

WACONIAH

Washington • Arizona • California • Oregon • Nevada • Idaho • Alaska • Hawaii

Vol. 46 No. 1 Director's Theme: "Spreading your Butterfly Wings to Fly; Sharing your Knowledge of Gardening"



**2017 – 2019
Pacific Region
Director
Peggy Olin**

Director's Message

In the last year, this Director has traveled to seven of the eight states in the Pacific Region; April 2017 to the Pacific Region Convention in Seattle, Washington, May NGC Convention in Richmond, Virginia.

Road trip from Oregon in June 2017, attended the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs convention - wonderful speakers, field trips to Japanese Gardens and a hike in the woods, ponds with Chihuly Glass, bridges, flowers and information stations to sit and read about the flowers, tour of Boeing Airplane Factory and installation of 2017-2019 Officers.

Then onto the Garden Clubs of Idaho convention, wonderful dinner with lots of garden club friends, great workshops, speakers and field trips to a Japanese Garden on the river in the center of town, shopping in a new building district for free dessert, coffee and installation of 2017-2019 Officers.

In October, Marcia Brooks Arizona's State President picked me up at the airport, we went to breakfast, then to the Musical Instrument Museum, the next day, North District Garden Clubs, Desert Designers, Former Director Elaine Gunderson, catered a wonderful lunch and Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication at the Sedona Public Library, visited a Butterfly Garden at the Elementary School that a garden club is trying to restore with new plants, and painted the tables the children use, and let the children stencil different kinds butterflies on them.

Then they sent me for a massage and then on to the airport.

One of the duties of a Region Directors is to judge all the NGC Scholarship applications. In the middle of

March, the Region Directors received 36 applications with score sheets, and reading began!

All were to go back to the NGC Scholarship Chairman by April first, busy time for all of us.

In April attended the Alaska Garden Clubs convention just one day before the Region Convention. We all "Whooped it Up" at the 75th Pacific Region Annual Convention at the Chena Hot Springs Resort, in Alaska, wonderful welcome and tour from the owner Bernie Karl, who showed us the Hydroponic Greenhouses, Geothermal Power Plant and served Appletinies in the Aurora Ice Museum in a glass made of ice, walked on the ice to take a dip in the hot springs, toured the dog kennels, where the dogs all have their own personal dog houses, went on dog sled rides. Some got to see the Northern Lights. Thanks to all the Alaska Garden Clubs for giving us a wonderful convention.

In May, this Director attended the NGC Convention in Philadelphia, PA. We went one day early so we could go to the beautiful Longwood Gardens, Independence Hall, Constitution Center and attended all NGC Meetings.

June 1 traveled to Nevada, the Nevada State President Nancy Lee Loesch and her husband Art, picked me up at the airport we went to Bellagio Hotel for lunch, and saw the beautiful Conservatory Gardens and water fountain at the hotel, went sightseeing and on to Red Rock Canyon, that was beautiful too!

Saturday was the Nevada Garden Clubs meeting, wonderful catered lunch by former Pacific Region Director Kristie Livreri and her son, held at their club house that they maintain with rose and herb gardens.

June 3, left for the California Garden Clubs convention, had lunch with Sue Bennett at High-Hand Nursery, picked up Joan Craig and Myrtle Findley headed for hotel in Tuolumne, for four days, with lots of meetings, so many different projects going on, lots of youth programs and gave a lot of Awards, NGC, Region and State.

The Pacific Region Garden Clubs have a lot in common, all working toward the same goals, increase communications, scholarship programs, educational schools, building new websites, Blue Star Marker dedications, helping to Plant America with native and pollinator plants in butterfly gardens, memory gardens and healing gardens.

Take care, Peggy

2019 Pacific Region Convention Van Nuys, California



"Soaring to New Heights"

Airtel Plaza Hotel - 7277 Valjean Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91406 818-997-7676 Room rate - \$99/night (includes breakfast)

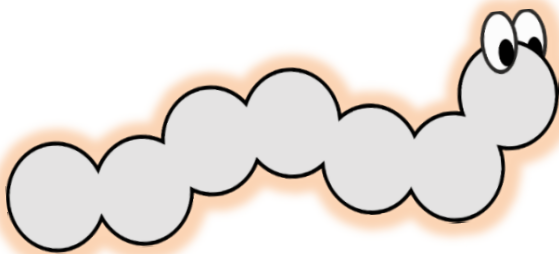
Reminders:

Pre-Convention Tours – Friday, April 5 & Saturday, April 6

Convention (including Organization Meeting) Sunday, April 7 - Wednesday, April 10

When you think about attending a Pacific Region Convention, one always thinks "Caterpillars?!" Attend the CGCI Fair on Sunday, April 7, 2019; 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. and make your own caterpillar! Yes, you read that right.

