



## eNewsletter of California Garden Clubs, Inc.

January 2012 Vol. 4-1

[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](#)

*As mentioned in the last issue, 2012 promises to be a productive year pursuing CGCI's objectives with several activities including CGCI's winter board meeting in Pismo Beach, symposium in San Diego, San Francisco Flower & Garden Show, the wildflower conference in Palmdale and convention in Sacramento, just to name a few. Some of these events involve taking care of CGCI business while others are educational and fun! I hope you have them all on your calendar to attend.*

*As a reminder, ALL club presidents as well as any treasurers are welcome to attend the special IRS workshop by George Perko, CPA that is scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2012 in Pismo Beach (10:00 to 11:30 a.m.) at the Cliffs Resort. Anyone attending ONLY this one special IRS workshop and nothing else will not be subject to the registration fee. The workshop is also being planned for the 2012 convention in Sacramento.*

*Best wishes for success in your garden club endeavors in 2012 as we explore the possibilities in Conservation, Gardening, Creativity and Inspiration together!*



## Winter Board Meeting, Pismo Beach Feb. 6–9, 2012

"Share the Possibilities Along the Central Coast" where informative and fun workshops are planned for Monday evening, February 6, 2012, and Tuesday morning, February 7, 2012.

[Click here](#) for Cover Letter.

[Click here](#) for FYI.

[Click here](#) for Tentative Schedule.

[Click here](#) for Proposed Bylaw Changes.

[Click here](#) for Registration Form.

[Click here](#) to read more about what to do in Pismo Beach and the surrounding area.

Postmark deadline to register without paying a late fee is **January 16, 2012**.  
Deadline to make your reservations at The Cliff's Resort to obtain the CGCI special room rate is before **January 16, 2012**.

A very special workshop entitled "IRS in Your Garden: Recent Tax Reporting Changes and Ways and Ways to keep your Garden Club or District in Compliance" is scheduled for Thursday morning, February 9, 2012, presented by nonprofit professional George Perko, CPA, MBA. CGCI is not a licensed tax preparation firm and is unable to provide nonprofit information related to a particular club/district's facts and circumstances, so CGCI is hiring a professional to give this workshop. This workshop is also being planned for the 2012 Convention in Sacramento. You are encouraged to attend this informative workshop and take back the valuable information to your club/district.

A special "Gently Worn Jewelry Silent Auction" is planned as a fundraiser for the [CGCI's President's Project](#), so please bring what you no longer wear to share and watch it become someone's new treasure!

Order your [Rene van Rems](#) products now to be picked-up at Winter Board. [Click here](#) for more information. Remember that proceeds benefit the [CGCI President's Project](#).



## Are YOU ready for Winter Board Meeting?

By [Robin Pokorski](#), Chairmen Coordinator

Have you made your hotel reservations? Have you mailed your registration form? Have you started your draft of your procedure book? We will be focusing on our

procedure book drafts in our Chairman's Forum. The combined District Director/Chairman's Forum will have a special presentation on goal setting. Hopefully it will interest and inspire you! See you in Pismo Beach. [Click here](#) for the January 2012 issue of *All A-Board*, the newsletter for CGCI Chairmen and District Directors.



## Need CGCI Pins, etc.?

If so, the CGCI Sales Team, Hank and [Gail Vanderhorst](#), will be at Winter Board. [Click here](#) to see the list of items available. If you will be unable to attend, order through your District Director to avoid the shipping costs.

## Need CGCI Promotional Material?

CGCI is offering member clubs free professionally designed promotional material through CGCI Membership Chairman, Sue Bennett. You can use this material in your local libraries, florists, nurseries and garden centers to attract and interest new members. Bookmarks, rack cards and brochures are available. [Click here](#) for the order form, which should be completed and submitted to your district director. The District director is to submit order to the CGCI Membership Chairman, and the order is to be picked-up at CGCI Fall and Winter Board Meetings and CGCI Conventions (while supply lasts). To have order mailed, complete the order form and send to CGCI Membership Chairman [Sue Bennett](#).



## NGC Consultants Meet at Winter Board

Gardening & Landscape Design Consultants will meet during the Winter Board Meeting, The Cliff's Resort, Pismo Beach, as follows (and all Environmental Consultants are invited to

attend):

- Gardening Consultants Council: Tuesday, February 7, 2012, 9:00 to 9:30 pm.
- Landscape Design Council: Thursday, February 9, 2012, 8:00 am to 9:30 am.

More information to follow in the upcoming January 2012 Consultants eNewsletter. Want to subscribe to the Consultants eNewsletter, [click here](#).



