



eNewsletter of California Garden Clubs, Inc. March 2012 Vol. 4-3

[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

I enjoyed visiting Cascade and Valley Lode Districts in February, one of the many rewards serving as CGCI's president. "Thank you" seems inadequate for the magnitude of hospitality and generosity experienced with each visit, but the memories created are "priceless."

As mentioned last month, with the success of the "Gently Worn Jewelry Sale" at Winter Board, the President's Project has reached its first goal! A deposit has been sent to order the Riparian Plant Community sign at the Kenneth M. Stocking

Native Plant Garden at Sonoma State University. Your support is appreciated as we work together to make a difference!

One of the challenges faced as this term's President has been the use of CGCI's name and/or EIN by clubs and districts. Please help us reinforce that under no circumstances is any garden club or district to use the name of California Garden Clubs, Inc. or CGCI's EIN. Double check your district and club records to confirm that you are in compliance.

As always, it is an honor to serve as your representative. I look forward to seeing you at CGCI's Wildflower Conference in Palmdale, April 4-6, 2012! Remember, exploring the possibilities in conservation, gardening, creativity and inspiration is how we can together make the difference!



Upcoming Flower Shows, Garden Tours & Plant Sales

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.

Milestone Flower Show

Redlands Horticultural & Improvement Society will hold its **100th** Consecutive Flower Show on April 21-11 at the Esri Campus, 380 New York Street, Redlands. [Click here](#) for more information and look under the date.

New Recording Secretary

CGCI is pleased to announce that the CGCI Recording Secretary for the remainder of the 2011-2013 term is [Margaret Strachan](#) from Thousand Oaks. CGCI thanks [Geri May Thirloway](#) for a job well done as the former Recording Secretary!

[Click here](#) for more information.



Welcome New Club

By Sue Bennett, CGCI 2nd Vice
President - Membership Chairman

It is my pleasure to announce that a new guild has joined California Garden Clubs, Inc. and was ratified at the Feb 2012 board meeting in Pismo Beach. Welcome to the **Flora Dora Design Guild**, Buttes District. The Flora Dora Design Guild was founded in October of 2011 and joined CGCI immediately. At time of joining, the club had 6 members; rumor has it that the membership is already up to 10. Please send President [Lucy Azama](#) a welcome note; her e-mail address is azama@sbcglobal.net. The guild currently meets at Lucy's home which is 1075 Villa Vista Ave, Yuba City on the second Thursday at 1:00 pm.

CGCI Wildflower Conference - April 4-6, 2012 Palmdale



There are a few days left to register for CGCI's 10th Wildflower Conference being held in Palmdale and the Antelope Valley! If you have never attended a CGCI Wildflower Conference or still thinking about it, don't miss this one as the tour to the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve is a visit with CGCI history. CGCI needs 12 more room nights (6 rooms x 2 nights) to fulfill its contract with the Holiday Inn in Palmdale. Please call 661-947-8055 and make your reservation TODAY as well as complete the Registration form by **March 23, 2012!** We look forward to seeing you there April 4-6, 2012!

Special Meetings of Consultants Called for Wildflower Conference -- April 4, 2012, Palmdale

[Click here](#) for the link to read the March 2012 Special Edition of the Consultants eNewsletter - a special meeting notice issue. Once you click above, go to the bottom of the page and see link to actual eNewsletter. Or see the attachment. Questions, contact the Gardening Consultants Council Chairman [Myrtle Findley](#) or the Landscape Design Council Chairman [Pat Clayes](#).

Parliamentary Lesson

By Parliamentarian [Greg Pokorski](#)

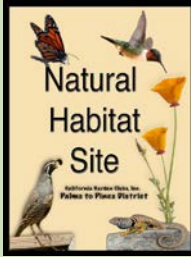
Why do we take roll at our board meetings? Not to give perfect attendance awards at the end of the term, but to establish a quorum to make sure a sufficient number of board members, per the bylaws, are present to conduct the business of the organization. So when someone is called, you do not need to tell us she is in the rest room or you just saw him in the hall - because if you are not present at the time of roll call you just do not count toward establishing a quorum. The moral of this story is to arrive at meetings prior to the scheduled start time. To read more, [click here](#).

