



WACONIAH

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Newsletter of the Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Vol. 39 No. 1 The Director's Theme "Looking In and Reaching Out"



Debbie Hinchey
2011 – 2013 Pacific Region Director

Pacific Region Convention "Experience Alaska"

The Pacific Region Convention, "Experience Alaska," will be held **July 26 – 28, 2012** at the Clarion Suites Downtown in Anchorage, Alaska. Mark your calendars now!

Director's Message

Reaching out to our communities has always been a fundamental part of garden clubs.

We have been quietly giving out scholarships (so quietly that sometimes applicants are lacking) and buying, installing, and maintaining public spaces (so quietly that often people do not know

how those wildflowers or tulips suddenly showed up along a roadside; or know the how, what, or why of a **Blue Star Memorial** garden; or that a particular tree on the school grounds was donated to celebrate **Arbor Day**.)

We know that we spend a lot of time and some cash, but how much is hard to estimate if the hours and even small donations are not written down as they happen.

I would like to encourage all members to keep a diary of garden club related activities. Include any activity you are doing for your community. It could be litter pick-up, recycling, or less use of poisons in home, community, or public places (or organizing and testifying for such.)

Count: hours spent preparing plants for club's plant sale; advertising scholarships; preparing educational programs/displays; time spent discovering and implementing water use (or conservation) methods such as xeriscaping, rain gardens, fish habitat restoration, drinking water and air purity; donating to **Penny Pines**; or any other program should be documented.

You will be pleasantly shocked how important you and your garden club are to the livability of your community. (Also this explains why you have no spare time and the house needs dusting.)

By adding up the hours, cash, in-kind donations, and keeping track of the various activities you have the raw data to inform others (hopefully in the media.)

This not only gives us pride, it gives the garden club clout.

Debbie

**California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Julie West, President**

Theme: "Conservation Gardening Creativity Inspiration
Explore the Possibilities..."



Members welcomed NGC President, Renee Blaschke to CGCI's 80th annual convention held in Rohnert Park, CA. "Nature's Beauty and Bounty" was the theme with a tri-refresher, a variety of workshops and field trips. The Judges Council Banquet featured Char Mutschler. Elisabeth Tufo, former CGCI President 2005-2007, installed the 2011-2013 officers and district directors.

The President's Project for 2011-2013 is near and dear to my heart. Permanent educational signage for Sonoma State University's Native Plant Garden will recognize California Garden Clubs, Inc. on each sign for which money is raised. Our goal is to fund three signs for the Riparian, Wetland/Marsh and Oak Savannah plant communities so everyone who visits this four-acre outdoor classroom will learn about what they are seeing. CGCI has the opportunity to make a difference where no signage exists today.

The Board of Directors approved a new five-year state project by adopting Project Mission Blue in partnership with Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy. Member clubs will have the unique opportunity to financially support propagating two species of lupine using high school students to help save the federally endangered Mission Blue Butterfly. CGCI will be recognized for their support in numerous ways but the best satisfaction will be if we are successful by increasing their dwindling population of less than 25,000. (see article page 7)

CGCI was proud to receive the honor of naming the African violet in NGC's Help Membership Bloom contest. The name chosen is 'California Victory' and order forms were distributed at NGC's convention in Washington, D.C. It was my first NGC convention and I had the opportunity to meet several of the new state presidents in attendance.

This is an exciting – and humbling – time for me: exciting because of the momentum already underway in CGCI and humbling because I am keenly aware of all that has been done by my predecessor, Maryanne Lucas, and by the former CGCI presidents who have made California Garden Clubs, Inc. what it is today. In closing, I want to acknowledge my gratitude to CGCI members for offering me this wonderful

opportunity as we prepare for another chapter in CGCI's distinguished history.

We Want YOUR State on Flickr

By Robin Pokorski, NGC Flickr Chair



Share your garden club pictures with the world. Send pictures of your **Blue Star** Memorial planting and dedication; your

flower shows; your **daffodil** plantings; your civic beautification projects; your **aquatic** eco-systems projects; your **Arbor** Day plantings; the list is long. Be sure to identify the club, district or state and the location.

We'd like to feature a garden club's project every month (and being from the region – I want the site to feature all the Pacific Region states) – so send in a series of 6-10 pictures of your club's project.

Mostly we want all our Pacific Region states represented. Our NGC Flickr site has only four of our region states and the region itself featured – that's half. Let's get **Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and Hawaii** on the site.

