# Golden Gardens eNews

## California Garden Clubs, Inc.

December 2012 Vol. 4-12

Julie A. West, President
California Garden Clubs, Inc. is a Member of Pacific Region, National Garden Clubs, Inc.

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## Message from the President

*Holiday Greetings!*

*Amazing that the holiday season is upon us and 2012 is drawing to a close.* ***Thank you*** *for all that you give to your club, district and CGCI! We look forward to 2013 as we continue to pursue CGCI's objectives and conclude unfinished important garden club work of this administration.*

*We hope you find a position of interest to serve in the 2013-2015 administration to experience first-hand the rewards of being a member of the Board of Directors of California Garden Clubs, Inc. "Explore the possibilities" by contacting President-Elect, Rita Desilets, for positions available to find the right job for you to share your talents and knowledge. The overall experience is "priceless."*

*Wherever you find yourself during this festive time of year, I hope you are celebrating among family and friends creating life-long memories. Best wishes for a happy holiday season and success in your garden club endeavors in 2013!*

*- Julie*

### President's Travel Schedule

- Jan. 7-9 - Flower Show School, Course II, Palos Verdes Peninsula
- Feb. 5-8 - CGCI Winter Board, Auburn
- Feb. 13 - Costa Verde District
- Feb. 18 - Palomar District
- Feb. 28 - Sequoia Foothills District

# California Garden Clubs, Inc.

## *Golden Gardens eNews*

**An Official Publication of California Garden Clubs, Inc.**
**A Non-Profit Organization of 20,736 Members**
**www.CaliforniaGardenClubs.org**
**Toll Free - 888-702-2075**
**email: cagardenclubs@aol.com**

**Like CGCI on Facebook!**

**Julie A. West, President**
850 Grandview Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472-2930
707-829-9342 / Julieawest@aol.com

**California Garden Clubs, Inc. is a member of:**

**National Garden Clubs, Inc.**
4401 Magnolia Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110-5108
314-776-7574 / Fax: 314-776-5108 / www.GardenClub.org

**Shirley Nicolai, NGC President**
12325 Hatton Point Road, Ft. Washington, MD 20744-7014
Email: ShirleyNicolai@verizon.net

**Pacific Region**

**Debbie Hinchey, Director**
1474 Virginia Court, Anchorage, AK 99501-4928
Email: DHinchey@alaska.com
www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

## *Golden Gardens eNews* Staff

**Patricia Clayes, Editor**
P.O. Box 757
Lake Arrowhead, CA 92352-0757
909-337-6911 / cagardenclubs@aol.com

**Rita Desilets, Assistant Editor**
8316 Sparton Avenue
Van Nuys, CA 91402-4030
818-723-4537 / 4rita@roadrunner.com

Feature Articles Editors include: **Kris Ethington** — Youth; **Dana Lozano** — Horticulture; **Pauline Sechi** — Design; and **Donna Thomas** — Conservation. Everyone is invited to submit articles.

Proofreaders: **Sue Bennett**, **Rita Desilets**, **Robin Pokorski** & **Julie West**

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# CGCI WINTER BOARD MEETING

**The Holiday Inn**

**Auburn, California**

**Host: Golden Foothills District**

**Co-Chairmen: Myrtle Findley & Joan Craig**

The CGCI 2013 Winter Board Meeting, "Explore the Riches of the Golden Foothills District," will take place from Tuesday, February 5 through Friday, February 8, 2013 at the Holiday Inn, 120 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn, CA 95603 (530-887-8787 / 800-465-4329). Co-Chairmen Myrtle Findley and Joan Craig, as well as the members of the Golden Foothills District (host), welcome the attendance of all garden club members. A full agenda has been planned with lots of activities for everyone! Please note hotel reservation deadline of **January 15, 2013** to obtain the special CGCI rate. Also note registration form postmark date of **January 15, 2013** to avoid paying a $15 late registration fee.

Click here for CGCI President Julie West's Message.
Click here for the Registration Form.
Click here for the "For Your Information" Sheet.
Click here for the Tentative Schedule.
Click here for Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws.

## Workshops

**Friday, February 8, 2013**

- 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - Website Workshop by Ed Dempsey and Pat Clayes.
- 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Mushroom Workshop including Kit (limited to 30).
- 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Solexx Greenhouses.

## Programs

**Tuesday, February 5, 2013**

- 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. -- "The Riches of our District: Golden Foothills" including "Agriculture Gold: How the Railroads Helped California Flower and Bloom."

**Wednesday, Febraury 6, 2013**

- Dinner Speaker Donna Howell, "Romantic Tahoe."

