



## *Golden Gardens eNews* California Garden Clubs, Inc.

July 2012 Vol. 4-7

[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 Convention, June was filled with official visits to San Fernando Valley District, Southern California Garden Club, Channel Islands District and Palms to Pines District. These visits were filled with warm hospitality, generous support of CGCI projects, as well as interesting reports of community projects/activities by local members. A big surprise was to become an honorary member of Palms to Pines District and being presented with the District's Natural Habitat Site Award for David's and my butterfly habitat garden at our home in Sebastopol. This beautiful metal plaque will proudly hang next to National Wildlife Federation's Certified Wildlife Habitat and North American Butterfly Association's Certified Butterfly Garden plaques.

It is a busy summer that includes lots of team work with many people working together. Examples are:

- Finalizing, compiling and sending The Call to Fall Board, Sept. 6-9, 2012.
- Obtaining a new sponsor to underwrite CGCI's 2012-2013 membership cards - a big "thank you" to [The Nursery at Emerisa Gardens](#) in Santa Rosa for its support and generosity.
- Getting the summer issue of *Golden Gardens* to the printer for which

President-Elect **Rita Desilets** kindly offered to do the layout.

- Compiling and posting the updated CGCI Awards Manual and corresponding Evaluation forms for 2012-2013 with its new 3 page application format in compliance with NGC and Pacific Region for the majority of awards. "Thanks" to Third Vice President **Pat Clayes**!
- Meeting with CGCI's CPA with the financial officers in preparation of the CPA Reviewed Statement needed by Fall Board.
- Proofreading the 2012-2013 *Yearbook, Manual & Roster* efficiently coordinated by **Carmen Black** so it is ready for the printer next month in time for delivery at September's Fall Board Meeting - remember to order extra copies by August 1.

We accomplish so much more when working together, side by side to accomplish the tasks before us on behalf of CGCI. I am honored and proud to be part of the team effort that serves you.

Next on my list is the report on behalf of CGCI needed in preparation for Pacific Region's convention in Anchorage, Alaska where the eight Western states are meeting July 26-28, 2012. Thank you for the opportunity to represent you!

## 2012 CGCI Fall Board Meeting, September 6-9, 2012

**Deadline to Register without paying a late fee: August 20, 2012**

The 2012 CGCI Fall Board meeting will be held on September 6-9 at the San Mateo Marriott hosted by the CGCI Executive Committee. Several informative and fun workshops are being planned in addition to fabulous speakers/programs for each meal. Highlights include:



### Fall Board Meeting Workshops

**Thursday, September 6**

- 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. **IRS in Your Garden** by George Perko, CPA, MBA. This is the last of the complimentary workshops sponsored by CGCI during the IRS Amnesty Program that ends December 31, 2012. No registration fee is required for non-board members attending **ONLY** this one workshop.

**Friday, September 7**

- 9:00 - 10:15 a.m. **CGCI Awards** by Pat Clayes, 3rd Vice President, Awards Chairman. Pat will explain how to apply for awards, review the new application format that eliminates most books of evidence, and encourage recognition for outstanding accomplishments.
- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. **NGC Schools Panel** with Greg Pokorski (Gardening Study Schools), Shane Looper (Environmental Studies Schools), Dolores Moffat

(Flower Show Schools) and Alexis Slafer (Landscape Design Schools) -  
**Questions and Answers About Hosting an NGC School.**

- 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. **Floral Art Design Workshop for Beginners.**
- 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. **Nicholas Staddon**, Director of New Plants from Monrovia presents **Not Just for Show** - an introduction to some of the best new plants including how they are used in the garden, in the ground, and, in many cases, in containers.
- 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. **Looking at the Future of Conservation in California: Exploring the Changes, Challenges and Opportunities of Conserving California's Ecosystems with Price Sheppy**, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy.

### Fall Board Meeting Programs/Speakers

Friday, September 7

- Dinner & Program: **Nicholas Staddon**, Director of New Plants for Monrovia - **Sustainable Trends in the Nursery Industry, from a Global Perspective . . . and a few Smokin' New Plants.**

Saturday, September 8

- Lunch & Speaker: **Price Sheppy**, Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, **Project Mission Blue.**
- Dinner & Program: **Katsuko Thielke**, **Creativity in Unusual Sogetsu Ways.**

Non-Board members are welcome to attend any of the above with payment of the registration fee and any meal(s) attended. No registration fee is required if attending ONLY the IRS workshop on Thursday evening. Download the details including Registration Form from CGCI's website - [click here](#).

## It's Time for **Season's Greetings**

The deadline for the *Golden Gardens* fall issue is October 15, so get your greetings in NOW. **SAVE** postage . . . and maybe a tree. Send your Season's Greetings to gardeners all around California via *Golden Gardens*!