There will be a variety of stations - each with hands on activities and take-home projects that are guaranteed to fit into your luggage. Collect pieces for your caterpillar as you move from table to table, experimenting, learning and having fun. Perhaps you have gone to a fair; we promise you, this will be one to remember.



Oh! to Be a Caterpillar!

A caterpillar has just one job - eat a lot. During their larval stage, the caterpillars must consume a significant amount of food to sustain themselves into the next stage-adulthood. That is the reason they are nicknamed "eating machines" because all they do is eat, eat and eat!



Sandy Ford is a GEM! Whose presence was greatly missed at Chena Hot Springs.

~ Robyn McCarthy

This term, the state presidents are writing their reports based on a common assignment. This issue's theme is: How many board meetings does your state hold and what is the general schedule for those meetings.

Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. Claudia Hambacker, President

Theme: "Birds, Bees, Butterflies, Moths and Bats; Create a Living Habitat for Them"



Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. has two Board Meetings each year. Our Board is composed of the Executive Committee, the District Directors and the member club Presidents. Although this total number is only 24, to meet it requires travel of about 350 miles one way for each District.

Our Annual Convention is held each year in June and rotates by District each year. Our attendance is usually between 30 to 50 people, including Board members. There is always concern about cost (lodging, food, and driving expenses). The Convention committee works to keep expenses low but that is difficult. The second Board Meeting is the first Monday in October of each year, less than four months after the Annual Convention. Attendance at the October meeting is about half of the Board. This past year the program was changed to include education, was publicized well, and we had a better attendance.

The Annual Convention allows for more socialization and begins on Monday morning. Most of the participants arrive Sunday evening and, because of travel distance it ends by noon on Tuesday so that all members have the opportunity to return home by dark. The October meeting is one day, 9:30-2:30, leaving little time except for business, lunch and education or, in the past, a speaker. Lots of travel for such little time together.

Two retreats were added this year in an effort to bring the voices of the organization together to set goals, hear opinions, and plan. The initial retreat was done in July and was effective. The second was held in January. Attendance at the January meeting was by ZOOM. This past year GCII purchased ZOOM, a video conferencing tool. Education was provided for members at the October meeting. There was greater attendance of the Board members at the January Retreat than there was at the October Board meeting.



It would be helpful to spread the meetings further apart instead of having three within a four month period. This will be addressed at the Summer Retreat. Another

concern is that the President attends six meetings within a six-month period - one Pacific Region, two NGC and three State, and there are usually at least two District meetings within that time. This is overload for one individual, and although the majority of expenses are paid, the individual still needs to assist with costs because it is well over the amount allowed in the President's Travel Budget.

There will be discussion this year about what meetings are necessary and how often they should be attended and by whom. Within the state the problem is being addressed. For the Zoom meetings, there is a one-time fee for the product. A room has been available, at no cost, and our 2nd VP is working on projecting over a screen for those locally which would mean they would not need to use their computers. The other two Districts could identify a central meeting place, too. This would mean we could actually hold both retreats and the Fall Board meeting with no travel and stretch them out with no worry about weather. The cost for lunches, overnight stays and travel would be eliminated. The Annual Convention would continue.

Meetings are important but the question has been posed if, this is really how we want to spend the GCII money. The President would continue to visit the Districts at least once each year. Region and NGC meetings are important to maintain a relationship, but they can be expensive. It will be up to the Board to determine what is best for the organization regarding these two meetings.

California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Krystal Migliore, President

Theme: "Plant America – California Style"



The board of directors of California Garden Clubs, Inc. meets three times a year to conduct the business of our organization. Board meetings and conventions are hosted by our districts located throughout the state. With 997 miles between the Oregon and Mexico borders, every effort is made to alternate the locations within the state (north, south

or central) so no members repeatedly have an excessive travel burden.

The Fall Board Meeting is traditionally three days and held in early to mid-September. The Winter Board Meeting is held between the last week of January and the middle of February and is three and a half days. Our four-day Annual Convention is held between mid-May and mid-June.