Send pictures to Robin Pokorski at RobinP@juno.com. Then visit the site (www.Flickr.com/NationalGardenClubs) and find ideas for projects and plantings and staging and, and, and – it's all there for you.

WANTED: Your Installation Ideas

By Robin Pokorski, Ways & Means

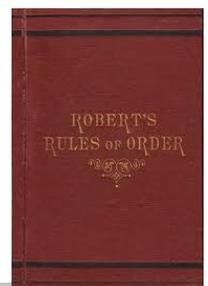


We will be publishing an installation booklet as a ways and means project in time for the NGC Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis. Please share two or three installations (club, district, council or state) with Pacific Region. We have an offer to have the booklet published free-of-charge but

we must take advantage of the offer this summer. Send to Robin Pokorski, RobinP@juno.com or via snail mail by August 31. Thanks!

New Robert's Rules Due Soon

If you're thinking of buying a copy of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* (and you should have a copy if Robert's is your organization's parliamentary authority), **WAIT!** The 11th Edition, the first revision in eleven years, is due to be published on September



27, 2011. Wait just a little longer and get the most up-to-date information.

2011 NGC Convention Washington, D.C.

By Lana Finegold, NGC Board Member 2009 - 2011

Our Capital Congress was the theme of the 82nd annual NGC Convention, May 27-30, 2011 at the J. W. Marriott in Washington, D.C. Pacific Region was well represented. There were 637 attendees with a voting strength of 351. NGC 2nd Vice-President **Linda Nelson** of Oregon, NGC Recording Secretary **Robin Pokorski** of California and Pacific Region Director **Sandra Ford** of Idaho played significant roles. Especially entertaining was **Robin** leading the NGC cheerleading team to announce the creation of a Flickr account where members may share photos of garden club accomplishments.

Programs and workshops included former White House Chef Walter Scheib, Associate Chief U. S. Forest Service, former White House Chief Floral Designer Nancy Clarke, and workshops about the U. S. Botanic Garden, Smithsonian Gardens and Parliamentary Procedure. The U.S. Forest Service Honor Guard was most impressive presenting the colors with bagpipe accompaniment. About 60 people participated in the Habitat for Humanity walk-a-thon which included Lana Finegold and Marva Lee Peterschick from WSFGC. Donations totaling \$721 will be returned to the local districts in Washington. There was a **Blue Star Memorial Marker** Dedication at Congressional Cemetery and a touching Power Point Memorial for garden club members and friends.

The Most Memorable Moment spotlighted the 9-year-old winner of the Smokey Bear poster contest posing for a picture with Smokey Bear. She was **Vaibhavi Patankar**, a 4th-grader from California.

For the installation of the new president Shirley Nicolai from the Washington, D.C. area, the showiest dessert was a Capitol-shaped candy dome filled with chocolate mousse. A stage-size artist's rendering of the Capitol building with the NGC Butterfly Garden in front was most impressive. Seated on the garden's butterfly benches were those to be installed. Shirley's theme is **NGC: Proudly Serving our Members and Communities.** Projects will be plantings for public and special places along with protecting the aquatic ecosystems.

The most memorable quote of the convention was "The best part of gardening is the people and there are no finer people than garden club people" from Robin Pokorski, NGC Recording Secretary.

Caging Tomatoes

Caging **tomatoes** increases yields and decreases diseases. It is important to choose a type of cage that will not **rust**, has openings large enough that you can easily reach through and harvest the **tomatoes**, and

is big enough to hold the type of **tomato** plant you are growing.

Alaska Garden Clubs

By Carol Norquist, Alternate Director

Alaska celebrates our own Debbie Hinchey as the new Pacific Region Director and embraces her project and theme, "Looking In and Reaching Out." We are looking at the way we do things and will be keeping track of all the hours we put into our projects for our communities. I personally figured out how many hours I have put into garden club projects since January and was astounded to discover over 170 hours. I find when I start telling someone about what garden club does that they didn't realize the wide variety of things we accomplish. We need to not keep the secret of garden club to ourselves.

We had our first new **Blue Star Marker** installation since 1990. It is located at the Iditapark Veterans area in Wasilla. We now have one in Ketchikan, Juneau, Anchorage, Wasilla, Fairbanks, Anchor Point, and Tok. The dedication was on a chilly February day, but there was still a crowd there. Various veteran groups and the City of Wasilla contributed to the ceremony.