Time is fast approaching for your greeting to be included in the holiday issue of *Golden Gardens*. If you would like to place a season's greeting, send your greeting and check payable to *Golden Gardens* **BEFORE** October 15 to: [Julie West](#), 850 Grandview Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472-2930 / Phone: 707-829-9342.



**Rates:** Minimum greeting is \$10 for two lines. Each additional line up to two inches is \$5.00 per line. (Maximum of 40 characters per line including spaces and punctuation.) Sizes with graphics are: One column wide x 2" tall - \$35 / One column wide x 3" tall - \$50 / One quarter page - \$75.

## **ADDITIONAL CGCI Special Award Winners** (in addition to those CGCI Special Award Winners which were listed in the June 2012 *Golden Gardens eNews*)

- Gardener of the Year - **Kathie Merwin** of Clarksburg Garden Club, Sacramento River Valley District
- Flower Show Judge of the Year - **Gudy Kimmel** of The Gardeneers Garden Club, Costa Verde District
- Award of Honor - **Joyce Dean** of Redlands Horticultural & Improvement Society, Palms to Pines District
- Award of Honor - **Sandy Duncan** of Chula Vista Garden Club, Palomar District
- Award of Honor - **Carolyn Hoyum** of Anderson Valley Garden Club, Cascade District
- Award of Honor - **Bili Winter** of Colfax Garden Club, Golden Foothills District
- Youth Leader of the Year - **Linda Riddle** of Desert Crossroads Garden Club, Roadrunner District
- Flower Arranger of the Year - **Janet Switzer** of Woodland Hills Floral Designers Club, San Fernando Valley District
- Landscape Design Consultant of the Year - **Myrtle Findley** of Colfax Garden Club, Golden Foothills District

## **CGCI Sweepstakes Award Winners**

- **Class 1** - EUREKA SEQUOIA GARDEN CLUB of Humboldt District
- **Class 2** - SHIBUI ARRANGERS GUILD OF BENICIA of Sacramento River Valley District
- **Class 3** - ANDERSON VALLEY GARDEN CLUB of Cascade District
- **Class 4** - CLEAR LAKE TROWEL & TRELIS GARDEN CLUB of Mendo-Lake District
- **Class 5** - COLFAX GARDEN CLUB of Golden Foothills District
- **Class 6** - DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB of Palomar District
- **Class 8** - PALOMAR DISTRICT



### **Scholarship Winners**

#### **CGCI**

Robert Gordon Scholarship: **Stacy Hishinuma** - \$2,000  
Maryanne Lucas Scholarship: **Elizabeth Bowman** - \$2,000



#### **NGC**

Ellame Fehrer Scholarship: **Leah Butler** - \$3,500  
June P. Wood Scholarship: **Paul Steimer** - \$3,500

## Highlights from Convention

by [Greg Pokorski](#), Parliamentarian

### Pre-Convention Board Meeting, 6/5/12

- Ratified the resignations and appointments of various chairmen including George Perko and Maryanne Lucas to the Board of Trustees.
- Ratified Series 23, Gardening Study School, Eureka, Sponsor - Humboldt District: October 12-13, 2012, January 4-5, April 5-6, and July 12-13, 2013.
- Ratified Pacific Region Convention, Hilton Sonoma Wine Country, Santa Rosa, CGCI-Host. [Click here to read this very informative article.](#)

## Flower Show School at South Coast Botanic Garden

By Martha Hunt, JCSC Flower Show School Chairman

The Judges Council of Southern California is sponsoring a NGC Flower Show School on August 20-22, 2012 at South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA, 90274. The location offers warm/cool beach possibilities. [Click here for full article.](#)

## CGCI Charter Endowment Members

by [Robin Pokorski](#), CGCI Endowment Funds Chairman

June 2010 through May 2012 was designated as the Charter Years for the Endowment Funds. Members of the Endowment Fund Committee express their deep gratitude for the generous contributions to the CGCI Endowment and Scholarship Endowment Funds from these Charter Members. These Charter Members have taken the first steps toward ensuring a secure financial future for California Garden Clubs, Inc.

### Scholarship Endowment Fund Charter Members:

Albert Chang / Jacque Courtwright / Rita Desilets / Diane Eeckhout  
Garden Club of the Peninsula, Inc. / Bob Gordon / Hermosa Garden Club  
Nancy Lee and Art Loesch / Shane Looper / Agnes McKee & Jane McKee  
Joseph McMullen / George Perko / Robin Phillips / Principal Financial Group  
Southern California Garden Club / Betty Troeller / Elisabeth Tufo  
Julie & Dave West / W. Griff Young

GRAND TOTAL \$9,050.00

### CGCI Endowment Fund Charter Members:

Mary Arakelian / Muriel E. Baze / Susan & William Bennett  
Katherine Biggins / Joan Craig / Joelle & Dwight Holford  
Shane Looper / Maryanne & Bob Lucas / Julie & Dave West

GRAND TOTAL \$4,400.00



[Click here](#) to read all about the new CGCI cruise - May 11-18, 2013!