On the first day of each of our three meetings held annually is a full day of committee meetings. During the next two to three days, the schedule consists of business meetings and educational events including

workshops and/or tours. Also held during these two or three additional days are lunch and dinner with programs/speakers daily. Often the last evening music or other entertainment is offered in lieu of the dinner program.

At an open discussion held at a business meeting during the 2015-2017 term, our board members were asked about the length and number of board meetings held each year. Some members were in favor of two meetings instead of three and/or reducing the length of these meetings. More members indicated they felt the number of meetings held during the year and the length of the meetings was acceptable...as long as they gained new information to take home to their clubs and districts.

The idea in the forefront when planning is to value our member's time by offering efficient and fast-paced meetings. Opportunities were provided for small groups to talk about important topics or provide additional information that board members could take home to their clubs and districts.

When planning, this president encourages host districts to ask themselves, "What makes our area special or different than the other areas where meetings are held?" With the host's vision for implementation, we were able to present information that provided reminders of some of the most essential and best practices for CGCI.

- *Welcome each new prospective member and every existing member as if you are welcoming them to your own home...your garden club home.*
- *Remember, FUN IS important!*
- *Garden club members join for the information and stay for the people. The need to be part of something bigger than themselves is one of the reasons people volunteer.*
- *Never assume that everyone already knows ...always plan as if they don't!*
- *Your favorite garden club tradition was once just an idea.*
- *Never underestimate the interests of your members.*
- *Never hesitate to present something with a slightly different twist.*

We look forward to seeing you at the **2019 Pacific Region Convention, April 5-10, in Van Nuys** when we will share a bit of California Style. We hope you will find ideas to take back to your clubs and districts to share.

**In California, we can hardly wait
for you to come visit us at the Pacific
Region Convention in Van Nuys. We
hope to see you ALL there!**



The Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs has three State Board meetings each year. In an election year there is also an additional post-convention meeting of the in-coming Board of Directors for the purposes of

(a) electing a Nominating Committee; (b) approving one of the three signed, written bids for the Directory Handbook printing secured by the Directory Editor; (c) ratifying standing and special chairmen; and (d) acting on such other immediate business.

There is always a fall State Board meeting in October and a spring State Board meeting in March. The fall meeting 2017 was held in this president's home-town for the purpose of getting to know her as a gardener through touring her personal garden and the adjacent community garden which she and her husband, Mike, planted and continue to maintain. Following the tour, we went to a local church for two educational workshops: 1) making a fall centerpiece, and 2) dry land farming with freshly-harvested samples of tomatoes and melons. A local hotel provided lodging and a local restaurant provided a private room for the Sunday evening no-host dinner. It was a getting-acquainted time with some 45 guests in attendance.

Monday's meeting was the official State Board meeting with 56 in attendance for the day to conduct the official business of the organization. This meeting was held in the same church as the previous day's workshops and the space was rent-free. The Dallas Garden Club prepared and served a delicious luncheon and charged only for the cost of the food. This home style board meeting was well-received and very economical.

The spring board meeting was also "action-packed", again beginning on Sunday with a drive up the McKenzie River in Eugene to the McKenzie River Nursery to learn how to plant and nurture hanging baskets of plants, then we were privileged to wander the nursery selecting plants to create our own basket. The only cost was \$25 or \$35, depending on the basket size, but the best part was their offer to keep them in their greenhouse, tend them with fertilizer, water and talking to them until they were lavishly blooming and ready to be picked up for Mother's Day. Wow, we loved this "hands-on" activity! The owners also presented a workshop during Monday's luncheon on growing fruit trees. Sunday evening was a no-host dinner at The Sizzler in Eugene. This was great as everyone could choose their favorite food and we enjoyed each other's company in their large banquet room. Following dinner, we were treated to a wonderful mini-floral design presentation complete with an engaging demonstration

on creating "flair" for your designs. Mini-kits had been created for purchase at a nominal fee. Everyone participated and enjoyed the new learning opportunity.

The goal of each state board meeting is to conduct the business of the organization, while also providing time for meaningful interaction, sharing the knowledge and skills members have with each other and creating opportunities to learn something new to take back to club members at home. Life is great in garden club!



PR Executive Committee are all **GEMs!**

~ Peggy Olin

Pacific Region Director's Project

By Diane Franchini, PR Director's Project Chairman

Oh No!! The deadline is fast approaching and no one has submitted a Pacific Region Director's Project yet. What am I going to do? Peggy is going to be so disappointed! Take a breath, Diane; the deadline is actually seven months away. There's plenty of time for every state to submit their projects before the February 1, 2019 deadline.