## CGCI Tax-Exemption News

In order to be included in the CGCI Tax-Exempt Group for the next fiscal year [July 1, 2012-June 30, 2013], clubs and districts that are members of the CGCI Tax-Exempt Group must return their renewal information and \$15 check payable to CGCI to [Mary-Jo Noth](#), Chairman of the CGCI Tax-Exempt Group, 2425 Blackstone Drive, Walnut Creek CA 94598-3724 with a postmark of **no later than February 1, 2012**.

If you are not sure that your club or district has returned the necessary forms and check or have lost the forms that were sent to club presidents and district directors whose clubs and districts are members of the CGCI Tax-Exempt Group, please contact [Mary-Jo Noth](#).

## CGCI Liability Insurance Plan

For qualifying CGCI clubs and associate plant societies, the due date for payment for the Liability Insurance is **January 15, 2012** for the 2012-2013 policy year. A late fee is due when the insurance payment is received after January 15. Make checks payable to CGCI and mail to the Liability Insurance Chairman, [Gloria Aminian](#), TODAY if you have not already done so. NOTE: the liability insurance coverage is not available to clubs or plant societies which own real estate or have primary use of, or responsibility, for gardens including community gardens.

## Message from Gloria Aminian

It is time to once again have mailed your club's application for liability insurance to Chairman [Gloria Aminian](#) before **January 15, 2012** - which is fast approaching. All applications sent after that need to have the \$20 late fee included. The fee for club members is still at the low cost of 75¢ per member. This will change next year as our dollar surplus in the restricted Insurance Fund will be significantly lowered.

Additional Insured Certificates remain at \$20 per location for all events (that are stated in the original request) held at the address from February 15, 2012 through February 15, 2013. The Certificate requests can be sent anytime without a late fee. Just make sure you send it early enough so that it can be processed in a timely fashion. Any errors will cause it to be rewritten, so verify all information before sending it. Good Idea: Have the owners/managers of the locations e-mail their wording requirements directly to Gloria (can save both headaches and money) -- If a certificate's wording has to be changed, CGCI is charged.

Questions: Contact [Gloria Aminian](#). [Click here](#) for more information on insurance from the CGCI website.

## "D&O" Insurance Coverage

CGCI member clubs are very fortunate to have available a program providing excellent Directors and Officers (D&O) Liability coverage at the very reasonable price of \$250 per year. By virtue of their positions within a nonprofit corporation, directors and officers are legally obligated to perform the duties of due diligence, obedience and loyalty. Failure to perform one's duties through wrongful acts or



negligence can be cause for suit. It is not uncommon for suits alleging wrongful acts to be groundless and/or opportunistic, yet legal costs can be devastating. It is not necessary to participate in the General Liability policy in order to participate in the D&O program. D&O coverage is quite different from the General Liability coverage. D&O policies can vary greatly in the coverages they provide, and this D&O policy has excellent coverage provisions.

[Click here](#) for the flyer for details. Clubs that are currently on the program have been mailed renewal information. McDaniel Insurance Services has been providing this service for CGCI for twelve years and is welcoming new participants at this time. If you have any questions or if you would like to be sent an application for coverage, please contact Patt McDaniel, [McDaniel Insurance Services](#), (toll free: 800-400-7288). You may also want to go to the [website](#) and click "More Information."



## Upcoming Flower Shows

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

## *Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems*

By **Marilyn Oberti**, CGCI's NGC Liaison/President's Project  
NGC President, Shirley Nicolai, has selected *Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems* as one of NGC's Special Projects for 2011-2013. This project recognizes that it is of utmost importance and urgency that members of NGC identify and address critical water issues at local, state, regional and national levels. [Click here](#) to read more about this project and how you and your club can participate. NGC will present monetary awards and certificates of recognition to garden clubs in each NGC Region for projects promoting the protection of an aquatic ecosystem (upon submission of an award application). Note award application deadline of **January 10, 2013**.

A banner for the San Francisco Flower &amp; Garden Show. On the left is a stylized blue flower logo. The text in the center reads "SAN FRANCISCO FLOWER &amp; GARDEN SHOW" in large blue letters, followed by "MARCH 21 - 25, 2012" and "SAN MATEO EVENT CENTER" in smaller blue letters. On the right is a photograph of a garden scene with various plants and flowers. Below the banner, the text "Gardens for a Green Earth" is written in a cursive font.

Have you order your discounted tickets yet? [Click here](#) for more information if you are a member of a CGCI club.

To view a short videos from the [San Francisco Flower & Garden Show](#), [click here](#).