An indoor reception followed.

The yearly state convention is the only time we get together since there are only a few clubs spread out over a long distance. This July we will meet in Anchorage, hosted by the Wildflower Garden Club. We will take an alpine walk and native plant expert, Verna Pratt, will show us the wildflowers after Dr. Marilyn Barker has introduced us to them at lunch. Visits to several gardens and then the installation of the new officers will be followed by a brunch the next day. Alaska does like to have fun.

Planning the 2012 Pacific Region convention has also been a project that we have put in many hours of work. We look forward to seeing everyone in Anchorage in July 2012 when it will stay light until late.

What Do You Get?

What do you get when you divide the circumference of a **pumpkin** by the diameter? **Pumpkin Pi**.

Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Carol Parrott, President

Theme: "Our Beloved Arizona - Conserve, Cherish and Celebrate"



It's six-thirty in the morning and the temperature is already 85 degrees. If we're lucky we have another hour to work in our gardens. We've gathered seeds, harvested our last tomato and groomed our beloved Mesquite trees to withstand the coming monsoon season. There is nothing left to do – except go inside, fix a

cup of **coffee** and plan our Garden Club Season.

Arizona is planning a Flower Show School. We also hope to have a Landscape Design School. To encourage members to travel from all around our state to attend our Landscape Design School, we are planning on offering them host housing. In today's economy, keeping prices down for our membership, must be part of our state's focus.

We have also voted to have our large three-day Conventions on the odd-numbered years and a simple business meeting on the even years. We hope to encourage better attendance at our Conventions and again, keep costs down for our membership.

We are planning to support our Pacific Region Director, Debbie Hinchey's theme of "Looking Out and Reaching In" by asking each club in our Federation to:

- Appoint a new chairman for a new category, "Community Activity Recorder" to keep track of their Garden Club's community activities, hours and money.
- Provide this information to their Garden Club to be used by their Publicity and Membership Chairman.
- Report these totals back to our "State Community Activity Recorder."
- Report Arizona's state totals to Pacific Region.

My theme is "Our Beloved Arizona - Conserve, Cherish and Celebrate." This theme covers three main goals:

- Conserve – preservation of our State's precious natural resources
- Cherish – care for our fragile desert environment by maintaining good gardening practices, water preservation and proper plant selection

- Celebrate – Get out and enjoy your garden, your state parks, and your glorious state

It is my hope that we will embrace our desert environment by becoming responsible stewards of our beloved Arizona.

The State President's Project will be to beautify our civic and public places using native and desert adapted plants in our landscape design or in container gardening.

See you in the garden.

Container Clues

By Sally Thompson, Container Gardening Chairman

A few guiding clues for containers. Mix container shapes, textures and heights.

- Use pots of similar **colors** for larger impact.
- Place a tall spiky plant off center of container. Layer smaller plants around it.
- Keep a full **watering** can handy by keeping it close to the door you use every day. It's a quick pick-me-up for a droopy and thirsty plant.
- While waiting for new plants to settle in, add fast growing seeds or annuals. They tend to fill in the edges and spill over the sides.
- Containers are great to try out an unusual **color** combination you may be considering for a large new flower bed.
- A large container at the end of a pathway shows the visitor where to proceed. An eye popping **color**, even without plantings, will help too.
- At our recent state convention, table centerpieces were made in secondhand teapots with the lids propped on them. These were planted, not cut flowers.
- Express your personality with your container choice, whether it's humorous, edible, simple or many layered. Most of all, have fun.



Going Green

Excerpts from www.futurefriendly.com

A leaky toilet may go unnoticed, as will the extra



CASH absorbed by your water bill. To check for leaks, add enough food **color** ing to your toilet tank to really brighten the **water**. After 30 minutes, look to see if

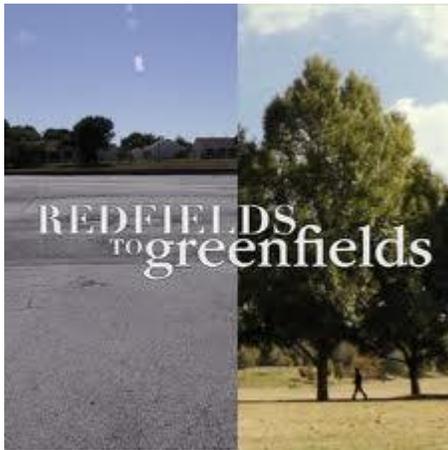
any of the dye has leaked into the bowl.