News Clubs Can Use

Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club, Golden Foothills District - CGCI called for all clubs and districts to make the Youth Group Program the best ever. Roseville Green Thumb Garden Club has answered this call. [Click here](#) to read full article.

Look for the Opportunity - from Buttes District Director's Report at Winter board:

Chico Horticulture Society is a charter member of CGCI. For years, its plant sale, standard flower show and school grant raffle has been held at the Chico Home and Garden Show in March. This year, for the first time, it will be held at the Chico Home and Garden Show in the FALL. Why? Fall is a better time for plants in our region. [Click here](#) to read full article.



Palms to Pines District Director **Dann Dunst** initiated a district project promoting natural habitats. Entrants submit a one-page application and must provide at least one photograph of the habitat. Entrants receive a certificate recognizing their habitat; and if they can make a donation, receive a beautiful plaque (see photo to left of plaque) to post in their habitat.

To read more about this project, [click here](#).

Need a Banner?

Banner Order Chairman, [Rita Desilets](#)

You can have a professionally designed (2 foot by 6 foot) banner to attract attention to your club or district. Use the banner at plant sales, monthly meetings, flower shows or schools.

A simple PVC stand can be ordered, or make your own using the free instructions which are on the CGCI website. Stands will be delivered at any board meeting or convention or they can be shipped.

A FREE banner bag will be provided with orders of both the banner and stand.

District Directors: If your district is hosting a board meeting or convention, ask your clubs to bring their banners to make an impressive display (hotel space permitting). Orders have been pouring in from Palomar District, CGCI's 2013 Convention hosts.



Native Plant Week

California Natives Chairman [Margaret Strachan](#) urges everyone to celebrate California's lovely, useful and important native plants during California Native Plant Week held as always each year in the third week of April. This year it will be from April 15--April 21. [Click here](#) to read full article.



Arbor Day



Arbor Day

Theodore Roosevelt said, "To exist as a nation, to prosper as a state, and to live as a people, we must have trees."

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 or [California Arbor Day \(week\)](#) (the latter took place on March 7-14).

Blue Star News

By [George Urine](#), Blue Star Memorial Co-Chairman

Since Fall Board, CALTRANS has ordered two highway markers to replace old markers that

had been located at rest stops south of Tipton on Route 99, and El Cerrito Garden Club has ordered a byway marker to be placed at the Richmond Museum of History. The club is planning a dedication on Memorial Day. Based on club inquiries, I expect several more markers will be ordered before Convention. [Click here](#) to read entire article.



News from National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Share Your Stories

Do your garden club members have any good stories to share regarding their efforts in National Garden Clubs, Inc. programs such as Penny Pines, Habitat for Humanity Landscaping, Garden Therapy, Blue Star Memorials and more?

Finkel & Binder is working with National Garden Clubs, Inc. to generate local, regional and national publicity on the many philanthropic efforts that garden clubs across the U.S. are performing in their communities. We would enjoy hearing about these efforts and are extending an invitation to any National Garden Clubs, Inc. member to contact us directly at the telephone number or e-mail address below. Thank you for your help and ongoing support.

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News from Pacific Region

Pre-Convention Tour to Fairbanks, Alaska – July 21-25, 2012

The Pacific Region is sponsoring a fundraiser tour that includes several events planned in Fairbanks then boarding the domed rail cars to Anchorage with an overnight stop at Denali plus a special tour into the heart of Denali National Park before continuing to Anchorage in time for the Pacific Region Convention. (Don't forget, if you are a delegate to the Convention, some of your trip to Alaska may be tax-deductible - for information on becoming a delegate, contact CGCI President [Julie West](#).) [Julie & Dave West](#), [Robin & Greg Pokorski](#) and [Joan Craig](#) are on the list already, won't you join us! Total cost: \$1,400. For detailed itinerary, contact [Robin Pokorski](#). Deadline to register is March 20.

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: September 20-21, 2012 / Course IV: October 1-2, 2012

- **August 20-22, 2012** - Flower Show School, Course I. Sponsor: Judges Council of Southern California. Chairmen: [Martha Hunt](#) & [Linda Lang](#). 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.

- **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, Anchorage, Alaska. **DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS MARCH 20**. Contact [Robin Pokorski](#) if you have any questions.
- **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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