Just as a refresher, Pacific Region Director Peggy Olin has asked every state to become involved by planting native and pollinator plants that will thrive in your state or your part of the state. Before the February 1, 2019 deadline, each state is being asked to submit a list of WHO, WHAT, and WHERE in regards to a state, district, or club sponsored activity using native and pollinator plants. For your efforts each club, district or state project will earn a Certificate of Participation as well as a garden flag featuring a butterfly.

In doing research for Idaho and Oregon for this issue, I found some really interesting information while browsing two University Extension Services websites. The University of Idaho Extension Service pointed out that the plant lists for Idaho are similar to Eastern Washington and Eastern Oregon lists. Common in all three of the states are trees like the white fir, maple, birch, and pine as well as shrubs that include kinnickinnick (pictured right), ceanothus, dogwood, juniper, Oregon grape, ninebark, currant, and a wide variety of grasses.



What caught my interest was an article on the positive trend of using native plants in Idaho home and business

landscapes. Some of the goals for this type of landscaping include water conservation, reduced maintenance, attracting wildlife, and creating unique personal expression. One of the cautions (or reminders) was that the entire landscape need not be covered in native plantings. Instead, select a problem area or one that is difficult to manage that might respond well to native plants. Look for ways to create a natural flow between the native plantings and the more traditional landscape zones.

When adding a native planting area take into consideration that landscape features other than plants may need to be included, such as large rocks or wood objects to maintain season-long interest, color and texture. Be aware of water needs of the native plants versus the traditional plantings, trying not to mix plants with vastly different needs. Once installed even drought tolerant plants may need extra water during the first year or until they have established strong root systems.

The Oregon State University Extension Service website was equally informative but went in a different direction. From this website I learned about Oregon's various growing regions. First was the hemlock-fir community. This is the most common and is dominated by large conifers. The western hemlock and Douglas fir have the densest populations but are interspersed with other plants such as the vine maple (pictured left).

The second region was the mixed deciduous forest. In this region we find the Garry Oak, Big Leaf Maple, Oregon Grape, and Sword Ferns. The Prairie region, located in the Willamette Valley, Columbia Corridor, and Tualatin Valley, was historically burned by the early Native Americans, helping to maintain more open grasslands. Today there are fewer trees and shrubs than in other regions. More common are the grasses that tolerate shallow dry soil and sunny exposure. Here we find fireweed, asters, yarrow, and penstemon.

The fourth region is the Scrub-Shrub Wetlands, found in areas with moist soil, periodic flooding, and standing water. Here we would find dense thickets of willows, red osier dogwoods and roses with scattered cottonwoods and ash.

The OSU Extension Service also provided a short list of native plants that might fit into your landscape plans. They included Adobe parsley, Alaska blueberry, American wild carrot, Austin's popcornflower, Awned melic, Azalea, Azure penstemon, and Baby Blue Eyes.

Happy planting to all and I'll be watching my email for those projects to come pouring in before the February 1, 2019 deadline.

If Only it Were Science Fiction!

By Josie Goodenow, Bee Chairman

CBS has confirmed there is a new threat to America. But, it doesn't come in the form of criminal aliens, terrorists, or warfare. The latest danger can be found growing in backyards and neighborhoods.

The name of the botanical menace is Giant Hogweed, *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, and it is creating a giant headache for some of the people in Clark County, Virginia. The plant can cause "third-degree burns and even blindness." Residents should contact authorities if they think they spot one... the danger is very real.

Researchers at the Massey Herbarium at Virginia Tech have found no less than 30 of the ominous plants. The weed is related, oddly enough, to the carrot, one of the best foods for humankind's healthy eyesight.



Yet, unlike a carrot, these monstrosities can grow to a towering 14 feet in height. The leaves alone can be two feet in diameter and are often crowned with large, inviting white flowers on top. The crowns make a rather eye-pleasing umbrella shape, and they "look similar to Queen Anne's Lace" but are far "chunkier."

For obvious reasons, those at Virginia Tech are asking anyone who sees one to report it and to **NOT** touch it. The worrisome weed has been known to sprout up in "New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, Oregon, Washington, Michigan, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine," so it is not isolated this year.

The reason for the astute caution? Experts warn that the "sap contains toxic chemicals known as photosensitizing furanocoumarins." This chemical compound makes anyone who comes in contact with the plant very, very vulnerable to

By Shirley Schmidt, Poetry Contest Chairman

Congratulations to Pacific Region poetry contest winners from Arizona and Oregon for 2018!