Red Fields to Green Fields

By Russ Ford, Land Conservation Chairman

Cities around the country are looking for ways to rescue thousands of commercial buildings that are in foreclosure and disrepair....and, at the same time, eliminate community blight. Since 2008, real estate values have declined around \$10 trillion. Many city residents are surrounded by vacant strip malls, blighted commercial corridors, abandoned housing developments and an oversupply of retail and industrial space.

A program called "Red Fields to Green Fields" proposes acquiring abandoned properties, demolishing or repositioning them, and replacing them with conservation land, parks and other green space. Cities could replace concrete and glass with trees, green space and cleaner air; remove abandoned buildings that attract crime and vagrancy; and create space for recreation, play and exercise to combat obesity and poor health.



The plan could create demolition and landscaping jobs now, and stabilize housing and property values around the distressed properties. The Speedwell

Foundation has supported the Georgia Institute of Technology in 11 U.S. cities to assess the distressed commercial real estate in their communities and determine the best approaches for turning some of that property into green space. In mid-June, representatives from Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, Phoenix and Hilton Head Island revealed their study results at the U.S. Capitol to members from the National Park Service, the Trust for Public Land, and U.S. Chamber of Commerce Civic Leadership Center. Altogether, the five cities' plans would create as many as 20,000 acres of new parkland and an estimated 300,000 new jobs. U.S. Representative, Robert A. Brady of Pennsylvania, is introducing legislation on red fields to green fields.

The City of Los Angeles proposed more than 200 projects to revitalize areas surrounding 32 miles of the Los Angeles River. These projects would create walkable and bikeable connections to the river and link users to small businesses and job sites.

Nearly 3,000 acres of non-performing real estate could be removed from the Phoenix market through

red fields to green fields investments, creating almost 50,000 jobs and an economic impact of \$5.9 billion.

In Detroit, more than 11,000 acres of distressed real estate could be used to create corridors linking job site locations with housing and transportation.

Acquiring land adjacent to 10 major bayous in Houston and establishing an interconnected system of parks, trails and economic development corridors could create 55,000 jobs over the next 10 years.

Other cities that have Red Fields to Green Fields reports that were published last year include Atlanta, Denver, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Miami and Wilmington. The City of Denver, in collaboration with the Trust for Public Land and private donors, has started acquiring Red Fields sites along the South Platte River Corridor. Miami is working to acquire land through public-private partnerships with part of the plan to link Everglades National Park and Biscayne Bay National Park, which could create 1,625 acres of additional parkland.

Many other U.S. Cities have embraced the concept. During the next year the Georgia Tech research team will focus its efforts on helping the 11 cities implement the plans they submitted, but more are expected to join in soon. Is your city part of this initiative?

Membership Blossomed in California



California Garden Clubs, Inc. was thrilled to learn it had won NGC's Membership Contest with the greatest number of new clubs and earned the honor

of naming the magnificent new variety of African violet pictured. "California Victory" may be ordered through the NGC website.

This African violet, grown by Lyndon-Lyon Greenhouses, is a semi-miniature variety with single/semi double pansy-shaped blooms of white with a distinct wavy green edge and light purple highlights randomly scattered about the flower face. Wavy medium green foliage enhances the striking blooms.

2011 – 2013 Pacific Region State Presidents

- Washington – Judith Juno
- Arizona – Carol Parrott
- California – Julie West
- Oregon – Garnet Ascher
- Nevada – Vicki Yuen
- Idaho – Robyn McCarthy

Alaska – Becky Hassebroek

Hawaii – Ann Swider

Pacific Region Awards

By Sherry Cossey, Awards Chairman



I am Sherry Cossey, new Pacific Region Awards Chairman, a neophyte in this area! Our region is going to follow National's lead in trying to simplify awards application processes. We do have separate chairmen in our region for Publicity Press Books and Youth contests. I am missing State Awards Chairmen information from Hawaii, Idaho, and Nevada.

