



## eNewsletter of California Garden Clubs, Inc.

November 2011 Vol. 3-11

[Julie A. West](#), President

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



### Message from the President [Julie A. West](#)

After the conclusion of my "official visit" to Diablo Foothills District Meeting on October 31, five of us went on a mission triggered by CGCI's *The Diamond Years*. The goal was to see if there was a plaque commemorating CGCI's contribution to the Mt. Diablo State Park Interpretive Center. CGCI assisted in raising funds for constructing interpretive exhibits in the Summit Building of Mt. Diablo State Park between 1987 and 1993, raising over \$5,000. A beautiful diorama depicts mountain scenes including shrubs, trees, flora and fauna that inhabit Mt. Diablo. It was dedicated October 6, 1993 which concluded the project. The mission was a success, and California Garden Clubs is listed as one of six original donors. The exhibit itself was recently renovated and is outstanding -- "one to be proud of." So if you are ever in the area of Mt. Diablo State Park, take the time and drive up to the summit to see for yourself. The view is incredible! You can read more about it on page 129 of *The Diamond Years*, the history of CGCI from 1931-1932 through 2006-2007.

A big thank you to those who accompanied me on our four-hour quest - it was not only rewarding but fun too!

Editor's Note: [Click here](#) to view Julie's photos on CGCI's Facebook page - scroll down to about 10 or so postings. Remember: You don't have to be a Facebook member to view CGCI's Facebook page.



## CGCI is now on Facebook!

Even if you are not a Facebook subscriber, you can see CGCI's blog. Just [click here](#). And remember to leave "likes."

You can also get to CGCI's Facebook page via the [CGCI website](#). On home page, scroll down to bottom left.

Questions, contact the [CGCI Facebook Administrator](#). And please send anything which you would like placed on the CGCI Facebook page to the CGCI Facebook Administrator, [Pat Clayes](#), if you are unable to post yourself. Pat will be glad to post your blogs for you. And photos will be very much appreciated.



## Project Mission Blue

Project Mission Blue is the project of CGCI and the [Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy](#) to increase lupine diversity by propagating and planting pathogen-resistant summer lupine and varied lupine. It is the hope to stabilize the Mission Blue Butterfly community during years of fungal outbreak and allow these populations to increase over the long term. Tax deductible donations for the Project Mission Blue should be made payable to "CGCI" and sent to Chairman [Shane Looper](#), 213 Carmelo Lane, South San Francisco, CA 94080. For more information, [click here](#).

Discovered in San Francisco in 1937, the mission blue was one of the first insects added to the federal endangered species list in 1976. Today, it fights for survival in remaining fragments of its native Bay Area grasslands.

### Facts About the Mission Blue Butterfly - Part 3 of 3

#### Saving the Mission Blue Butterfly & Beyond

Today the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy has monitoring programs to learn more about the mission blue and lupine populations. It also does a variety of habitat restoration projects such as invasive plant removal and planting native grassland vegetation. Preserving mission blue habitat protects other members of the grassland ecosystem, like birds, mammals and wildflowers, as well.

Restoring grasslands also reduces wildfire fuel buildup and conserves an important source for clean air and carbon sequestration.

- **Stay on designated trails** to avoid harming mission blues in all of their life stages.
- **Don't pick the flowers.** The more nectar plants available to mission blues, the better.
- **Learn** what mission blues' host plants look like and avoid disturbing them.
- **Avoid** planting potentially invasive species in your backyard.
- **Volunteer** for habitat restoration activities or donate to the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy through CGCI.

## CGCI 501(c)(3) Group Exemption News

CGCI advises that all group exemption clubs/districts had their most recent fiscal year-end at June 30, 2011. All clubs/districts are required to file

the federal tax report appropriate to their club/district (form 990-N (electronically filed), form 990, or form 990-EZ) by **November 15, 2011**.