**Thursday, February 7, 2013**

- Lunch Speaker Carolyn Singer, "Sustainable Vegetable Gardening."
- Dinner - Musical Concert Presented by "Begin Family."

## Gardening Consultants Council Members & Landscape Design Council Members to Meet at CGCI Winter Board.

Gardening Environmental Landscape Design

The next meeting of the Councils will take place at the CGCI Winter Board Meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2013 from 4:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. in the Sierra Room of the Holiday Inn, 120 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn, CA 95603 (530-887-8787 / 800-465-4329).

# OF SPECIAL INTEREST

## San Francisco Flower & Garden Show Announces 2013 Fundraising Opportunity for CGCI Members

As announced at CGCI's 2012 Fall Board Meeting in San Mateo, the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show is offering all CGCI clubs and districts an opportunity to raise money. **Clubs earn $2.00 for each advanced purchase discount ticket they sell for $16** ($20 at the door). Pass on the discount to your club members and friends plus earn money for your club or district! In addition, San Francisco Flower & Garden Show will again this year **donate $1.00 per ticket sold by your club or district to the CGCI President's Project**. This raised $552 last year for the permanent signage project underway at the Kenneth M. Stocking Native Plant Garden of Sonoma State University, and clubs/districts that participated earned $1,104. Show dates are **March 20-24, 2013** at the San Mateo Event Center.

Click here for program details and CGCI Ticket Sales Form (see attachment after you click). Please take advantage of this generous fundraising opportunity being offered by Show. Click here for more information.

**Click here to read all about the CGCI cruise aboard the Sapphire Princess, May 11-18, 2013.**

## Gently Used Books Fundraiser

Date: February 6-7 at 2013 Winter Board Meeting

District Directors may collect donations from their members and bring them to Winter Board in Auburn. Past events of this nature have been fun! Most people find new treasures for their libraries. All donated proceeds benefit the 2011-2013 CGCI President's Project to fund permanent educational signage at Sonoma State University's Kenneth M. Stocking Native Plant Garden. We hope you'll join us! Questions, contact CGCI President Julie West. Suggested book topics to donate: Gardening; Floral Design; Landscaping; Herbs/Edibles; Horticulture; and Garden Crafts. New books are also welcome.

*May you celebrate this holiday season among family and friends creating treasured memories for years to come . . .*

*Merry Christmas and Happy 2013!*

*Julie and Dave West*

***Best Wishes for Peace, Health, Love and Joy in the New Year.***

***Rita Desilets, President-Elect***

**Happy Holidays!**
**Sue Bennett,**
**2nd Vice President/**
**CGCI Membership Chairman**

**Have a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous 2013!**

**Merry Christmas!**

**Al & Pat Clayes**

**Christmas Greetings to all my Friends in the Desert Cross-roads, Cactus Wren, San Pedro and Pleasant Valley Garden Clubs from Marja Graab, now a Glenwood Gardens Resident in Bakersfield, California.**

*May All of You Be Blessed With the Spirit of the Season.*

*Helen Gates*

***Decorated Christmas Trees, Mistletoe and Holly***

***Family, Friends and CGCI Members***

***Please enjoy this special Holiday Season.***

***Pat York, Penny Pines Chairman***

Joyful
Holiday Greetings
to All.
Linden Community Garden Club

**Merry Christmas**
**from**
**Golden Foothills District**
**Auburn Arrangers Guild**
**Auburn Garden Club**
**Chicago Park Garden Club**
**Colfax Garden Club**
**Divide Garden Club**
**Donner Garden Club of Auburn**
**Lake of the Sky Garden Club**
**Lincoln Dirt Gardeners**
**Meadow Vista Garden Club**
**Organic Garden Club of Sacramento County**
**Roseville Arrangers Guild**
**Roseville Better Gardens Club**
**Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club**
**Josie Goodenow, Director**

**Happy Holidays!**
**Luther Burbank District**

**Merry Christmas! Success in Growing Plants & Membership!**
**With love, Long Beach Garden Club**

Christmas Cheer to All!

Marilyn Oberti

*Let music fill the air*
*Let joy be everywhere!*
*San Pedro Garden Club*

Sending Season's Greetings and the Very Best in the Year to Come.
Ronnie Dale

Season's Greetings to all CGCI Members from Arboretum District.

*May the sun gently cast its bright golden rays*
*for the happiest and healthiest of holidays.*
*Southern California Garden Club*

**We all wish you Happy Holidays and a green and growing New Year!**

***Desert Rose Garden Club***

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."
--Maya Angelou

I'll never forget how you made me feel. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, my dear CGCI Friends!

*Robin Pokorski,*
*2007-2009 CGCI President*

***Happy Holidays!***

***San Bruno Garden Club***

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Prosperous New Year!