1. I have forwarded the 20 pages of the NGC Award Rules, 2011-2013 to our state presidents and awards chairmen. I will send the Pacific Region Rules soon.
2. We will continue with as much similarity to last term's Pacific Region Award Rules as possible.
 - A. Awards year: January 1 to December 31.
 - B. Deadline: March 1 with the same exceptions as in the past.
 - C. Application Form: Pacific Region form is available on the Pacific Region website. You may use up to 3 pages for your application. I will accept whichever application you send to me, although you could just use the Pacific Region one, and if the NGC one is needed, will let you know at later date.
3. Books of Evidence are only required for Flower Show Achievement Awards and Publicity Press Books. Make good use of your allotted three pages for other award applications.
4. February 1 will be the deadline for
 - A. Award of Honor
 - B. Perennial Award
 - C. Yearbooks
5. Our region judges the State Yearbooks and Publicity Press Books Award winners from our 8 states and then sends just the names and clubs of the winners to NGC, but NOT the actual submissions. I will be asking for help to do that judging this year for Yearbooks. You will be able to pick up those submissions at the Pacific Region Convention in Alaska next summer.
6. Other exceptions: Publicity Press Books, Smokey Bear, Posters, Essays, etc. (and Scholarship applications) are all sent to specific Regional Chairmen with different due dates. Direct questions about those awards and deadlines to those chairmen, Phyllis Danielson, Jan Iseli, Sandra Rassi, Val Colvin, and others.

Thought Provoking

What do you call a country where people drive only pink cars?
A pink carnation.

Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Garnet Ascher, President

Theme: "Just Imagine"



The largest of fifteen districts, Pioneer with over 700 members, gained a new club the first day of convention: The Oregon Camellia Society adding 53 members bringing Pioneer District's total to just under 800 members. This is an exciting new addition to our area as they are promoting camellia shows in Newberg, Oregon. Janet King is the liaison between OSFGC, Inc. and The Oregon Camellia Society. It is hoped that both organizations will share programs.

Our state convention was successful and the camaraderie was wonderful. We shared the usage of two motels owned by the same entity; which meant that we resided, dined, shopped in one and walked across the grounds to the other for our meetings; flower show, design program, poster reviews, program booklets and a leadership program led by former Parliamentarian, Gaye Stewart. It was great to have Debbie Hinchey, Pacific Region Director, visiting for the entire convention and installing officers. Everyone enjoyed her relaxed Installation Ceremony using herbs. When it came time for the president to be installed, the assigned herb was not to be had, so I was given a leftover! Debbie said, "Oh, you have the lucky herb"! That could be a good sign!

We are now working on coordinating NGC, PR and OSFGC Awards Rules and Regulations and hope to have them available for districts and clubs for program booklet printing.

My Theme is: "JUST IMAGINE"

*what we can do to enlarge our "Pennies For Pines" and "National Disasters USA" funds to help reforest and restore public areas damaged by natural disasters.

*what we can do when we work together on community projects such as: 4-H, Environmental Awareness/ Conservation and water-wise projects/ planning and developing community gardens sponsored by schools, youth groups, churches and local food banks?

* growing our garden clubs and districts by 500 people within my term? We just added 53 new members!

* a district and/or garden clubs within these districts putting on many flowers shows to educate the public

and give our judges a place to earn and update judging credentials? We have a new flower show school scheduled to begin in September titled, "Flower Show North - Gresham" (Saundra Rassi, Chairman) and one in the spring with 17 already signed up, titled "Flower Show School - South" (Suzy Twist-Powell, Chairman). Our Gardening Study continues under Dr. Gary Simone, Gresham, for another year.

JUST IMAGINE what all we can do in our state and region.

We are going to all get on board in true community spirit keeping Sally Thompson, Awards Chairman, busier than she has ever been. I am encouraging each district to select an energetic awards chairman. Together we can accomplish much - this is a great organization. Let's go out and give it our all as we have fun sharing and working together!

Mining Impact on Aquatic Eco-Systems



Historical mining activities have and continue to impact aquatic ecosystems throughout the United States, particularly in the western U.S., where they constitute a significant fraction of "Superfund" sites. And while current mining practices, as well as remediation efforts underway at historical mines, are considerably more "environmentally friendly", monitoring is still required to ensure protection of the aquatic environment.