Group exemption clubs are also automatically members of the California group exemption (new this year, and applicable for years ended June 30, 2011 and forward). Clubs/districts are required to file, as appropriate, form 199-N (new this year; electronically filed) or form 199. The due date is **November 15, 2011**. 501(c)(3) organizations are required to be registered with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts, and the annual report, form RRF-1, for the year ended June 30, 2011, is due **November 15, 2011**. There are no penalties for late filing of form RRF-1.

If a club/district has failed to file its required IRS tax form for three consecutive years, starting with years that ended June 30, 2007, it may be subject to automatic revocation of its 501(c)(3) status by the IRS at any time. The IRS has issued guidelines for clubs/districts to regain 501(c)(3) status, but these guidelines forbid CGCI from reinstating the organization in the CGCI Group Exemption Program. Clubs/districts need to follow these IRS guidelines, which are available on the IRS website.

CGCI is not a licensed tax preparation firm and is unable to provide further information related to a particular club/district's facts and circumstances. A club or district may wish to consult local tax professionals to assist it with specific facts and circumstances.

IRS CIRCULAR 230 DISCLOSURE: To ensure compliance with Treasury Department regulations, we



inform you that any U.S. federal tax advice contained in this article is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties that may be imposed under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.



## Congratulations to 20 New NGC Landscape Design Consultants!

The photo above is of most of the graduating class of Landscape Design School, Series 26, which took place in Colfax, including the instructors and the school chairman.

Twenty students finished all 4 sessions and are now NGC Landscape Design Consultants! Myrtle Findley, local school chairman, says that "they [the students] are a happy bunch; they all passed the exams."

The students started Course 1 on September 10, 2011 and finished Course 4 on October 23, 2011! WOW! That must be the record for the fastest series ever!



2011—2012  
Yearbook,  
Manual & Roster



Conservation  
Gardening  
Creativity  
Inspiration  
Explore the Possibilities . . .  
www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org

## Got Yearbook Changes?

If so, please send to [Carmen Black](#) ASAP.

Carmen will be compiling a list of additions/changes which have occurred since the yearbook's printing last August. The list will be distributed at the CGCI Winter Board Meeting.



## River Cruise to *Floriade*

By [Bob Gordon](#), Tours Chairman

We are very close to booking all of the staterooms in our block. If you are planning on joining us, please contact [Chris Merkel](#) at 877-651-7447 or [email](#) as soon as possible. *Keukenhoff* in tulip time is the horticulture extravaganza of the once in ten years *Floriade*. We will

also visit the famous Aalsmeer Flower Auction and experience relaxing travel aboard a beautiful AMA river cruise ship. Note: This is a CGCI fundraiser.

## Shrubs/Trees

By [Linda Smith](#), CGCI Shrubs/Trees Chairman

When landscaping with trees and shrubs, we must consider many questions before beginning. Evaluate your site, look up, look side to side, look all around. Do you want a small or large specimen that will stand out in your garden. Think before you plant. Consider your water needs. Group water thirsty trees and shrubs together and remember drought tolerant plants can withstand more sun. Water deeply but less frequently to promote deep root systems. Don't be like me. I absolutely get mesmerized in my garden with a water hose in my hand. It's my fault I drown so many plants.



We must all try to be good to our gardens and our environment. Consider California native plants. The salvia family can be so colorful. *Salvia greggii* and the red and white flower of salvia 'hot lips' is darling. California ceanothus and toyon can stand alone or make an excellent hedge. The choices are vast. Bring on the color - try a purple peppermint tree next to bright yellow coreopsis and then add a bright red canna to the mix. What a beautiful world in which we live.

Note: The Landscape Design Council of the National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc. has recently created *The Creative Garden* book which is for sale for only \$10.00. It is filled with practical and clever ideas for the garden. [Click here](#) for more information.

## Awards

[Click here](#) to see the new evaluation forms for the 2011-2012 awards year. [Click here](#) to see the updated Awards Manual.