The new theme for 2019 is **"Pop Goes the Seed."** We are looking forward to having all states participate. Here is helpful information:

NGC Poetry Contest 2018-2019 "Pop Goes the Seed"

**Pop Goes the Seed. Pop Goes the Seed.
See how it grows, see how it grows.
With water and sunshine and loving care
Causes the neighbors to really stare
Might be a winner at county fair!
Pop goes the seed.**

Eligibility:

General and Special Education and English as a Second Language: K - 9th Grade.

Dates for Submission

Club entries must be sent to YOUR State Youth Chairman; observe your State Deadline. State Winners must be sent to Region Chairman by **February 1, 2019.**

Shirley Schmidt
1630 Williams Hwy. #145
Grants Pass, OR 97527

Contest Rules

1. All entries must be typed and titled
2. Include name, address, age, grade, and school of participant on the back of entry
3. Sponsoring garden club and state garden club name must also be identified
4. Sponsoring garden club may be that of a grandparent
5. All entries become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
6. Poems do not have to rhyme
7. Poems may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick, or Haiku

light. "Black, painful blisters" can develop, and they leave scars on the body in many cases.



In the worst cases, a person who touches the plant can develop light sensitivity for the rest of their lives. If the sap gets into a person's eyes, perhaps by the rubbing of the eyes, blindness results.

All of this has led The New York State Department of Health to issue some guidelines. Those who do, by curiosity or error, touch the plant, are to use cold water to remove the threat and avoid sunlight. Also, seeking medical help is STRONGLY suggested since a "toxic reaction can begin as soon as 15 minutes after contact."

For those "stuck outside," sunscreen is advised when dealing with the effects of this unsettling plant. Compresses "soaked in an aluminum acetate mixture" can offer some help to people dealing with skin irritation, an almost certainty when coming in contact with Giant Hogweed.

As for saving one's sight if the sap gets in, a person's eyes need to be rinsed with water, sunglasses should be worn, and a health professional contacted ASAP.



Birds and waterways spread the dreadful plant, and New York health officials have said, "to not mow, cut or weed whack the plant, as it will just send up new growth and put

you at risk for being exposed to sap — the same kind of thing that would happen with poison ivy or sumac. Seek advice from professional plant control specialists about management options."

They added, "If you must touch giant hogweed, wear disposable rubber gloves, a long-sleeved shirt, and pants. If you get sap on your clothes, carefully remove the clothing to avoid skin and eye contact and wash separately from other clothing with warm water and detergent."

So, as rats and bedbugs make an epic comeback, as the Black Death and Ebola loom in the wings, Giant Hogweed is reaching up from the ground to blind everyone.

If **ONLY** it were science fiction.



Linda Nelson Bentson is a **GEM** for sharing her room in Alaska.

~ Jeanette Pruin

There's a Special Place Just for YOU - Join Me!

By Robin Pokorski, Incoming Pacific Region Director



Yay for summer! The time when garden club is dark, there are no yearbooks to compile, no programs to secure, no tours to find, no chairmanships to fill – oh wait, yes there are!

To me, summer means that I can do my garden club work without putting on makeup! That's the big difference between summer and the garden club year in my view. So what am I doing this summer? I am setting my board – looking for those members that want to push the region to its full potential – members that want to bring value to the region for our members at the club level – members that want to join the region board to make that connection between clubs, districts, states, and the national level.

Are you interested in serving on the Pacific Region Board but just haven't been invited? Well, I'm asking – come join me on the Board – garden club is more fun when you're involved (and yes, I mean, up to your eyeballs in garden club!)

Let me know of your interest and we'll find just the right job for YOU!

You CAN Just Say "NO"

By Becky Hassebroek, Wildlife Gardening Chairman & NGC Membership Committee

I received a call from a garden club member from another state the other day. "Mary" was asking my opinion on a matter for her club that related to a previous article I had written – I was very pleased when she said how valuable the information was to her club and that it was worth more than the professional fees they had paid to others. That is what we garden club members do – we share whenever we can! Then, close to the end of the call, Mary advised that her club had just voted unanimously to no longer be part of the state or national federation. If I had false teeth, they would have hit the floor!

