling." Bulbs of the *Amaryllis belladonna* (naked ladies) & *Hippeastrum* (commonly known as amaryllis) are large and do not produce an abundance of side bulbs. A special Narcissus or Lily may be hard to find in catalogues. With care of cleanliness and patience, one can produce many bulblets.

Supplies needed:

Healthy bulbs. A fungicidal solution or dust (may be soil sulphur, captan or diluted bleach); a sharp, thick, clean knife; plastic bag or box (lettuce or clear food service box); mix of 50/50 peat and perlite or vermiculite moistened with water; dark storage area at 60 to 70 degrees.

- **Scaling** - Lilies and Fritillaries have loosely packed scales which can be removed by hand from the outer edge of the bulbs. (The parent bulb can be replanted.) Dust the scales with a fungicidal powder or soak in a fungicidal solution for a few

minutes. Dry, then place them in a plastic bag of damp vermiculite or peat and perlite. Inflate bag, seal and place in a dark area at 60-70 degrees. Or the scales can be inserted half their depth in the rooting medium in a closed plastic container. Check after a few months and plant out rooted bulblets, with attached scales, in pots or a nursery area covering with one-half inch of soil. Scales will rot away.

- **Chipping** - Works best for large bulbs such as Amaryllis, Hippeastrum and Squill. Dig a healthy bulb when dormant, clean and remove any papery outer skin. Trim back the roots with a sharp knife without cutting into the basal plate. Cut back the growing tip. Holding the bulb with the base up, cut the bulb in half, then divide into 8 or up to 16 similarly sized pieces, each with a section of the base plate. Treat the scale segments with fungicide and place in bag or box as for scaling. The bulblets will grow at the base. When they reach moderate size and detach easily, remove and plant in pots or your nursery. Some scale segments will grow more than one bulblet and in more than one scale so do not discard too quickly.
- **Twin Scaling** - Narcissus and Tulips can be propagated by this method. Cut bulbs into segments as for chipping. Peel back pairs of scales from each piece and cut them free at the base with a clean, sharp knife. The pair should have a piece of the base plate. Treat as for scales with fungicidal solution and put in bag or box of growing medium.

Chipping and scaling take patience. Bulblets should form in about 12 weeks but check occasionally and remove any scales that are showing signs of rot. The potted bulblets will need to be repotted into larger pots occasionally and take two to four years to blossom; but if you want to propagate a special bulb or want many of a kind, it is a rewarding project.

Attn: Clubs & Districts

Easy Grants for Clubs & Districts

The CGCI Board of Directors recognizes that garden clubs in California are a great force for good. The Board also knows that times are tough and funding club programs and projects is difficult. So CGCI is coming to the rescue! A limited number of small but “EASY GRANTS” are being offered to support specific programs. These grants are:

- **Arbor Day Grant:** Up to \$125 available for financial assistance to purchase a tree including publicity in celebration of Arbor Day (March 7 or April 29, 2011).
- **Blue Star Dedication Grant:** Up to \$100 available to assist in printing programs and other expenses of a Blue Star dedication or re-dedication ceremony.
- **Past CGCI Projects Grant:** Up to \$50 available to assist in expense of a public educational display of a past CGCI project including Anza Borrego Desert State Park, The Nature Conservancy, etc.
- **National Garden Week Grant:** Up to \$50 available to assist in expense of an educational display in a public location (library, museum, flower show, etc.) promoting National Garden Week, June 5-11, 2011.

- Reforestation/Restoration Program Promotion: Up to \$50 for a public educational display or event promoting awareness and funding for this CGCI program - see page 76 of CGCI Yearbook for program details.
- Educational School/Program Grant: To be announced.
- Special District Director Grants determined by the District Directors (no application).
- CGCI Board of Directors Offers Grant Money to Support Member Club Projects Conservation: Plants or supplies up to \$125 for a public garden (new or existing) developed by a garden club. (Gardens at member residences are excluded). Indicate which category the project relates to: Native Plants, Wildflowers, Habitat/Butterfly Garden.
- Youth Project: Up to \$250 available for youth projects in progress or “wish list” for youth projects. Include name of youth group, range of ages, % of youth involvement (rather than adult labor) & goal of project.
- Horticulture: \$100 grant to defray expense of a garden club’s new or existing community project which must have: 1) free public access; 2) artistic merit; and 3) plants must be included in project with botanical name labels.

There are only two requirements:

1) Grant funds must be used before June 30, 2011 and

2) The club/district must write and submit an article with pictures after the event for publication in *Golden Gardens*, on the CGCI website and in the CGCI e-Newsletter describing the event/program/project. A simple one-page application is all that is needed. The total amount of money available is limited to \$7000 (one grant per club). It is possible that not all applications will be funded. The Board reserves the right to determine which applications are granted. Once the money is gone for the year, it is gone. See your District Director or CGCI website for full details.