Oasis Garden Club
(Desert Rats)

Best Wishes for a Memorable HOLIDAY!
ANDERSON VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

*Season's Greetings to All Our Friends From Burbank-Valley Garden Club*

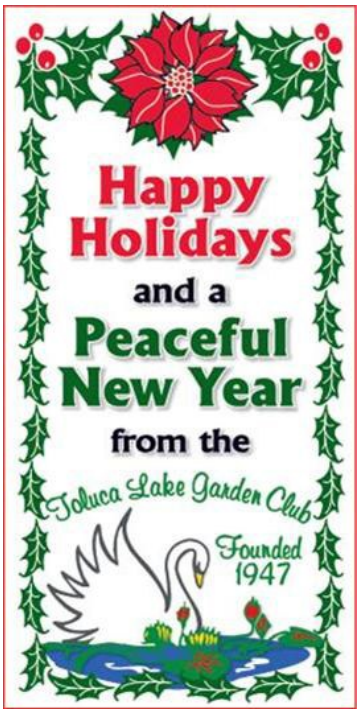
Merry Christmas

I wish you well-ordered meetings in 2013 and hope your gardens blossom from what you learn in Gardening Study School.

Greg Pokorski, CGCI Parliamentarian;
CGCI & NGC Gardening Study Schools Chairman

**Holiday Greetings from a Great District.**
**Costa Verde District**

Holiday wishes for you each day
World peace, good health and friends in spades,
Flower-filled gardens, birds in your trees,
Plenty of time to do as you please.
Sherman Oaks Garden Club

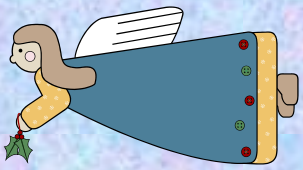



**Many Warm Wishes for the Holiday Season and the New Year!**

**Margaret Strachan,**
**CGCI Recording Secretary**
**and California Natives Chairman**

**Happy Holidays To All Our Fellow Gardeners!**

**San Fernando Valley District**



**We Wish All Gardeners a Bountiful and Joy-Filled Holiday in your Gardens.**

**West Valley Garden Club**

# CONSERVATION

## GOING GREEN – SAVE FOOD, SAVE $$$

by Greg Pokorski, NGC Master Environmental Consultant

A recent NBC story indicates Mom was onto something – Americans are not cleaning their plates. Food waste in the U.S. swelled by 50% since the 1970s, and we're throwing away 40% of our meals. A total of $165 billion annually gets tossed by homeowners and in unsold or unused perishables or scraps dumped by grocers or restaurants.

Everyone has a role to play in reducing food waste. It's one of the easiest things we can do to reduce our environmental footprint. Start by trying not to over-purchase.

Some things may have been better in the good old days – before food expiration dates. We must have been more guided by common sense then. Many British grocers have stopped using those dates which are often just a tool to help store clerks stock shelves with the older products out front. People in the U.S. tend to see these as safety dates, but they are not regulated for the most part. They are intended as the manufacturer's suggestion for peak quality rather than anything that indicates the food is going bad. Many people, not understanding that, just throw food out after the date. We can see or smell or taste when many foods are going bad – occasionally that is even before the date on the package, but more often long after that date. A little old-fashioned common sense might help us to reduce waste, reduce our impact on the landfill and save money.

# HORTICULTURE

## ASHYLEAF BUCKWHEAT
## (*Eriogonum cinereum)*

by Margaret Strachan, California Native Plants Chairman

This is an evergreen shrub which will grow in full sun to partial shade in all geographic zones except high mountains. A well-drained soil is preferred but this plant is adaptable to other types of soil. It is drought tolerant but will take occasional watering.

It is a tough plant, with an abundance of whitish-pink flower clusters and has many benefits for wildlife (in particular butterflies and native wasps). The flowers are on wiry stalks in numerous clusters sometimes covering the entire plant. It blooms in spring through summer from cream flowers to rust or brown as they mature.

The leaves are ½ - ¾ inch and all are soft and white below, while the color of upper surface varies from medium green to silvery grey. Leaf hairs cool the plants in harsh sunlight.

This buckwheat rarely exceeds 4 feet in height, more often about 2 feet high with many growth habits. Some varieties have arching branches which root where they touch the ground, making the plant ideal for erosion control. Other forms are low on the ground and useful as a ground cover.

**Propagation** - The plant can be grown from seed which germinates well without any pretreatment. Plant the seed in the autumn using a coarse soil mix and cover with sphagnum moss to help prevent damping off.

Seedlings may be transferred to 3-inch pots the following spring, and transplant the shrubby varieties to gallon cans until of a proper size to set in their permanent place. Many buckwheats will provide volunteer seedlings once the plant is established.