Of course, I asked the reasoning behind her club's decision. She said they are getting older and their efforts are precious to them; they are in high demand for special meetings, such as district meetings, since they have a nice clubhouse; they had asked to trade

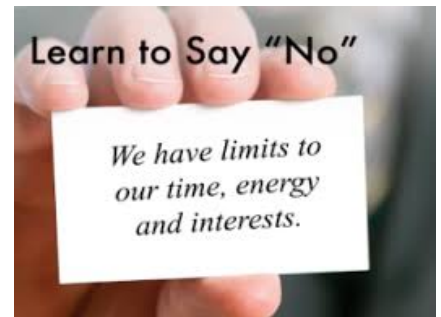
meeting dates with another club since other club commitments close to that time were draining the energy of their members, and the district declined their request. They never once thought that they could just say "No" and discuss their concerns with their district director or state president. So, they did their duty, were good hostesses, and at the next club meeting they unanimously voted to leave!

What a terrible loss – for NGC, for their region, for their state, for their district, for their club, as well as for their club members, and for their community!

Other arrangements can always be made. If what we're asking our clubs to do isn't working well, then maybe it's time to make some changes!

Our National and State organizations are here for us – it's not the other way around. The Executive Committee and the Board of Directors consist of volunteers and gardeners – just like each of you – whose purpose is to help provide us all with incredible educational opportunities and leadership training and opportunities; scholarships for our state's young people; projects to help touch our youth with gardening; information on subjects they feel would be of importance to us to help guide us, if we need or want it; grants to help our clubs accomplish our community projects – and so very much more! National Garden Clubs exists to make the gardening experience of each member richer in every way. It belongs to us! The only thing that is asked of us in return is to maintain our membership numbers as best we can, with their help whenever possible, so that our voice through our national organization, and what can be accomplished on behalf of our members, is made exponentially stronger by the number of members we have across our great country.

As I was thinking about how we maintain our garden clubs, I realized it is exactly how we maintain our gardens. We need to help guide with delicacy that which needs support. We need to make sure the individual is receiving the sustenance required for its health and happiness. We need to provide a sustainable atmosphere in which to blossom. We need to help insure that all can coexist happily. We need to watch, listen and learn to make changes before we are lost!



Ed Note: Please note the juxtaposition of my "There's a Special Place Just for You – Join Me" article immediately preceding Becky's "You Can Just Say NO" article.

As a point of information – Becky's article does NOT suggest you say "No" to me when I ask you to join the Pacific Region Board!

Parliamentary Tidbits – Nominating Committees

By Greg Pokorski, *Parliamentarian*



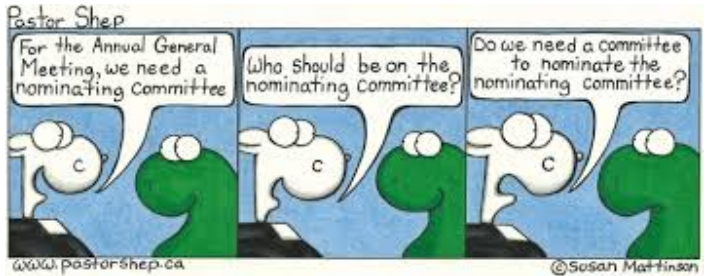
For many state garden clubs, the work of nominating committees now moves into high gear so that candidates for office are identified to stand for elections to serve the 2019-2021 administrations. This is also true for garden clubs that have two-year terms. If your club does not have a two-year term you might want to consider this (bylaws will need to specify this provision) because it puts your club in synch with district, state, region and national organizations. More importantly, clubs with two-year terms eliminate half the time and effort spent by nominating committees that must come up with officer candidates every year and can devote the time spent on elections and installations every other year to garden-related programs and activities. Once you find members willing to serve in office for one year, it is often not a big stretch to get them to serve for two years. In fact, many officers say they spend much of the first year in office learning the position; so once learned, a second year in office can be far easier than the first.

The contributions of nominating committees in determining the future of organizations cannot be overestimated. Members of these committees should be familiar with the organization, its bylaws and its members. Nominating committee members especially need to be familiar with bylaw provisions regarding nominations and elections, eligibility for office and the election process and timeline. They need to find candidates who are knowledgeable about and committed to the organization, who have skill sets that will aid in performance of required duties and who can and will “work and play well with others.” I have seen far too many organizations that are handicapped by officers who do not work effectively together. Working as a team for the good of the organization may be as important or more important than the skills and abilities of any individual elected officials. Those chosen to lead need to be aware that they are being asked to carry out the will of the membership, in accordance with the organization’s governing rules, and are not being elected to unilaterally carry out their individual ideas and goals. Don’t minimize the requirements of an office. You don’t want to overwhelm prospective candidates, but candidates need to know what is expected of the position so that they do not proclaim after election, “I never would have taken this position if I knew I had to do...”