New Participating Sponsors

It's easy to recommend your favorite nursery or garden center to be a sponsor. [Click here](#) for more information from the CGCI website or contact [LaVerne Harms](#). And visit the website for a complete listing of all 58 participating sponsors. Be sure to take advantage of this membership benefit by simply presenting your CGCI membership card at the time of purchase to receive the minimum 10% discount (note restrictions were applicable). Remember to thank these merchants for supporting CGCI.

The CGCI Business Discount Coordinator, [LaVerne Harms](#), is pleased to announce CGCI's newest participating sponsors:

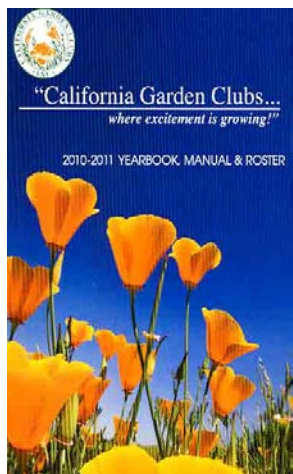
[Orange County Farm Supply](#)

1826 West Chapman Ave., Orange, CA

Discount: 10% on all items except plants which are already discounted. Contact Chris Roy.

Prospector's Nursery LLC, 10003 Granholm Lane, Nevada City, CA
Discount: 10%. Contact Pam White for more information. Telephone: 530-470-0973

Weiss Brothers Nursery, 615 Maltman Dr., Grass Valley, CA
Discount: 10%. Contact Emil Baldoni at 530-273-5814.



Got Yearbook?

CGCI has extra yearbooks for sale. To receive one, send check payable to "CGCI" in the amount of \$9.50 (which includes the postage) to Pat Claves, Yearbook Team Coordinator, P.O. Box 757, Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352. **Required: The name of your club.**

There are only approximately 35 extra yearbooks available. So, if you or someone in your club needs a yearbook, send your order to Pat Claves. Unfortunately, CGCI had to turn down a few orders last year -- so order your yearbooks before the supply is exhausted.

Do all of your club/district executive committee members have a CGCI yearbook? How about your special committee members (and especially your awards chairman)?

Awards

Remember that **DECEMBER 1** is the deadline for all entries eligible for NGC awards including club and district yearbooks, club and district newsletters, publications other than yearbooks or newsletters, National Garden Week, video, website, wildflower, junior poetry contest, high school essay contest, CGCI Community Impact Award and those eligible for NGC Flower Show Achievement Awards. [Click here](#) to see the main page of the awards section on the CGCI website. Don't know to whom to mail your entry, the list of judging chairmen with addresses is on the [CGCI website](#).

The following CGCI Awards must be postmarked by December 1, 2010:

- CGCI Community Impact Award
- B-2 Blue Star Memorial Site Beautification Award
- C-7 Operation Wildflower Award
- PR-2, Sections 1 & 2 - Newsletters
- PR-2, Section 4 - Publications other than a Yearbook or Newsletter
- PR-4 National Garden Week Award
- PR-5 Website Award
- PR-6 Video Award
- G-1 Council Yearbook Award
- G-2 Club Yearbook Award

- G-3 District Yearbook Award
- Judge of the Year Award
- J-5 Poetry Contest -- note theme which was incorrectly listed in the CGCI Yearbook -- "[Fields of Daffodils](#)"
- HS-6 HS Essay Contest -- note theme which was incorrectly listed in the CGCI Yearbook -- "[The Environment -- Our Personal Responsibility](#)"
- And don't forget about NGC #5 - Club Standard Flower show / NGC #30 - District Standard Flower Show / NGC #57 - Standard Flower Show Staged in Public Building. Contact the CGCI Awards Chairman, [Nancy Lee Loesch](#), if you have any questions. For Flower Show Awards, contact [Gudy Kimmel](#). For Youth Awards, contact [Beverly Switzer](#).

NGC Award Changes

These changes apply to NGC awards only -- from Fall 2010 *The National Gardener*

NGC wants you to know of the following changes to its [2009-2011 Award Manual](#), which can be downloaded from its [website](#).

1. NGC #63, Website - no book of evidence is needed. Simply complete the NGC award application form and be sure that your website address is printed on the form. Judges will go to the website for evaluation and selection of winners.
2. Operation Wildflower Awards, #71, 73 and 74. Following the words "native plants," please add the phrase, "to your region."
3. Concerning all yearbooks - a budget does not have to be included.
4. Page numbering and Table of Contents are not needed in your books of evidence. This includes Publicity Press Books. (Flower Show Achievement Awards follow different sets of rules).
5. NGC Award #38, Calendar Flower Arranger of the Year, delete, "may submit 35 mm slides or color transparencies." Insert in that space, "may submit digital photos." Please highlight: "Entry form and requirements are found in current *Vision of Beauty* Calendar.
6. NGC High School Service Award & Essay Contest -- NGC Chairman, Elva Davison, reports that the 2010-2011 Theme is "[The Environment -- Our Personal Responsibility](#)." Essay contest rules, scale of points and additional details can be found on the NGC website. The HS essay contest is open to all HS students attending 9th through 12th grades. A \$1,000 NGC scholarship will be awarded to the National Winner. The second place winner will receive \$100. Contest deadline - Club entries must be sent to Joyce Reid, 1495 Calle Madreselva, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 by December 1.