**Remember the two deadlines:  
December 1 & January 10**

If you have any questions about awards, please contact [Pat Clayes](#), Awards Chairman.



### Awards Due December 1:

- Flower Show Judge of the Year Award
- CGCI Community Impact Award
- B-2 Civic Development Award
- C-7 Operation Wildflower Award
- PR-2, Sections 1 & 2, Newsletters
- PR-2, Section 4, Publication other than a Yearbook or Newsletter
- PR-4 National Garden Week
- PR-5 Website Award
- PR-6 Video Award
- G-1 Council Yearbook Award

- G-2 Club Yearbook Award
- G-3 District Yearbook Award
- NGC Flower Show Achievement Awards (NGC #5 Standard Flower Show; NGC #30 District Standard Flower Show; NGC #57 Standard Flower Show Stages in a Public Building)
- J-5 Youth Poetry Contest
- J-14 Youth Sculpture Contest
- HS-6 High School Essay Contest
- NGC Awards

See pages 93-94 of the 2011-2012 *CGCI Yearbook, Manual & Roster* for a list of awards and where to send them, or [click here](#) to see the list.

All National Garden Clubs, Inc. award applications must be postmarked by **December 1**. Note the new NGC award changes on pages 91-93 of the 2011-2012 *CGCI Yearbook, Manual & Roster* and in the Awards Manual which is on line. [Click here](#) for the Awards Manual. Please especially note that NGC award applications must be submitted to the [CGCI Awards Chairman](#), except for Flower Show Awards which are submitted to [Susan Coolidge](#).



## Youth Awards

By [Linda Riddle](#), Youth Awards Chairman

Youth Awards Which are Due December 1:

- J-5 Poetry Contest - "Colorful Fruits" or "Tasty Vegetables" (choose one)
- J-14 Youth Sculpture Contest
- HS-6 Essay Contest - "The Benefits of Community Gardens"

The theme for Smokey Bear has changed. It is **ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES!** Contact [Linda Riddle](#), Youth Awards Chairman, or [Denise Davis](#), Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Chairman, if you have any questions.

## A Reminder About Endowments

By [Bob Gordon](#),  
Endowments Chairman



Charter membership in the CGCI Endowment and the CGCI Scholarship Endowment is open until June 2012. We hope you will consider giving to these financial security funds for CGCI. All donors will be invited to a very special event just prior to the 2012 convention. If your donation is \$500 or more, the event will be free to you. Free drink tickets will be given to donors according to the amount of your donation. Make your check payable to CGCI, note in the memo line which endowment you want to support, and mail your checks to Bob Gordon, 1532 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Your donations are tax deductible, and you will receive a letter to use for the IRS.

You can also arrange to leave funds to these two endowments in your will. Arrangements can be made through your personal attorney and Principal Financial. Questions: Contact anyone on the Endowment Committee -- [Joan Craig](#), [Robin Pokorski](#), [Bev Brune](#), [Dave West](#), [Elisabeth Tufo](#) or [Bob Gordon](#).



## Natural Resources

By [Dwight Holford](#), CGCI Natural Resources Chairman

Natural Resources are derived from the environment. Living examples are: forests and their products, animals, birds and their products, fish and marine organisms. Mineral fuels, coal and petroleum were a once living organism. Non-living resources include sunlight, land, water, air and mineral ores such as gold, iron, copper, silver, etc.

The management of natural resources is a science-based system. Theodore Roosevelt, early in the last century is quoted as saying "The conservation of natural resources is the fundamental problem. Unless we solve that problem, it will avail us little to solve all others." For most identified problems in the natural resource field there exists a number of possible solutions. The fact that all of the problems have not been addressed should be considered a social problem. Not solving some of these problems has and can cause social unrest.

What are some of these problems?