## News from CGCI Chairmen

### California Native Plants

by [Margaret Strachan](#), Chairman

The [Theodore Payne Foundation](#) has an exciting new addition to its landscaping at the education center gardens. It is a 130-square-foot demonstration plot native sod. The sod was provided to The Foundation by the manufacturer in order to demonstrate to the public that native sod is a viable and attractive alternative to conventional turf. [Click here to read full article.](#)



of  
by

### Bird and Wildlife Conservation

by [Donna Thomas](#), Conservation Feature Editor

Any vertical pipe with an open top from one to ten inches wide can be a hazard to birds and other wildlife. The open pipe problem has been highlighted recently by discoveries of dead birds and other wildlife in PVC mining claim markers across the western United States. A biologist in the Ridgecrest Bureau of Land Management Office and the Manager of the [California Audubon Kern River Preserve](#) told me about this issue. They spoke about two examples of the hazard that they knew about. A biologist in Nevada removed 195 mine claim markers containing 740 dead birds, including one pipe that encased 31 bird skulls and carcasses. Audubon California staff pulled down a twenty foot tall ventilation pipe with a six inch wide opening from an abandoned irrigation system in a field adjoining the Kern River Preserve and found a seven foot long mass of decomposed carcasses of 231 dead birds and animals including kestrels, flickers, bluebirds and fence lizards. The pipe had been in place for over fifty years posing a silent unknown threat and entombing birds and small animals leaving no trace until it was removed. [Click here to read full article.](#)



## Decorative Wood

by [Pauline Sechi](#), Floral Design Feature Editor



Four

Examples of Using Decorate Wood in Designs

Decorative wood is an all-inclusive term that includes heavy woody vines, manzanita, cypress knees, live oak, peeled wisteria and decayed stumps and more. The different textures and forms of wood and the rhythm of the grain are eye-catching. [Click here to read full article.](#)



## Project Mission Blue

By [Shane Looper](#), Chairman

Project Mission Blue has been going strong by your support of this long-term CGCI project. Since May 2011, when this project was adopted, CGCI has managed to send three checks to the [Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy](#) (GGNPC) totaling \$5000.00 for Project Mission Blue. Our goal is to send a minimum of \$3000.00 a year for five years. Our next installment will be due in January 2013. [Click here to read full article.](#)



## Membership & You

By [Sue Bennett](#), CGCI 2nd Vice President - Membership Chairman

What a great way to end/start the year! CGCI is happy to announce the following clubs that celebrated 50+ years of loyal membership in CGCI during the 2011-2012 year. (NOTE: Anniversary date is based on the year the club was ratified by CGCI.)

Certificates from [National Garden Clubs, Inc.](#) were delivered by CGCI President Julie West to those districts that invited Julie to visit - if your club was not on Julie's 2012 schedule, your District Director should have obtained your club's certificate at the June 2012 Convention. [Click here to read more.](#)



## Welcome New Club

San Fernando Valley District has a new club:  
Sunshine Garden Club with 20 members!

President: [Jay Kapac](#)

30549 San Martinez Road, Castaic, CA 91384-

2475 / 661-775-3748

## CGCI EXTRA Yearbook Orders

Please let [Carmen Black](#), CGCI Yearbook Chairman, know how many extra yearbooks you need. Carmen needs to know how many yearbooks to order from the printer. Please let her know ASAP. Deadline to order extra yearbooks is **August 1, 2012**.

There are three forms:

- For Districts
- For Club Members not going through the District Director
- For CGCI Chairmen



[Click here](#) and then scroll down the page to find the links for the forms.

## Golden Gardens Changes

At the 81st CGCI Convention in Sacramento, the CGCI Board of Directors voted to rename the on-line newsletter, from *eNews* to *Golden Gardens eNews*. The convention body voted to suspend the publication of *Golden Gardens* in print form. This move was necessitated by the precarious financial position in which the magazine had been for a long time coupled with rapidly declining subscribership. It was not a decision made easily nor without extensive time and effort put into research for alternatives and options, but the final outcome was fairly straightforward.

We invite you to enjoy the final four print issues of *Golden Gardens* (Summer 2012, Fall 2012, Winter 2013, and Spring 2013). Additionally, we encourage you to subscribe to *Golden Gardens eNews* which will cover the same articles and information plus a lot more than can be covered in the print edition in a more timely manner than a quarterly print edition can deliver. The monthly on-line newsletter is free-of-charge, and all prior issues of the on-line newsletter are available in the archives on-line. Visit CGCI's website and click where indicated to subscribe to *Golden Gardens eNews* on the home page (top right).