Pacific Region Websites

www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

Washington: **WAGardenClubs.com**

Arizona: **AZGardenClubs.com**

California: **CaliforniaGardenClubs.org**

Oregon: **OregonGardenClubs.org**

Nevada: **NevadaGardenClubs.org**

Idaho: **IDGCI.com**

Alaska: **AlaskaGardenClubs.org**

NGC: **GardenClub.org**

Project Mission Blue

By Shane Looper, CGCI Project Chairman

At its May convention, California Garden Clubs, Inc. presented a new five-year project. CGCI has joined forces with Golden Gate National Park Conservancy to assist the mission blue butterfly. The mission blue butterfly has declined to less than 25,000 in population, was one of the first insects added to the Federally Endangered Species list in 1976 and is fighting for survival in remaining fragments of its native San Francisco Bay Area grasslands.

In adopting this project, CGCI is raising funds to:

- Increase the lupine diversity by propagating and planting pathogen-resistant summer lupine (*Lupinus formosus*) and varied-color lupine (*Lupinus variicolor*) throughout Golden Gate National Park and Recreation Area.
- To assist in stabilizing butterfly populations during years of fungal outbreak on silver lupine (*Lupinus albifrons*).
- And, allow these populations to increase over the long term.

The mission blue butterfly (which is about the size of a quarter) lays eggs on three species of lupine that are the only food source for their caterpillars. These lupines grow scattered throughout small remaining habitat fragments of coastal grasslands and scrub. Preserving and restoring mission blue butterfly habitat is not only important to the butterfly and grassland ecosystem, but for other birds, mammals, insects and wildflowers as well.

The Golden Gate National Park and Recreation Areas are home to many endangered and threatened species and each year features one of these special plants or animals. The 2011 Species of the Year named by the Golden Gate National Park Conservancy is the mission blue butterfly.

California Garden Clubs, Inc. members are supporting the butterfly by raising funds to purchase materials for propagation, restoration planting and scientific experiments on hard-to-grow summer and varied-color lupines.



Lupine albigifrons

Lupines

Lupinus, commonly known as lupins or lupines, is a genus in the legume family (*Fabaceae*). Lupines are nitrogen fixers. Most lupines are herbaceous perennial plants, but some are annual plants and a few are shrubs up to 10 feet tall.

Lupines have a characteristic and easily recognized leaf shape, with soft green to grey-green leaves which bear silvery hairs. The leaf blades are usually palmately divided into 5–28 leaflets or reduced to a single leaflet in a few species of the southeastern United States. The flowers are produced in dense or open whorls on an erect spike, a typical peaflower shape. The fruit is a pod containing several seeds.



Lupine formosus



Lupine variicolor

**Nevada Garden Clubs
Vicki Yuen, President**

Theme: "Water Wise – Garden Beautiful"

Nevada Garden Clubs held its spring meeting and installation at Ventano's Restaurant in Henderson in June. The event was planned in part by the **Sunset Garden Club**, which arranged for a wonderful lunch menu, and secured a useful table gift for each attendee - a lovely blue glass globe for keeping plants watered over several days.

Our new NGC President, Shirley Nicolai performed a most interesting Installation of officers. Each officer was compared to a certain natural feature, such as a mountain or tree, and was offered the strengths of that feature. The new officers, led by the incoming State President, Vicki Yuen, were pleased to have the opportunity to spend some time with Shirley.

Nevada Garden Clubs, which has its own building for meetings, shows, etc., will have a challenge this year due to the City of Las Vegas renovating the landscaping around the building, and requiring the building to be closed for a year. Clubs which have traditionally met in the building have found other locations for meetings - and are hoping for a silver lining in this, by coming into contact with individuals in these new locations who may be interested in joining our clubs.

**Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs
Judith Juno, President**

Theme: "Nurture Natives — and Each Other"

As a new state president, I, too, am busy with a multitude of deadlines. What a trip! The NGC Convention in Washington DC was inspirational and fun. Our WSFGC Convention in Richland was



informative and fun. We have a busy crew who are passionate about their gardens, designs, and crafts, and delight in sharing their knowledge with anyone who is interested. We have a Flower Show School IV in Mount Vernon, September 7-9 and a Symposium September 14-15 in Silverdale Beach. Then off to St. Louis for the NGC Fall Board meeting. October 25-27, we have Landscape Design II in Normandy Park. In addition to all this education, our Holiday Show " 'Tis the Season" will be held at Holiday Inn, Everett on November 2-3. My theme is "Nurture Natives — and Each Other." I am encouraging folks to emphasize native plants in their gardens and communities to benefit our bees, birds, butterflies, and even our sea life as our care impacts all creatures in our environment.



As our members know, gardeners have fun, learn lots, and nurture everything in sight!

