



## eNewsletter of California Garden Clubs, Inc.

April 2012 Vol. 4-4

[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

*Thirty-five of us enjoyed the Wildflower Conference in Palmdale which was held earlier this month. The speakers were fabulous, and we learned about habitat "connectivity" and how important it is that wildlife corridors continue to exist throughout California for the existence of our native flora and fauna. We learned of the threat alternative fuel such as wind turbines, solar and fuel cells present to the desert environment.*

*The Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve arranged a tour of its new lath house, in addition to a docent tour of the Jane S. Pinheiro Interpretive Center and tour with a park ranger searching for poppies in bloom. Members of CGCI can be proud of the twelve years spent collecting donations to support the purchase of the 1,800 acres where our state flower is preserved for future generations on California's most consistent poppy-bearing land.*

*The "Call to Convention" has been sent to all CGCI board members and club, associate plant society and affiliate presidents. We hope you are planning to attend CGCI's 81st Annual Convention that members of Sacramento River Valley District are hosting on June 4-7, 2012.*

*Note that we have shortened this convention by a full day and night, so it is jam-packed with choices for workshops including a tour to UC Davis Arboretum featured on the cover of the Spring 2012 issue of "Golden Gardens," the photo of which I took in 2008 on a field trip. Be sure to watch for the numerous signs funded by the Elvenia J. Slosson Foundation (Elvenia was CGCI's founding president in 1931 -- another bit of history of which members can be proud). We hope you will join us!*

# CGCI 81st Annual Convention

## June 4 through June 7, 2012

### The DoubleTree Hotel, Sacramento



The Call to Convention has been sent!

[Cover Letter](#)

[For Your Information](#)

[Tentative Schedule](#)

[Registration Form](#)

[Endowment Dinner Registration Form](#)

[Convention Credentials Form](#) for Club and APS Presidents

[Proposed Amendments to Bylaws](#)

[Exhibit Room Registration Form](#)

Please note that the deadline to make your hotel reservations to receive the special CGCI discount is May 15, 2012. Reservations must be made **by telephone only** to receive the special CGCI room rate. Call early for handicapped rooms.

Please also note that a late registration fee applies for convention registration forms postmarked after May 15, 2012.

Questions, contact Registration Chairman [Gay Rigmaiden](#) or Convention Chairman [Ron Byrd](#).

## Convention Highlights

### "Discover a Wealth of Golden Opportunities"

#### Monday, June 4

- 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm - [Endowment Reception and Dinner](#)
- 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm - Workshop - "Gilding Your Garden with Mosaics" by Penny Oliver. In this hands-on workshop, participants can complete a mosaic tile/trivet or simply observe.
- 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm - Presentation - "[UC Davis Arboretum All Star Discovery](#)" by Missy Gabel. Do not miss this prelude to the [Arboretum](#) tour which will take place the next day and get a first-hand look at some of the Arboretum's stars.



#### Tuesday, June 5

- 7:45 am to 11:30 am - Tour - Bus, tram and docent tour at the [UC Davis Arboretum](#). Photo to right is of the California Foothill Collection - from [UC Davis' website](#). The Landscape Design Council will present an award to the UC Davis Arboretum during the tour.
- 8:30 am to 11:30 am - Workshop - "Leadership Forum" by [Robin Pokorski](#), 2007-2009 CGCI President
- 9:00 am to 10:30 am - Workshop - "IRS in Your Garden: Recent Tax Reporting Changes and Ways to Keep Your Garden Clubs in Compliance" by [George Perko](#), CPA, MBA
- 10:30 am to 11:30 am - Workshop - "Filigreed Lavender" by Rose Loveall of [Morningsun Herb Farm](#). The hands-on workshop will allow each participant to go home with a handmade lavender wand from plant material grown

organically on Ms. Loveall's farm.

- 10:30 am to 11:30 am - Demonstration - "Prospecting Ikebana" by MJ Kelly and Helen Tashira - a soothing walk in "floral harmony"
- Lunch honoring Club Presidents with special guest, NGC President Shirley Nicolai
- President's Reception
- Awards Celebration Banquet
- Awards Room Opening

### Wednesday, June 6

- Youth Recognition Luncheon
- Judges Council Banquet "Golden Moments" - hosted by Capital Judges Council featuring an entertaining design program by local designers

### Thursday, June 7

- Board of Directors 2012-2013 Organizational Meeting

## CGCI Endowment Dinner

Monday, June 4, 2012

The Board of Trustees and Endowment Chairman Bob Gordon, invite you to celebrate the Endowment Fund Charter Donors at the "Dinner with the Presidents" on Monday, June 4, 2012 in conjunction with the CGCI Convention in Sacramento. Cost is \$95 per person, and registration is required. [Click here](#) for full details and registration form. Registration deadline - postmark by May 15, 2012. No refunds after May 25, 2012. Questions, please contact [Bob Gordon](#).

If you would like to become a Charter Member of the CGCI Endowment Funds, [click here](#) for more information. Deadline to become a Charter Member is June 3, 2012. And please specify to which endowment fund you would like to contribute (or both):

### CGCI Endowment Fund / CGCI Scholarship Endowment Fund

See pages 155 through 158 of the *CGCI Yearbook, Manual & Roster* for more information on the two CGCI Endowment Funds.

## The Sooner the Better

[Shane Looper](#), CGCI Financial Secretary

A reminder for each CGCI Chairman and District Director: The CGCI fiscal year ends on June 30, 2012, and your receipts for reimbursement should be sent to the Financial Secretary soon.