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## INVASIVE PLANTS - PART 8 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 #8 - Fennel

Fennel is a perennial herb with feathery leaves which have a strong anise or black licorice scent when crushed. Used for centuries as a cooking spice, it is a popular garden plant. It reproduces from both the root crown and seed. Fennel infestations drastically alter coastal meadows, prairie, sage scrub, riparian and wetland plant and animal communities. Plants can reach heights of 10 feet and almost completely inhabit an area to the exclusion of any other types of plants. The seed is long lived and control of dense stands is often difficult.

Editor's Note: Article from Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council; Photo from Wikipedia.

# FLORAL DESIGN

## THE UNDERWATER DESIGN

by Pauline Sechi, Floral Design Feature Editor

**This is a creative design having part or parts of the design, including some plant material, placed under water to create interest.**

Any transparent container/s can be used. A circular container provides more effects with the distortion it creates. Components that are placed under water are chosen for their lasting effects. Firm, hard-surfaced plant materials such as tropical flowers, foliage, evergreens, seed pods and some fruit and vegetables will hold up well. Components under water are anchored or propped so that they will not float.

Water magnifies everything seen through it which means that mechanics and debris are also magnified, so care is needed in selection and organization. The water line becomes an integral part of the design and is distracting if poorly situated.

**Materials**: Reed Grass, Kumquats, *Leucodendron*, Pin Cushion (*Leucospermum*), Palm Fluorescent and Red Hot Poker (*Kniphofia uvaria*).

**Photo & design by Pauline Sechi**

## 2013 VISION OF BEAUTY CALENDAR

Congratulations to the CGCI members listed below who had photos chosen for the 2013 *Vision of Beauty* Calendar!

* **Lili Aram-Bost**, Sacramento Floral Design and Auburn Arrangers Guild
* **Bob Post**, Bay Area Floral Arrangers Guild
* **Sue Swackhamer**, Furyu Floral Designers
* **Nancy Colvin**, Furyu Floral Designers and Bay Area Floral Arrangers Guild
* **Mary Crowell**, Bay Area Floral Arrangers Guild
* **Lisa Ayala**, Furyu Floral Designers
* **Susan Coolidge**, Santa Rosa Flower Arrangers Guild
* **Helen Petrianos**, Furyu Floral Designers
* **Jill Coleman**, Redlands Horticultural & Improvement Society and The Dibblers Garden Club
* **Cheryl Feuerborn**, Petaluma Garden Club and Bay Area Floral Arrangers Guild
* **Barbara Post**, El Cerrito Garden Club and Bay Area Floral Arrangers Guild
* **Mary Arakelian**, Sacramento Floral Design Guild and Auburn Arrangers Guild

These calendars make a great fundraiser for clubs and districts that order multiple copies. Order your copy through National Garden Clubs, Inc. Member Services - www.gardenclub.org. Less than 900 copies are left, so order soon!

# YOUTH

by Linda Riddle, Youth Awards Chairman

Does your Youth Group need some extra money? Now is your chance to apply for some fun and simple Youth Awards! Please don't let all of your Youth Gardeners' hard work go unrewarded this year! Many of the available Youth Awards for 2011 were not applied for. There are many categories from which to choose, including:

- **Youth Penny Pines Award**
- **Gardening Achievement**
- **Conservation**
- **Civic Beautification**
- **Essay Contest**
- **Poetry Contest**
- **Horticulture**
- **Flower Arranging**
- **Youth Sculpture Contest**
- **Youth Flower Show**
- **Environmental Award**
- **Photography**

There are awards for Junior, Intermediate and High School gardeners.

I am sure with a little thought and time, your youth could apply and win some cash! The applications have been simplified; no more books of evidence are required. In addition, the awards year for youth has changed to correspond with the school year for awards won. It is now June 1 through December 31. You can find a complete list of all the Youth Awards on the CGCI website as well as on pages 121-125 in the 2012-2013 CGCI *Yearbook, Manual & Roster*.

Simply download the evaluation forms and be sure to check the due dates for each award. Let's make sure our Youth Gardeners receive all the recognition they deserve. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions (760-248-6397) or email me at Ridfam@sisp.net. **Happy Gardening!**

*"From December to March, there are for many of us three gardens -*
*the garden outdoors,*
*the garden of pots and bowls in the house,*
*and the garden of the mind's eye."*
*- Katherine S. White*

# SCHOLARSHIPS

## GATHERING SCHOLARSHIP DATA WITHIN CGCI

by Albert Chang, CGCI Scholarship Co-Chairman

Both NGC and CGCI are collecting information on club and district scholarships and need your help. This information is being collected nationwide in an effort to gather and share our accomplishments as a national organization to include in future press releases. When the total is added, we believe it will be substantial both within California and across the nation. Please help us collect the data needed to report to NGC as requested. This is an opportunity to "brag" about the scholarship activities within your club and/or district.