**Depletion of rain forests**  
**Depletion of fisheries**  
**Depletion of arable soils**  
**Depletion of clean water**  
**Depletion of clean air**

For those resources that are not renewable, such as coal, petroleum and minerals, we have the choice of conserving them and recycling those that can be recycled. For all other resources, we need to find ways to make it possible to keep them going. Sustainability is the catch phrase for this.

What is the key to success? Understanding about our natural world and a desire to be of help in solving these problems would be a good start. As an example, our own CGCI is now involved in a long-range program to keep the Mission Blue butterfly from going extinct. These efforts are based on the knowledge of scientists who have studied the problem and appear to have a workable solution. Many agencies, federal, state and county, will be participating. School children will also be taking part to help out by growing the lupine these butterflies depend on for their very survival. This project, to save this butterfly, is a commendable example of people working together to help stem the loss of biodiversity.

The study of the natural world, to say the least, is complex. Everything is tied together. To work on one area affects other areas. Nothing is left by itself. So what can an ordinary citizen do? Find an area that you like, learn about it, and then get involved. The Internet is a great source of information. Support peer reviewed science. Do what you can, such as recycle, use sustainable gardening practices and let your voice be heard.

Where does something like climate change fit in? Most would agree that climate change is directly tied to poor or misunderstood management of our natural resources. Examples close to home would include our unusual weather patterns, the effect climate change is having on California agriculture. It appears likely that our long-term water supply is also threatened.

Water and its status in California and the world will be the subject of the next report by your chairman. Should you have any suggestions regarding other subjects please contact the [chairman](#).

# CGCI Chairmen: Got Blog?

Did you know that, as a CGCI Chairman, you can have your very own BLOG on the CGCI website?



A blog is part of a website which is supposed to be updated with new content from time to time. Blogs are usually maintained by an individual with regular entries of commentary, descriptions of events, etc.

Through your blog on the CGCI website, you can bring your chairman's message to over 21,000 members of CGCI and the public. What a wealth of information you will be sharing!

If you can type emails, you can do this. Contact the CGCI Webmaster, [Ed Dempsey](#) to obtain your user name and password.

Here are the simple instructions from the CGCI website on creating blogs:

## How to create a blog:

- Log in to your account.
- Go to "your" user menu (the block on the bottom left with your name in it).
- Click on Create Content.
- Click on Blog entry.
- Type the title of your blog post in the Title field. (This will show up as your blog post title and become your blog post name (path)).
- Type in your category under the word tags (e.g., Rose Notes, Mary, Mary, etc.). This is the one thing that distinguishes you from the other bloggers.
- Do nothing with menu settings for blogs; you can skip this section.
- Create your blog message in the body area.
- Scroll down to the bottom of the page and hit the Save button.
- You do not need to change anything between the body and Save button.

# The New *Robert's Rules* is Here!

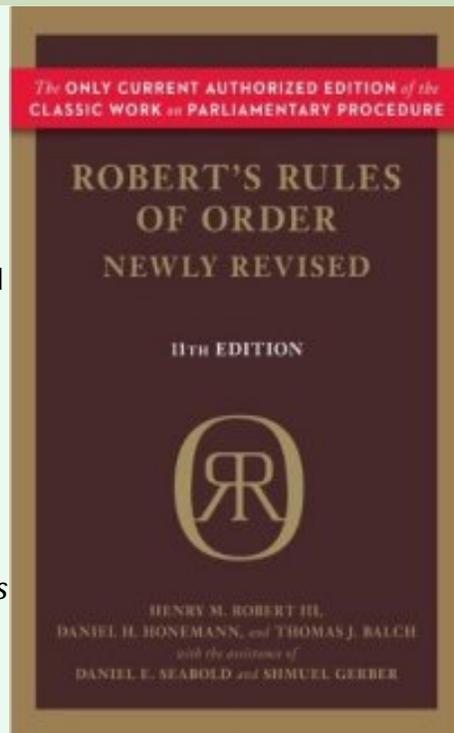
By [Greg Pokorski](#), Parliamentarian

The current edition, entitled *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 11th Edition*, was released in September. It supersedes all previous editions and is intended automatically to become the parliamentary authority in organizations whose bylaws prescribe *Robert's Rules of Order*, *Robert's Rules of Order Revised*, or *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*.