I am sometimes asked if members of a nominating committee may be nominated for open positions. Unless your bylaws provide otherwise, the general rule is yes. A member of the nominating committee may in fact be the best candidate for a position. The President may be an ex-officio member of most/all other committees, but

should never be a member of the nominating committee.

As with all parliamentary questions, always look first at your bylaws and other governing documents. Look to *Robert’s Rules*, if that is your stated parliamentary authority, for guidance on those issues not specified in your rules.



Eumetopias jubatus – Steller Sea Lion

By Georgia Zahar, *Endangered Species Chairman*

This species is named for George Wilhelm Steller who first described them in 1741. Steller sea lions are the largest of the eared seals and were added to the Endangered Species list in 1990 because of declines in their population - humans who felt they were eating their fish catch shot them. Sea lions can also be threatened by trash in the oceans. Stellers are susceptible to predation by killer whales and some shark species.

Stellers are the largest of all sea lions and they have an appetite to match. These giant pinnipeds hunt fish, squid, octopus and sometimes small seals. They are found off the Pacific Coast from Japan to California.

Did you know that Steller sea lions use smell and sound to recognize their pups? The average lifespan is 18 years for a male and 30 years for a female. They are usually 7 – 9 feet in length and weigh 1.2 tons.

If you ever want to see Stellers up close, check out the Sea Lion Caves on Hwy 101 in Florence, Oregon.



Two Beesinesses That Help the Busy Pollinators in Our World

Submitted by Josie Goodenow, Bees Chairman

Me and the Bees Lemonade



A 13-year-old girl turned her grandmother's flaxseed lemonade recipe into a national business. She studied bees after being stung twice in one week. Her mother suggested that doing research on bees might help her conquer her fear of them. At the young age of 4, she learned that bee populations were dying in large quantities so she decided to do something to help them. She decided to add local honey to her grandmother's lemonade and sell it, and she donates 10% of her profit to international groups working to protect pollinators. The plans for the lemonade business called "Me & The Bees" won her \$60,000 in start-up money on the TV show "Shark Tank."

This caught the attention of Whole Foods which put her products on the shelves of 55 stores in the southern U.S. Recently, this past Mother's Day weekend, Whole Foods expanded this product into their Mid-Atlantic Regional stores!



Bee Saving Paper

As a means of saving dwindling bee populations, this startup company came up with an ingenious way of turning one of our most commonly used substances into an energy drink for pollinators. Bee Saving Paper is a biodegradable paper that is packed full of energy-rich glucose that is nutritious and delicious for bees and it does not make the paper sticky! The paper is made by dissolving a special kind of sugar into water, making a paste that beekeepers use to nourish their hives during

the winter. According to the paper company's website, only a little more than a pound of the paper is enough to feed several thousand bees.

This paper also contains Lacy Phacelia seeds which is known to be one of bees' favorite plants. (*This plant is native to California and Arizona and is considered one of the top 20 pollen producing flowers for bees.*) Once the bees eat the glucose, the paper's biodegradation will grow another "rest stop" for bees in its place.

Since bees see fields of flowers as red circles of colored light on the ultraviolet spectrum, this company uses water-based UV paint to cover the paper with colored red circles that are only visible, and attractive, to bees. These ultraviolet patterns are landing zones for bees as they point towards the parts of plants that contain pollen and nectar. This makes the circles a way to attract bee to the paper.

Started in 2017, the startup company has already experienced its first successful field test with a farmer whose bee populations were suffering. Now, the company is looking for other businesses to adopt the bee-friendly materials for their paper-based products. This means that any business or manufacturing company using paper can start making their products out of materials that are environmentally friendly and nourishing to pollinators – from coffee cup sleeves to paper bags!

Let's hope that companies hear about this product and start using the paper to manufacture paper products!

The life of man would be made extremely difficult if the bee disappeared. – Charles Darwin



Carol Norquist is a GEM for being a great chauffeur.

~ Jeanette Pruin

Where are the NGC Flower Show Schools in the Pacific Region ?

By Marva Lee Peterschick, Flower Show Schools Chairman

Are we lagging behind in the Pacific Region states on starting new Flower Show School Series? Did I miss some?