Please provide the following information (form can be found on the CGCI website under Forms/Scholarship):

1. Club name
2. Club president's name
3. Club president's email address and/or telephone number
4. District name
5. Number of scholarship(s)
6. Dollar amount of each scholarship
7. Eligibility requirements - i.e., student must be in horticulture or related subjects
8. Restrictions - i.e., must be from a particular school or geographical area
9. Deadline for application(s)
10. Additional money donated to schools (i.e., garden grants, etc.)

Note: If your club does not give a scholarship, please send an email indicating so.

In these times of rising tuition costs for college students, a scholarship is one of the best ways that we can assure the future of horticulture for California. CGCI would like to help publicize and promote the fine work of clubs and districts. CGCI would also like to list your club or district scholarships available on CGCI's website as an aid to students, parents, counselors, educators and instructors.

As NGC President **Shirley Nicolai** stated in the Fall 2012 issue of *The National Gardener*, "With your help between now and April, National Garden Clubs will determine how much money at the local, district and state levels was given in scholarships across the country during 2012. When added to the $122,500 awarded at the national level, the total amount will give us pride and positive publicity."

Please send the above information regarding your club or district scholarship to:
Albert Chang, CGCI Scholarship Co-Chairman, 12010 Susan Drive, Granada Hills, CA 91344-2641 or email it to afchangusa@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your help with this project to help California's young people further their education.

*"A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust."*

*- Gertrude Jekyll*

# AWARDS

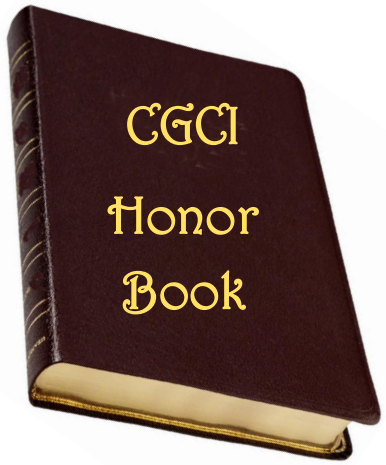
The deadline to mail several award applications has now passed (December 1). All **other awards most be postmarked by January 10, 2013.** If you are having trouble completing the new application form (which is limited to three printed pages/front sides of pages only), see the CGCI Website (on home page, click on Awards Program (on left) and then look under Forms) to see four examples. Remember, books of evidence for most awards will no longer be accepted.

The 2012 Awards Manual can be found in the 2012-2013 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* which all club presidents should have received this autumn from their district directors or go here to view/print it:
http://californiagardenclubs.com/content/cgci-awards-manual.
The evaluation forms can be found here:
http://californiagardenclubs.com/content/award-forms.

**G-4 Blue Ribbon Certificate of Achievement** -- Of special note is the deadline of **January 1, 2013** for clubs to submit the form to their district directors to apply for the G-4 Blue Ribbon Certificate of Achievement Award. The form is attached as Attachment A to this newsletter. Most clubs qualify for this award. All a club has to do is score 100 or more points to be eligible for this award.

Questions? Contact the Awards Chairman at patclayes@aol.com or 909-337-6911/760-773-0516.

## MAY ALL OF YOUR RIBBONS BE BLUE!




# CGCI HONOR BOOK

by Joelle Holford, Honor Book Chairman

Does your club have a special member who your members would like to honor?

Brighten this special member's day with a donation to the CGCI Honor Book Fund! Any amount is accepted; there is no minimum donation required. Simply make your check payable to CGCI and mail along with the Honor Book form available on CGCI's website (click here for form) to CGCI Honor Book Chairman, Joelle Holford, 24067 Hildebrand Road, Middletown, CA 95461-9790. Written acknowledgement to the recipient will be sent in addition to being published in *Golden Gardens*.

Honor Book donations received since the summer 2012 issue:

**Chicago Park Garden Club**
- In Honor of **Jane Powell** for 30 years of service
- In Honor of **Betty Ramey** for 50 years of service

**Dwight and Joelle Holford**
- In Memory of **Jane Ford**, Mendo-Lake District

# NON-PROFIT INFORMATION

Please refer to the November 2012 *Golden Gardens* eNews Supplement 2012 for Important Information for Non-profits. Click here for the November 2012 **Golden Gardens eNews** Supplement.

Important Links:

General Guide for Initial Registration with the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts.
California Attorney General's Guide for Charities.
IRS Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities.
Notes for Non-Profit Organizations.