New Youth Groups

The following Youth Groups were ratified at the CGCI Fall Board Meeting by [Beverly Switzer](#), Youth Awards Chairman:

- **Redding Wonderland Garden Club Youth Group**, sponsored by Redding Wonderland Garden Club of Cascade District
- **Myrtle Farm Montessori Garden Project**, sponsored by Clayton Valley Garden Club of Diablo Foothills District
- Yet to be named, a **Georgetown Elementary School group**, sponsored by Divide Garden Club, Golden Foothills District
- **The Centipedes of Twelve Bridges Elementary School**, sponsored by Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club of Golden Foothills District



Photo above is of the Palms to Pines District Co-Directors' beautiful granddaughter, preparing her table design for a flower show.

IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption Q&A

By Chuck Goodwin, CGCI IRS Nonprofit Group Exemption Chairman

Q: What is a nonprofit?

A: A revenues received. And more public (and private) agencies are only allowing the use of their facilities by nonprofits or charging them a lower use fee than that charged to for profit organizations.

Q: Our club has an EIN (Employee Identification Number). Doesn't that make us a nonprofit?

A: No. For most nonprofits, the EIN, a number issued by the IRS, is used to open a bank account for the organization. It has no relationship to being a nonprofit or not. In earlier years, bank accounts were often opened using an individual's Social Security Number (SSN). That is not a good idea, primarily because funds deposited into accounts with a SSN become assets of the individual holding that SSN.

Q: How can our club become a nonprofit?

A: For CGCI clubs, there are at least two ways. The easier is to join the CGCI program. [Click here](#) to go to the link which describes this program. And the second way is to independently apply to the IRS for designation. This is the most time-consuming and costly. The IRS fees for an exemption letter alone can approach \$1,000. The CGCI program has a \$35 application fee and a \$15 annual renewal fee. The IRS requires that nonprofit member clubs make an annual statement of their continuing nonprofit status.

501(c)(3) designation allows the nonprofit to offer to donors that their donations may be deducted as charitable contributions on their income tax returns. It also relieves the nonprofit from paying income taxes on

More questions will be answered next month!



Garden Arts & Crafts

The Garden Arts & Crafts Chairman, [Janet Eyre](#), asks clubs to appoint a Garden Arts & Crafts Chairman and to hold a garden arts and crafts program at least once a year (e.g., before the holidays at a fall meeting which would be ideal for gift-giving ideas). All that you grow in your yard or garden can be usable as some kind of a garden art and craft project such as dried flowers, pine cones, seeds, leaves, berries, husks, seed pods and twigs -- all media for garden arts and crafts projects -- just add the glue which is appropriate for your project! So, when you reap your harvest, think creative!

Attn: CGCI Chairmen

If you would like to create an educational brochure for your chairmanship, let [Julie West](#), Chairman of the Public Relations Team, know. Julie and her Committee, along with the CGCI [Communications Chairman](#), can help you produce a professional-looking brochure.

Attn: Flower Show Judges



New Handbook Changes

The Fall 2010 *The National Gardener* has the current changes to the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Revised 2007 on page 22. Please mark your handbooks accordingly. [Click here](#) for a complete list of all of the revisions.

NEW CGCI AWARD - Judge of the Year

Sponsored by the CGCI Judges Council. Certificate and \$50. Deadline: By December 1.

Each year, each judges council (currently 7) may nominate one (1) candidate for the CGCI Judge of the Year Award by sending a letter of recommendation, addressing the criteria below, to the [CGCI Judges Council Chairman](#). Any questions, contact [Judi Picinini](#).

Criteria for Judge of the Year Award

- The candidate must be an active judge and in good standing.
- During the awards year, the judge/nominee shall achieve all 12 of the following, plus participate in other activities of value to garden clubs:
 1. Be in good standing, without being on an extension (required).
 2. Attend a symposium within the awards year.
 3. Assist with symposium in some manner: Administratively, i.e., serve on the master panel, serve as registrar, etc.; or Creatively, i.e., create a design for the oral/exam or for exhibiting during the symposium.
 4. Exhibit in at least 2 events - 2 exhibits in design and 2 in horticulture.