CGCI's bylaws state (Article XVII), "The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the corporation in all cases to which they are applicable and consistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the corporation may adopt." CGCI does not need to amend its bylaws to begin using the new *Robert's* as its parliamentary authority. If your club or district has a similar provision it does not need an amendment to begin using the new *Robert's*. Since most bylaws do allow for this automatic switch to reliance upon the most current publication and since *Robert's* itself states that the new edition supersedes all previous editions, then it is important for all such organizations to quickly obtain and become familiar with the new edition. It is important for all members of an organization to use a single parliamentary guide. Older editions of *Robert's* have significant differences in their guidelines and page and section references, which can exacerbate disagreements instead of helping to settle them.

The 11th Edition, the first revision since 2000, is significantly re-edited with expanded and updated treatment of many topics. Its preface lists 17 significant changes and an additional 103 changes. Some key changes include: modified parliamentary rules in small boards and committees; electronic meetings and electronic communication; definition of a member "in good standing;" recognition of "Is there any debate?" as a less formal alternative to "Are you ready for the question?;" clarification of what rights members have to inspect records; and clarification of the relation between acts of an executive board and its parent assembly.

*Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief* (for a simple and concise introductory guide) has also been published in a 2011 edition.





## Revised deadline for CGCI Scholarships

By [Albert Chang](#), Scholarship Co-Chairman

The CGCI Board of Trustees voted at the Fall Board Meeting to change the application deadline for the two \$2000 CGCI Scholarships from December 1, 2011 to **January 15, 2012**. This action was

taken to give applicants more time through the December holiday break to complete their applications for the scholarships. If you have any questions, please call or email [Evelyn Broaddus](#) (707-462-8141) or [Albert Chang](#) (602-418-2900), the CGCI Scholarship Co-Chairmen. [Click here](#) for the 2012-2013 Scholarship Application form.



## News from National Garden Clubs, Inc.

### Have YOU seen what's on Flickr?



Our NGC Flickr site is growing. Is your club or district or state represented? There are fantastic pictures of flower shows and designs; of Blue Star Memorial Marker plantings; of garden therapy workshop ideas; of interesting Arbor Day ceremonies and plantings. Use Flickr as YOUR idea book - share your pictures with others and get new ideas from others.

Send pictures with a short description identifying the group, project and location. Your Flickrettes are particularly seeking Blue Star Memorial Marker plantings, hydrangeas (our NGC President's favorite flower) and Aquatic Ecosystem Project pictures. Do it today!

Send pictures to [Robin Pokorski](#). Then visit our Flickr site -- your online idea book! [Click here](#) to visit NGC's Flickr site.



## "Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems"

To read the recent report from NGC's Chairman, [Mary Sue Colvin](#), on Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems, [click here](#).

More information on NGC's new Award on this subject will be forthcoming.

### Minutes – Not Hours! – Part 3 of 3

(from handout distributed at 2011 NGC Convention by Joan H. Corbisiero, PRP)

#### Corrections to Minutes

- Should be notated on minutes being corrected, initialed by secretary with date of correction.
- Corrections can be made at any time.
- If made after approval, will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote.



#### Common Errors in Minutes

1. Failure to include name of organization.
2. Failure to include the year of the meeting.
3. Failure to note who presided and who served as secretary.
4. Including the name of the seconder.
5. Including a detailed account of subsidiary motions to questions finally disposed of.
6. Failure to record points of order and appeals, with reasons for each ruling.
7. Failure to record motions adopted by unanimous consent.
8. Failure to record votes which should be recorded.
9. Including remarks from debate.
10. Recording excessive description of program.
11. Failure to record previous notice given at a meeting.
12. Omission of time and fact of adjournment.
13. Use of outdated closings, "Respectfully" and "Respectfully submitted."