During this final year, when it comes time for 100% clubs to renew their subscriptions, the club may subscribe members with email to *Golden Gardens eNews* and pay only for those who need to receive the publication in printed form (still paying the 100% club subscription rate of \$5 per person).



## Invasive Plants - Part 4 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 #4 of 10 - Cape-Ivy (*Delairea odorata*)

Cape Ivy is a perennial vine with bright green lobed leaves and clusters of yellow flowers December to March.

[Click here to read more about this invasive plant.](#) Photo is a [National Park Service](#) photo.



## Three Year Calendars

The 2014-2016 three-year calendars will be available for sale at the 2012 CGCI Fall Board Meeting in San Mateo. The cost is still at the bargain price of \$5 that includes the plastic cover. The net proceeds will be split equally between CGCI's newest, long-term state projects: Project Mission Blue and Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Contact [Shane Looper](#), 650-871-0172, to make arrangements for quantity purchases for your district and/or club.

## Penny Pines Report

[Click here](#) to get to the link to see the latest Penny Pines Report.

PENNY PINES DONATIONS  
Total \$12,939 for the  
Second QUARTER of 2012



Questions, contact [Pat York](#), Penny Pines Chairman



## Angel Greetings

- In Memory of **Marion Dunlap** for her 32 years of enthusiastic membership in the Red Bluff Garden Club and 98 years of kindness and smiles. --Sharon Kessey
- Congratulations! **Robin Pokorski**, CGCI Woman of the Year. --Greg Pokorski
- In honor of **Arv Luce**. With thanks for your artistic enrichment of our club and 39 years of club membership. --Sandy Davidson

- Marilyn Bittle - Thank you for the energy and vision as our President, 2010-2012. --Naples Islands Garden Club

Want to send an Angel Greeting? If so, learn how by [clicking here](#).



## News from National Garden Clubs, Inc.

### 2011-2013 NGC Awards Manual

by [Pat Clayes](#), CGCI Awards Chairman

[Click here](#) to see the updated 2011-2013 NGC Awards Manual, if you are applying for any NGC awards (which do not have corresponding CGCI awards) this year. The updated CGCI Awards Manual will be posted on the [CGCI Website](#) under [Awards Program](#) in a few days. All CGCI evaluation forms have now been updated.

### Natural Disasters USA Grants Available

by [Mary-Jo Noth](#), NGC Committee Vice-Chairman

[National Garden Clubs, Inc.](#) has increased the grant funds available for restoration projects under the Natural Disasters USA program. Members of an individual garden club, group of neighboring clubs, or a state garden club may now request up to \$5000 to support their restoration project for a public garden damaged by a natural disaster such as a flood, ice storm, wildfire, tornado or hurricane. NGC will not grant more than \$5000 per applicant per disaster within the same fiscal year. [Click here for more details](#).



## News from Pacific Region

News from the Pacific Region Convention in Alaska (July 26-28) will be in the next issue of *Golden Gardens eNews*!

In the meantime, here's a photo of Julie & David West in Alaska at the pre-convention tour!



## 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](#).

- **August 30-31, 2012 - Gardening Study School**, Course II, Sepulveda Garden Center, Encino. Sponsor: Southern California Garden Club. Chairman: [Robin Pokorski](#). [Click here](#) for brochure and registration form for Course II / 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](#). [Click here](#) for the brochure and registration form. Course II: January 7-9, 2013 / Course III: August 12-14, 2013 / Course IV: January 6-8, 2014.
- **May 5-7, 2013 - Flower Show Judges Symposium**, Location TBA.
- **October 12-13, 2012 - Gardening Study School**, Course I. Sponsor: Humboldt District. Chairman: [Mary Lou Goodwin](#). [Click here](#) for the registration form. Course II: January 4-5, 2013 / Course III: April 5-6, 2013 / Course IV: July 12-13, 2013.

## 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.

- **July 26-28, 2012 - Pacific Region** Convention, Anchorage, Alaska.
- **September 6-9, 2012** - CGCI Fall Board Meeting, San Mateo. Host: Executive Committee. Chairman: [Shane Looper](#).
- **September 26-29, 2012** - NGC Fall Board Meeting, Little Rock, Arkansas.
- **February 5-8, 2013** - CGCI Winter Board Meeting. Host: Golden Foothills District. Auburn Holiday Inn.
- **April 21-24, 2013 - Pacific Region** Convention. Host: CGCI. Chairman: [David West](#). Hilton Sonoma Wine Country Hotel, Santa Rosa.
- **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.

Save A Tree - please consider the environment before printing this message.

California Garden Clubs, Inc., P.O. Box 75, Graton, CA 95444-0075  
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