5. Present at least 2 educational programs/exhibits, i.e., design, horticulture, ethics, flower show procedures, etc.
6. Chair or co-chair at least one garden club event, i.e., flower show, garden tour, fundraiser, etc.
7. Hold a chairmanship of a committee in his/her judges council, garden club, district or CGCI.
8. Participate actively in his/her judges council, e.g., hold office or chair a committee, exhibiting and judging.
9. Write a flower show schedule or help write one, or evaluate/consult on the writing of a schedule.
10. Encourage new judges/student judges to judge and exhibit.
11. Encourage his/her club and other clubs to sponsor standard flower shows.
12. Encourage councils/clubs/districts to sponsor a flower show school.



National Garden Clubs, Inc. News

Share Your Garden Club Photos

(Article appeared in current issue of *The National Gardener*; reprinted with permission of the author.)

NGC invites you to visit and enjoy its new public Flickr^R site (or "photostream"). [Click here](#) for the site. The recently launched site - designed to create and nurture a photo archive for garden club members nationwide - showcases award-winning gardens, floral arrangements, conventions, news and projects. Anyone can view the NGC site simply by going to the link. You do NOT need to be a Flickr member. Photos on the official NGC photostream are licensed appropriately through Creative Commons; this allows the images to be used for publicity purposes in the news media as well as by NGC-affiliated clubs.

In addition to the official NGC photostream, the Flickr site features several additional "groups." The groups, which can be public or private, offer garden club "photobugs" an easily accessible channel for uploading, pooling, categorizing and displaying their own photos. A major goal of these group pools is to make a wide variety of images available to garden club members everywhere for use in local, state, regional and national newspapers, brochures and websites, as well as educational demonstrations and training. High quality photos from the groups may also be selected for inclusion in the main public NGC photostream site and digital archive.

Initial groups include:
Conventions -- [click here](#)
Flower Shows -- [click here](#)
Projects -- [click here](#)

To join a group and contribute photos and comments to the group pool, you need to have both a Yahoo email account (Flickr is affiliated with Yahoo) and a Flickr account. Both are free, quick and easy to set up and accessible on the Flickr sign-up page. [Click here](#) for the page. For more information or photo sharing through Flickr, contact [Robin Pokorski](#), NGC Photo Archives Chairman.

Keeping in Touch

The November 2010 issue of *Keeping in Touch* is available for viewing or downloading from the NGC website. [Click here](#) to view it.



Back to School

Upcoming NGC Schools in California
Environmental, Flower Show, Gardening &
Landscape Design

2010

- **November 4-5, 2010** - Landscape Design Study Program, Course 1, Palos Verdes Peninsula. Sponsor: Costa Verde District. Chairman: [Alexis Slafer](#). Registrar: [Kathy Snider](#). See [CGCI Calendar](#) for more information.
- **November 9-10, 2010** - Environmental Studies School, Course 3 - The Air, San Mateo. Sponsor: Bay Ocean District. Chairman/Registrar: [Shane Looper](#). Instructors: Aaron J. Martin, Lisa Michl, Price Sheppy. See [CGCI Calendar](#) for more information.

2011

- **January 27-28, 2011** - Landscape Design Study Program, Course 2. See above.
- **March 17-18, 2011** - Landscape Design Study Program, Course 3. See above.
- **April 5-7, 2011** - Flower Show School, Course 2. Sponsor: Sacramento River Valley District. Chairman: Mary Arakelian, 916-632-0220.
- **April 12-13, 2011** - Gardening Study School, Course 4, Loomis. Sponsor: Golden Foothills District. Chairman: [Patsy Jeffrey](#)
- **May 2011** - Environmental Studies School, Courses 1 and 2. Sponsor: Palms to Pines District & The Palms Garden Club. Chairman: [Emily Chase Bueermann](#). More information to follow.



Upcoming CGCI Official Events

See [CGCI Calendar](#) for club, affiliate, associate plant society and district "special" events.

- February 3-6, 2011 - Winter Board Meeting. Host: Orange County District. Chairman: [Carole Lung](#). Co-Chairman: [Annie Hall-Bosche](#).
- April 1-3, 2011 - Weekend Wildflower Encounters. Host: Buttes District. Chairman: [Jim Hart](#)
- April 14-16, 2011 - Pacific Region Convention, Scottsdale, AZ
- April 28-30, 2011 - Flower Show Judges Symposium, Bakersfield, CA. Contact [Gloria Aminian](#) for information.
- May 15-19, 2011 - CGCI 80th Convention. Host: Luther Burbank & Mendo-Lake Districts. Chairmen: [Cathy Biggins](#) & [Gina-Belle Smith](#)
- May 27-30, 2011 - NGC Convention, Washington, D.C.
- June 14-19, 2011 - CGCI Tour to 10th World Flower Show, Boston, MA. Contact [Bob Gordon](#) for more information. [Click here](#) to view past CGCI eNewsletter article regarding 10th World Flower Show and CGCI tour.