See also "Nonprofit News" which provides additional information clubs may find helpful.

# CGCI AUDITOR'S REPORT

*Carolyn A. Mayes, CPA*
*Auditing and Consulting Services*

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Graton, California

I have reviewed the accompanying statements of assets, liabilities, and net assets-cash basis of California Garden Clubs, Inc. (a nonprofit organization) as of June 30, 2012 and 2011, and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets-cash basis and cash flows-cash basis for the years then ended. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of organization management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

My responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the America Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require me to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. I believe that the results of my procedures provide a reasonable basis for my report.

Based on my review, I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with the cash basis of accounting, as described in Note 1.

My review was made for the purpose of expressing a conclusion that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with the cash basis of accounting, as described in Note 1. The information included in the accompanying supplemental schedule of net assets-cash basis and schedule of revenues, expenses and changes in net assets by program-cash basis are presented only for supplementary analysis purposes. Such information has been subjected to the inquiry and analytical procedures applied in the review of the basic financial statements, and I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made thereto.

Carolyn A Mayes, CPA

Sebastopol, California
September 4, 2012

465 Stony Point Road, #237 Santa Rosa, California 95401 Tel: (707) 573-8892 Fax: (707) 827-3658

# SEMPERVIRENS FUND

by Rosa Radicchi, CGCI Sempervirens Fund Chairman

Since 1973, CGCI members have financially supported the Sempervirens Fund and Big Basin Redwoods State Park near Santa Cruz. Funding continues to be needed to protect and conserve coastal redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*), one of California's natural resources.

In addition, donors may choose to set aside a mature, standing tree in honor of or in memory of garden club members, their families and friends.

NOTE CHANGE: ALL donations are now payable to CGCI. Click here for donation form.

# NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC. NEWS

NGC President's Projects

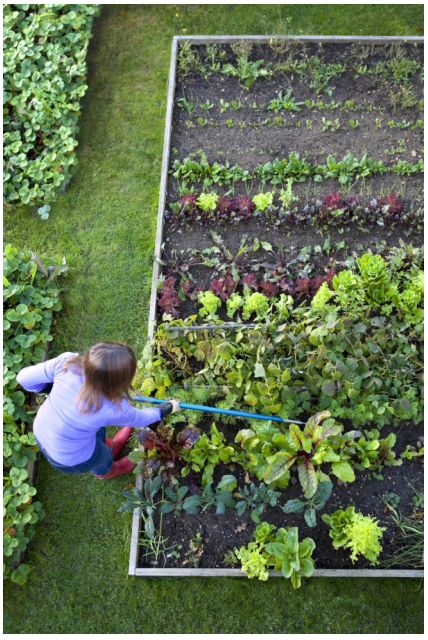
Chairman **Marilyn Oberti** reminds us of NGC President Shirley Nicolai's three special projects for 2011-2013. If garden club members have not already applied, there is still ample time to do so. Application forms, guidelines for special MONETARY awards and Certificates of Recognition are located on the NGC website: www.gardenclub.org.

**Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems**—Identify and address critical water issues at local, state, regional and national levels. Documentation may be through a simple reporting form as follows:

1. Application form is limited to three printed pages, – front of pages only. (No report cover or binders and No plastic sheets allowed.)
2. Application form will not be returned. (Make a copy of application for your files.)
3. Should include photos.
4. Top of first page MUST include: Name of Garden Club (exactly as it should appear on any award/certificate received); Club Category (Large (100 members and over), Medium (30-99 members), Small (29 members and under)); State Garden Club (California Garden Clubs, Inc.); Region (Pacific Region); Title of Project; and Contact Person (Email address or telephone number).
5. Brief summary of project, involvement of club members and other organizations, project expenses and means of funding, continuing involvement, follow-up, maintenance, photos, landscape plans, etc. may be included in the application.

As long as applications for Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems are completed and received by March 15, 2013, there is still time. Send applications directly to (email preferred) to Mary Sue Colvin, Ecosystems Chairman at jhcolvin2@bellsouth.net or mail to 10473 Hwy. 562, Fort Necessity, LA 71243-5112.

**Photo Archiving**—A Flickr site on NGC's website. Email a few photos and document your special project. Email to Robin Pokorski at robinp@juno.com.



**Plantings for Public and Special Places**—Applications are due April 1, 2013. Apply directly to the proper chairman using the form on the NGC website: www.gardenclub.org. These projects will recognize outstanding projects in three categories: (a) **Gardens with Edibles** send to Chairman Pat Rupiper (arupiper@bright.net); (b) **Container Gardens** send to Chairman Susan Robinson (rerob@mac.com); and (3) **Trees and Shrubs** send to Chairman Lissa Williamson (erw510@AOL.com).