Washington has just finished up Course IV in the series in May and is looking deep to find a district or club to sponsor a new FSS series.

Flower Show Schools provide a learning opportunity for those garden club members interested in becoming NGC Accredited Flower Show Judges. We also have some members who are looking for a FSS course that they might need for makeup or other reasons.

A local group that sponsors a NGC Flower Show School series becomes the beneficiary by their members participating and expanding their knowledge. This can be most helpful when time for a NGC Flower Show in the area. A district might have Accredited Judges that have gone through the FSS many years ago and need a reminder about how important the principles and etiquette of critiquing another's work is according to NGC standards.

Although each judge must refresh with a symposium within a three-year period of their certification, the Pacific Region states seems to be lacking in symposiums also. Oregon has one coming up on November 13-14. Oregon and Washington alternate with Washington having a symposium in 2019. The main purpose of a symposium is to provide opportunities and learning experiences for Accredited Judges to refresh their knowledge of judging procedures in all divisions of an NGC Flower Show and to remain in good standing. However, all garden club members interested in NGC Flower Shows can benefit from attending a symposium as it is open to everyone.

If you find a FSS or Symposium close to your area, take advantage of it and attend as much as you like, but do participate in it. Volunteer your services to help with a school. The local committee must be prepared to pay rent for a location like a church or clubhouse - so much cheaper than a hotel. Save on the travel expense of instructors by having your members donate air miles to the sponsoring organization. Be prepared to pay more if both instructors are coming from the east. Look at the

overall picture - go together with a neighbor district or club in sponsorship with each having half of the courses cutting costs further. Get in contact with some sponsors of schools and ask questions - they will be more than willing to help!

School Days

By Sheila Parcel, Schools Chairman

SYMPOSIUM

Nov 13-14 – Clackamas, Oregon
Contact: Michelle Dewitz, (503) 880-5586,
dewee@comcast.net

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

Oct 1-2, Course II, Oak Harbor, Washington
Contact: Anne Sullivan, (360) 240-0560,
www.oakharborgardenclub.org

Pacific Region States' Websites

PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

Washington: WAGardenClubs.com
Arizona: AZGardenClubs.com
California: CaliforniaGardenClubs.com
Oregon: OregonGardenClubs.org
Nevada: NevadaGardenClubs.org
Idaho: GCII.org
Alaska: AlaskaGardenClubs.org
Hawaii: None

Calendar of Events

Sep 26-28 NGC Fall Board Meeting, Orlando, Florida
2019
Apr 5-6 Pre-Convention Tours
Descanso Gardens
The Getty Center Museum
Dinner on the runway
Apr 6 **Fun(d)raiser Dinner Event**
Apr 7-10 Pacific Region Convention, Van Nuys, CA
Apr 30-
May 2 NGC Convention, Biloxi, MS

Issue Deadlines and Issue Focus

The deadline for the November 2018 issue is 9-25-18.
The issue focus is: Youth Projects in your state.

**BOTANISTS HAVE DEVELOPED A VEGETABLE THAT
ELIMINATES THE NEED TO BRUSH YOUR TEETH.**

BRISTLE SPROUTS



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Did you share your WACONIAH with someone in your club and district? If you enjoyed it, maybe they will too!

A Tree Challenge

By Robyn McCarthy, Trees & Shrubs Chairman

GARDEN CLUBS AND DISTRICTS, I am challenging you to plant your state tree in a public location with the involvement of children.

You have now until the ground is frozen, when you cannot plant a tree, to document the planting with a written description of the occasion and accompanied with at least one photo. After you have obtained physical photos and completed the project form, mail it all to me by January 31, 2019. Your entrees will be displayed at the 2019 Pacific Region Convention. There will be a prize for your club for the best entry.

I encourage you to make your planting an educational and fun party and hopefully including children. History of your state tree should be shared as well as the importance of the tree's use to wildlife and man. How about a tree poem being read?

Rachel Carson, author of "Silent Spring" said that if a child can take a seed and watch it grow, that child would become a better citizen of his country. I think she would say the same thing about planting a tree.

Please email copies to your District Directors and put them on your website so that club members will be reminded of the project.

Everyone can take **ADVICE FROM A TREE:**

GO OUT ON A LIMB STAND TALL AND PROUD REMEMBER YOUR ROOTS ENJOY THE VIEW

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*My 60-year kindergarten reunion is coming up soon and I'm worried
 about the 150 pounds I've gained since then.*