## CGCI Wildflower Conference 2012

April 4–6, 2012, Palmdale, California

All are invited to attend the 2012 CGCI Wildflower Conference which will take place in Palmdale, California on April 4-6, 2012. Highlights include the following presentations, entertainment and tour:

- "Creating a Butterfly Garden Habitat" by Julie A. West, President, California Garden Clubs, Inc.
- "Highway Landscaping" by [California Department of Transportation](#), Los Angeles County
- "California Conservation Issues" by Steve Hartman, [California Native Plant Society](#), Los Angeles/Santa Monica Mountains Chapter
- "Saving the Ancients" by Robin Kobaly, Executive Director, [SummerTree Institute](#)
- "Antelope Valley Wildflowers" by Milt Stark, well-known writer and photographer (author of [A Flower-Watcher's Guide to Spring-Blooming Wildflowers of the Antelope Valley](#))
- "Natives in the Garden" by Lily Singer, [Theodore Payne Foundation](#)
- Entertainment by the Antelope Valley Showcase Chorus
- Carpool to [Antelope Valley Poppy Reserve](#)

Registration fee is \$115.00 per person which includes all lectures/speakers, reception, entertainment, one lunch, one dinner, tour, and a box lunch on the tour. All other meals will be on your own. There is a complimentary buffet breakfast for those who are registered at the hotel. The host hotel is the Holiday Inn Palmdale. Lodging is \$99.95 per night plus tax for singles or doubles. You must make your own lodging reservations directly with the Holiday Inn. The hotel's telephone number is 661-947-8055. Be sure to mention "California Garden Clubs Wildflower Conference" to obtain the special rate. The hotel requests that you make your reservations ASAP, and note that the deadline is **March 23, 2012** to obtain the CGCI special rate. The deadline to register for the conference is also

March 23, 2012. Consider extending your stay following the conference, and enjoy the many opportunities in and around the [Antelope Valley](#). For Tentative Schedule and Registration form, [click here](#) and look under April 4. Questions? Contact [Merrilee Ray](#).



## River Cruise to *Floriade*

By [Bob Gordon](#), Tours Chairman

**FINAL REMINDER:** We are extremely 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.

## Attn: CGCI Chairmen & District Directors

A Reminder from your Financial Secretary, [Shane Looper](#)



- Requests for all payments or reimbursements must be completed in full and accompanied by receipts. Send your request to the [Financial Secretary](#).
- Be timely. You do not have to send all receipts at one time. Please send them as you accumulated your receipts. **KNOW YOUR BUDGET CODE. ALL PAYMENTS AND REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENTS MUST HAVE A BUDGET CODE.** Without a code, you delay your reimbursement.
- You can obtain a [Request or Reimbursement](#) from the Financial Secretary or download the form from [CGCI website](#).
- If you are sending cash receipt reports, **You** must have the Budget Code on the Report. All checks go to the Treasurer, [Joan Patten](#), but a copy must be sent to the Financial Secretary.

You can find your budget codes on the 2011-2012 CGCI budget - [click here](#).

## 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. Questions: Contact anyone on the Endowment Committee -- [Joan Craig](#), [Robin Pokorski](#), [Bev Brune](#), [Dave West](#), [Elisabeth Tufo](#) or [Bob Gordon](#).



## CGCI Flower Show Judges Symposium

February 12-14, 2012

Handlery Hotel & Resort in San Diego

[Click here](#) for the registration form. LATE CHARGES will apply to registration forms RECEIVED AFTER **JANUARY 23, 2012**. DEADLINE FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS IS **JANUARY 16, 2012** to receive the CGCI discounted rate.

## Having Fun With

### Shane & Mary

Sponsored by the Judges Council of Southern California

January 23, 2012, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.,

[Descanso Gardens](#), 1418 Descanso Drive, Van de Kamp Hall, La Canada Flintridge, CA

Back by popular demand: [Mary Crowell](#) and [Shane Looper](#) will delight and entertain while sharing their creative and innovative approach to floral design. Their focus will be on using plants from the garden and common everyday "containers." [Click here](#) for the CGCI calendar for more information. Any questions, contact Judges Council of Southern California Chairman [Jill Coleman](#).







## CGCI Scholarships

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

The application deadline for the two \$2000 CGCI Scholarships is **January 15, 2012**. If you have any questions, please contact [Evelyn Broaddus](#) or [Albert Chang](#), the CGCI Scholarship Co-Chairmen. [Click here](#) for the 2012-2013 Scholarship Application form.



## News from NGC

### National Garden Week

June 3-9, 2012

Now is the time to start planning for National Garden Week. Get your members involved! For information, contact CGCI National Garden Week Chairman, [Helen](#)

[Gregory](#).



## News from Pacific Region

In conjunction with its convention in Anchorage, Alaska in July 2012, the Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc. will be holding a pre-convention tour to Fairbanks, Chena Hot Springs, Denali National Park and much more... [Click here](#) for more information.

## 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.



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. [Click here](#) for more information.
- **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 standard flower show, *The World Around Us*, schedule 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. [Click here](#) for more information.
- **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 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.

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