Past projects may be refurbished, and new projects may be created. Win in each category. More than one application may be submitted in different categories. For further information, contact NGC Project Coordinator Betsy Steele at betsysteele@truvista.net (803-789-5451) or P.O. Box 339, Richburg, SC 29729.

# PACIFIC REGION NEWS

## Pacific Region Convention

**April 22-24, 2013**

**Hilton Sonoma Wine Country Hotel, Santa Rosa, CA**

***Celebrating Nature's Beauty & Bounty***

Location: Hilton Sonoma Wine Country at Fountain Grove overlooking Santa Rosa. The hotel room rate is only $105.00. Come early and stay late as the convention rate is available three days before and after.

CGCI is hosting the 2013 Pacific Region Convention, and we are offering you as a club and/or district an opportunity to help!

**Convention Highlights:**

**Monday, April 22, 2013** Pre-Convention tour including box lunch to Richards Grove and Sara Lee's Vineyard – the bus actually drives through the avenues of the vineyards - what a view! This will be followed by a visit to Ferrari Carano Vineyards & Winery's spectacular five-acres of beautiful gardens. Over 10,000 tulips and daffodils take center stage in the spring as visitors leisurely stroll the meandering path and foot bridges. Enjoy the evening design program by talented and entertaining Wil Gonzales, AIFD extraordinaire from Ukiah.

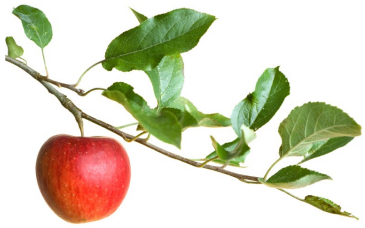
**Tuesday, April 23, 2013** Lunch program will be presented by Bill McNamara, Executive Director from Quarryhill Botanical Gardens. Founded in 1987, Quarryhill is one of the preeminent Asian botanical gardens globally, featuring one of the largest collections of documented, wild-collected Asian plants in the world. Lunch is followed by an optional afternoon tour of Quarryhill itself, or stay at the hotel for garden design or herb workshops. The evening's design banquet features Nancy Colvin, one of the Bay Area's premier creative floral designers. You may recognize her name since her designs have been featured the past ten years in NGC's *Vision of Beauty* calendar.

**Wednesday, April 24, 2013** The lunch program features Luther Burbank Home & Garden to hear some great history about the famous horticulturist, Luther Burbank. In the afternoon, there will be a fast-moving informative leadership seminar by Becky Lunder from TeamWorks. The evening banquet is installation of the Pacific Region officers for 2013-2015 where Elaine Gunderson from Arizona will be installed as Director.

**How can you help? Volunteers are needed for**: Centerpieces for five meals (two lunches/three dinners; table favors for five meals (two lunches/three dinners); raffle/silent auction donations; pages; registration desk; etc.

Why not be a delegate for CGCI (twelve delegates are needed in total) at the same time and be ratified at Winter Board in Auburn? **Please contact Dave West, 2013 Pacific Region Convention Chairman by email at JDavidWest@aol.com or by telephone (707-829-9342) to discuss details**. Come join us for the fun and be part of the Pacific Region Convention team!

# 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.**

**January 4-5, 2013 - Gardening Study School**, Course II, UC Cooperative Extension Building, 5630 S. Broadway, Eureka. Host: Humboldt District. Chairman: Mary Lou Goodwin. Click here for brochure and registration form. Course III: April 5-6, 2013/Course IV: July 12-13, 2013.

**January 7-9, 2013 - Flower Show School**, Course II. Sponsor: Judges Council of Southern California. Chairman: Martha Hunt. Click here for the brochure and registration form. Course III: August 12-14, 2013/Course IV: January 6-8, 2014.

**January 30-31, 2013 - Gardening Study School**, Course III, Sepulveda Garden Center, Encino. Sponsor: Southern California Garden Club. Chairman: Robin Pokorski. Click here for brochure and registration form for Course III. Course IV: March 28-29, 2013.

**May 5-7, 2013 - Flower Show Judges Symposium**, San Mateo. Shane Looper, Registrar.

**July 27-28, 2013 - Gardening Study School**, Course I, Nevada City. Sponsor: Colfax Garden Club. Chairman: Myrtle Findley. Click here for more information (look under date for brochure).

**September 17-19, 2013 - Flower Show School**, Course I, Diablo Foothills District. Co-Chairmen: Victoria Lucido and Dolores Moffat. Course II: February 5-7, 2014/Course III: July 9-11, 2014/Course IV: February 11-13, 2015.