# Back to School

## *Upcoming Schools/Refreshers & Flower Show Judges Symposia in California*

### *Environmental, Flower Show, Gardening & Landscape Design*



Check CGCI [Calendar of Events](#) for links to brochures, flyers, registration forms, etc.

- **November 7-8, 2011** - Environmental Studies School, Course 4, Bay Ocean District, San Mateo, Chairman: [Shane Looper](#). [Click here](#) for brochure.
- **February 12-14, 2012** - CGCI Flower Show Judges Symposium, Handlery Hotel, San Diego. Contact [Laura Crenshaw](#) if you have any questions. [Click here](#) for the registration form.
- **April 17-19, 2012** - Flower Show School, Course 4, Shepard Garden & Arts Center, Sacramento. [Carolyn Flynn](#), Registrar, [Mary Arakelian](#), Chairman. Instructors: Sandra Joyce (Horticulture), Char Mutschler (Design).
- **August 20-22, 2012** - Flower Show School, Course 1. Sponsor: Judges Council of Southern California. Chairmen: [Martha Hunt](#) & [Linda Lang](#).
- **January 7-9, 2013** - Flower Show School, Course 2. Sponsor: Judges Council of Southern California. Chairmen: [Martha Hunt](#) & [Linda Lang](#).
- **August 12-14, 2013** - Flower Show School, Course 3. Sponsor: Judges Council of Southern California. Chairmen: [Martha Hunt](#) & [Linda Lang](#).
- **January 6-8, 2014** - Flower Show School, Course 4. Sponsor: Judges Council of Southern California. Chairmen: [Martha Hunt](#) & [Linda Lang](#).

## Upcoming CGCI Official Events (other than schools)

See [CGCI Calendar](#) for club, affiliate, associate plant society and district "special" events which are open to the public.

- **February 6-9, 2012** - Winter Board Meeting, The Cliffs Resort, Pismo Beach. Host: Montana de Oro District.
- **March 21-25, 2012** - [San Francisco Flower & Garden Show](#) - CGCI is a sponsor. [Click here](#) for discount ticket information for CGCI members. [Click here](#) for the schedule of the standard flower show, *The World Around Us*, which will be held in conjunction with the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show.
- **April 4-6, 2012** - Wildflower Conference, Holiday Inn, Palmdale. Chairmen: [Merrilee Ray](#) & Wanda Hewett. May become a bi-refresher for Gardening Study and Environmental Studies! More information to follow.
- **April 12-20, 2012** - River Cruise - The Netherlands (CGCI Fundraiser). Chairman:

[Bob Gordon.](#)

- **May 16-19, 2012** - NGC Convention, Buffalo, NY.
- **June 3-7, 2012** - CGCI Convention, Cal Expo Sacramento DoubleTree, Host: Sacramento River Valley District.
- **June 3-9, 2012** - National Garden Week.
- **July 26-28, 2012** - Pacific Region Convention, Fairbanks, Alaska.
- **September 6-9, 2012** - Fall Board Meeting, San Mateo. Host: Executive Committee. Chairman: [Julie West.](#)
- **September 21-25, 2012** - Pacific Region Fundraiser Tour, Fairbanks and Denali, Alaska.
- **September 26-29, 2012** - NGC Fall Board Meeting, Little Rock, AR.
- **February 2013** - CGCI Winter Board Meeting. Host: Golden Foothills District.
- **April 2013** - Pacific Region Convention. Host: CGCI. Chairman: [David West.](#)
- **May 21-27, 2013** - NGC Convention, Seattle, WA.
- **June 3-7, 2013** - CGCI Convention, San Diego. Host: Palomar District. Chairman: [Jane McKee.](#)
- **June 5-9, 2014** - CGCI Convention, Glendale. Host: San Fernando Valley District.