School Days

By Marva Lee Peterschick, Schools Chairman

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS

September 10-11; Course I, Colfax, California
Contact: Myrtle Findley, 530-346-2450
mbfrwf@aol.com

September 22-23; Course IV, Palos Verdes Peninsula, California
Contact: Alexis Slafer, 323-292-6657
ASlafer@ca.rr.com

October 25-27; Course II, Normandy Park, WA
Contact: JoAnn Goldman 206-362-3201,
aljo2009@q.com

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS

September 7-9; Course IV, Mt Vernon, Washington
Contact: Gerry Douglas, chuckanutwa@clearwire.net

September 13-15; Course I, Happy Valley, Oregon
Contact: Sandra Rassi, 503-658-7505

September 26-28; Course II, Moscow, Idaho
Contact: Edith Cole, 509-843-1010
EdithCole@wildblue.net

October 18-20; Course III, Sacramento, California
Contact: Mary Arakelian, arranger1mka@yahoo.com

GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL

September 27-28; Course IV, Loomis, California
Contact: Sue Bennett, 916-791-9459
Sue_C_Bennett@att.net

Calendar of Events

2011

Sep 20-25 NGC **Fall** Board Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri

2012

June 3-9 National **Garden** Week

July 26-28 68th Pacific Region Convention, Anchorage, Alaska

Issue Deadlines

November 2011

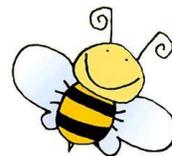
February 2012
May 2012

deadline 9-25-2011

deadline 12-25-2011
deadline 3-25-2011

August 2012
November 2012
February 2013
May 2013

deadline 6-25-2012
deadline 9-25-2012
deadline 12-25-2012
deadline 3-25-2013



Parliamentary Tidbits

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian



Here are some highlights from the workshop *Minutes – Not Hours!* presented by NGC Parliamentarian Joan Corbisiero, PRP, at the recent NGC Convention in Washington, D.C.

Minutes are one of the most abused documents or tools that we deal with in the course of conducting the business of organizations (such as all levels of garden clubs). Minutes are a record of proceedings of a meeting of a deliberative assembly and a legal record. They are the record of what was DONE, not of what was said. They should not be used as a substitute for a newsletter or as a review for absentees of what occurred at a meeting. Courts give importance to minutes as evidence. Auditors depend on minutes for authorization of expenditures.

Minutes should contain the name of the organization, the kind of meeting, date, time convened and place, who was presiding and who the secretary was, the presence of a quorum and whether minutes of a previous meeting were approved. The body of the

minutes should contain all main motions as amended and their disposition, whether final (adopted or defeated) or temporary (laid on the table, postponed, referred to committee). Procedural motions (which are subsidiary motions) should not be included unless necessary to the disposition of the motion. They should conclude with the hour of adjournment, the secretary's signature and notation of the date of approval. They should not contain motions that were withdrawn, discussion, opinion of the recorder of the minutes, content of committee reports unless ordered by the assembly or guest speaker's remarks.

Regular meeting minutes and special meeting minutes are approved at the next regular meeting and are approved in chronological order if there is more than one set to be dealt with. Proposed minutes are only a draft and do not become the minutes until approved (although actions are effective immediately). They must be approved by the assembly or by a minutes approval committee, but if approved by a committee are still subject to correction by the assembly. They are approved by the assembly as read, as distributed or as corrected. Corrections can be made at any time, but if made after approval they will require a two-thirds vote (motion to amend something previously adopted).

What does the letter "A" have in common with a flower? They both have bees coming after them.

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**NGC Award
Winning Newsletter**

Something in Common



by



**When you take
WACONIAH
email, you are
saving the earth –
and we thank you!**

By Robin Pokorski, Editor

Ever wonder how the name of our newsletter came about? While it has long been said that the name is composed of the first letter of each of our eight Pacific Region states, a Google search revealed that there is a town of Waconia, Minnesota, thirty-some miles southwest of Minneapolis. Obviously, the frozen Minnesotans are not aware of the Pacific Region paradise state of Hawaii and chose to leave off the “H” when they named their town. But we Pacific Regioners wouldn’t give up Hawaii for anything! We’re proud of the “H” in our newsletter name. However, the town of Waconia is in on our regional joke for they have posted this picture on their website! Imagine – an official WACONIAH moose!



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