# CGCI OFFICIAL CALENDAR

## (other than schools)

***See CGCI Calendar for club, affiliate, associate plant society and district "special" events which are open to the public.***

**February 5-8, 2013** - CGCI Winter Board Meeting. Host: Golden Foothills District. Chairman: Myrtle Findley. Auburn Holiday Inn.

**April 22-24, 2013** - Pacific Region Convention. Host: CGCI. Chairman: David West. Hilton Sonoma Wine Country Hotel, Santa Rosa.

**May 11-18, 2013** - CGCI Fundraising Cruise Aboard the Sapphire Princess. Click here for more information.

**May 21-27, 2013** - NGC Convention, Sheraton Hotel Seattle, Seattle, Washington.

**June 3-7, 2013** - CGCI 83rd Convention, San Diego. Host: Palomar District. Chairman: Jane McKee.

**September 2013 TBA** - CGCI Fall Board Meeting. Host: Orange County District. Chairman: Annie Hall Bosche.

**September 24-28, 2013** - NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri.

**February 13-16, 2014** - CGCI Winter Board Meeting, Glendale Hilton. Host: Arboretum District. Chairman: Shirley Stewart.

**April 30-May 3, 2014** - NGC Convention, Norman, Oklahoma.

**June 5-9, 2014** - CGCI 84th Convention, Glendale. Host: San Fernando Valley District. Chairman: Robin Pokorski.

# Attachment A

## THE BLUE RIBBON CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT SCORE SHEET

**Club Name:**

| | Possible Points | Club's Score |
|---|---|---|
| Active participation in district projects | 5 | ___ |
| Financial support of district project | 5 | ___ |
| President's report (s) to director | 3 | ___ |
| Representation on district board of directors: officers (3); district chairman (2) | 5 | ___ |
| Representation at district meetings | 5 | ___ |
| Representation at CGCI annual meeting | 4 | ___ |
| Annual dues paid to CGCI by November 1 | 5 | ___ |
| Attendance at Flower Show Schools (1); Environmental Studies (1); Gardening Study (1); Landscape Design Study (1); CGCI Sponsored Symposia (1) | 5 | ___ |
| Blue Star Memorial Marker installation | 5 | ___ |
| Blue Star Memorial project (contribution) | 3 | ___ |
| Civic development project | 4 | ___ |
| Club scholarship given | 5 | ___ |
| Conservation programs (minimum of 2) | 5 | ___ |
| Bird/Butterfly conservation program or project | 5 | ___ |
| Conservation project | 4 | ___ |
| Contributions: Penny Pines, Gold Honor Book, etc. | 5 | ___ |
| CGCI President's Project | 3 | ___ |
| 5% *The National Gardener* | 5 | ___ |
| 100% *Golden Gardens* or *Golden Gardens eNews* | 5 | ___ |
| Financial support of *Golden Gardens* (Season's Greetings, etc.) | 5 | ___ |
| Schools: Flower Show judges (1); Consultants: Landscape Design (1) Gardening (1); Environmental (1) | 4 | ___ |
| Standard Flower Show | 5 | ___ |
| Garden therapy project | 5 | ___ |
| Historic preservation program or contribution | 5 | ___ |
| Horticulture (plant exchange/sale, education exhibit, workshop, etc. (other than at Standard Flower Show) | 8 | ___ |
| Horticulture program | 5 | ___ |
| Tree planting | 5 | ___ |
| Increase in club membership (from January 1to December 31) | 5 | ___ |
| Landscape design program at club meeting | 3 | ___ |
| Landscape design or roadside development project | 5 | ___ |
| Litter control project | 5 | ___ |
| NGC Life members: standing (1); new (2) | 3 | ___ |
| CGCI Life members: standing (1); new (2) | 3 | ___ |
| Newsletter (minimum of 4 issues) | 5 | ___ |
| Participation in community affairs | 5 | ___ |
| Participation in Pacific Region Unified Project | 5 | ___ |
| Publicity (brochures, posters, newspaper, radio, TV, etc.) | 5 | ___ |
| Qualified entry for NGC award | 5 | ___ |
| Qualified entry for CGCI award | 5 | ___ |
| Sponsor of youth garden club. | 5 | ___ |
| Tours | 3 | ___ |
| Workshop | 5 | ___ |
| Yearbook | 5 | ___ |
| **Total Possible Score = 200 Points** | **Total** | _____ |

NOTE: 100 points required to be awarded the Blue Ribbon Certificate of Achievement.

**Clubs to complete form and submit to their District Directors by January 1. District Directors submit list of eligible clubs to CGCI Awards Chairman by January 10. Partial participation in any category will receive a partial point**.