For CGCI Chairman, the budget for the coming year is being formed and, without the expenses of your chairmanship, the budgeted amount for your chairmanship may change. In order to get reimbursed, you must submit your receipts with a "[Request for Payment or Reimbursement Form](#)." You can find the form on the website and download it. [Click here](#) for the form. You may mail the form and receipts, or you may email them to [Shane Looper](mailto:Shane Looper) at 213 Carmelo Lane, South San Francisco, CA 94080 [slooper@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slooper@sbcglobal.net). Time is getting short, so please send your receipts and [Request for Payment or Reimbursement Form](#) to me.





## Consultants Councils (including Environmental Consultants) to Meet at Convention

The [Gardening Consultants Council](#) (which includes the Environmental Consultants) will meet from 5:30 pm until 6:00 pm on June 5, 2012 in the Capital Salon C. The [Landscape Design Council](#) will meet from 7:30 am until 8:15 am on June 6, 2012 at Maxi's. All meetings take place at the DoubleTree Hotel, 2011 Point West Way, Sacramento.



## Upcoming Flower Shows, Garden Tours & Plant Sales

Don't forget to check the [CGCI Calendar of Events](#) for local flower shows, garden tours and plant sales. Now is the time to start planning your road trips to visit these wonderful events.



Friday, April 27, 2012 is National Arbor Day. For more information, [click here](#). Please inform the CGCI Arbor Day Chairman, [Jane Johnson](#), how your club or district celebrated National Arbor Day and/or California Arbor Day (the latter took place on March 7).

## Invasive Plants - Part 1 of 10

The Terrible 10 Invasive Plants of Southern California: fountaingrass; castorbean; tree of heaven; cape-ivy; vinca; ivy; arundo; fennel; iceplant; and pampasgrass.



### Terrible Invasive Plant #1 of 10 fountaingrass - *Pennisetum setaceum*

Fountaingrass (*Pennisetum setaceum*) is a medium-sized, long-lived perennial bunch grass with a clumped, upright growth pattern and tall, feathery flower and seed heads.

**Caution:** Fountaingrass endangers native plant communities by spreading quickly from disturbed areas into wildlands. Additionally, infestations are easily ignited and provide fuel for wildfires. If not controlled, populations of Fountaingrass will increase in size and density following a burn. [Click here](#) to read full article.



## CGCI Facebook Page

See the latest photos from the 2012 Wildflower Conference which took place in Palmdale on April 4-6, 2012 on the [CGCI Facebook Page](#). You do not have to be a Facebook member to view these photos.

And additional photos have been added from the Founders Council of Judges' Standard Flower Show which was held in conjunction with the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show, March 2012.

If you would like to post photos, send your photos to the Facebook Administrator, [Pat Clayes](#). Also, [Robin Pokorski](#) needs your photos for NGC's Flickr site.



## News from National Garden Clubs, Inc.

### Conditioning Tropical Flowers From [NGC's Website](#)



**Anthuriums, Ginger & Birds of Paradise** - Submerge entire bloom end under fresh room temperature water for 15 to 20 minutes. Remove flowers from water and cut about 1/2 inch off the bottom of the stem and immediately put cut end in room temperature water. Mist the heads of the flowers daily and keep flowers away from heat sources and drafts. [Click here](#) to read full article.



## News from Pacific Region

### [Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems](#) - NGC President's Project

By [Sandra Ford](#), NGC President's Project Committee  
(Reprinted, with permission, from WACONIAH)

A visit this summer to the beautiful cobalt blue alpine Lake Tahoe is a good example of what is happening to our aquatic ecosystem. From the top of a ski mountain gondola ride, a docent pointed out the changes in the lake surface. Within the last 10 years, private homes and new condos were built on the California side of Lake Tahoe. The runoff from lawns and storm drains now clouds hundreds of feet of water with sediment. Lake Tahoe is the second deepest lake in the United States, at 1,645 feet. It trails only Oregon's Crater Lake, at 1,945 feet. Only the surface water drains after a rainstorm or after melting snow, leaving accelerated inputs of nutrients behind. Four rivers made the list of Most Endangered Rivers of 2011: Bristol Bay River (Alaska); Yuba River (California); Green River (Washington); and Hoback River (Wyoming - which drains into the Snake River of Idaho). [Click here](#) to read full article.



## 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. For schools in other states, check the [NGC website](#).

- **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).
- **July 2-3, 2012** - Gardening Study School, Course I, Sepulveda Garden Center, Encino. Sponsor: Southern California Garden Club. Chairman: [Robin Pokorski](#). Course II: August 30-31, 2012 / Course III: January 30-31, 2013 / Course IV: March 28-29, 2013.
- **August 20-22, 2012** - Flower Show School, Course I. Sponsor: Judges Council of Southern California. Chairman: [Martha Hunt](#). Course II: January 7-9, 2013 / Course III: August 12-14, 2013 / Course IV: January 6-8, 2014.

# 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.

- **May 16-19, 2012** - NGC Convention, Buffalo, New York.
- **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, Anchorage, Alaska.
- **September 6-9, 2012** - Fall Board Meeting, San Mateo. Host: Executive Committee. Chairman: [Julie West](#).
- **September 26-29, 2012** - NGC Fall Board Meeting, Little Rock, Arkansas.
- **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, Washington.
- **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.