



# WACONIAH

WASHINGTON • ARIZONA • CALIFORNIA • OREGON • NEVADA • IDAHO • ALASKA • HAWAII

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



2013 – 2015  
Pacific Region  
Director  
Elaine  
Gunderson in  
Idaho

## **Director's Message**

**Congratulations!** It was a breathtaking year for our state presidents in Pacific Region. At the 85<sup>th</sup> NGC Annual Convention in Norman, Oklahoma, awards galore were won on the national level and certificates presented. Pacific Region has six NGC Scholarship Winners, each receiving \$4,000.

**NGC Award Regional Winners:** Marlana Parrott, Pacific Region Chairman, by a landslide, won the NGC 2014 Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Poster Contest trophy for the most regional entries - 8,312. Sunny Hills Garden Club's project at Christ the Vine Preschool in Clackamas, Oregon won First Place and \$100 in the NGC 2013-2014 Schools Gardens Project "Protect Our Friends the Pollinators - They are Plant's Best Friends." Then to top the cake, Pacific Region won First Place for NGC publication award, "WACONIAH." Editor Robin Pokorski;

Assistant Editor, husband, Greg; and the 63 chairman who created 116 articles, take a bow.

**New NGC Partnership:** NGC has formed a partnership with Ames Companies, Inc. Founded in 1774, Ames is the largest U.S.A. manufacturer of gardening tools. Up to \$5,000 of tools in approved Ames grants will be available. A written description of the *project* (who, what, when and where) is to be submitted no later than one month in advance of project. Please email this information to Elaine Gunderson, NGC Ames Liaison, for review. If approved, photos are to be taken and a short description written for NGC publicity and promotion purposes. Details are to be found on NGC and Pacific Region Websites after August 15, 2014.

**Regional Butterfly:** After an extensive election process, the states came to a common ground with an overwhelming 86% selecting the Painted Lady as our Regional Butterfly. When you see the butterfly fluttering in your garden, think of all of your garden club friends.

**PR Scholarship:** Each year Pacific Region awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a deserving college student. Funds are raised through our Pacific Region Life Membership and Book of Recognition programs. Any member can purchase these prestigious recognitions. You do not need to wait to be nominated. Pacific Region's 2014 Scholarship winner is Mr. Benjamin Edward Roe from the state of Washington. In today's world, college expenses challenge students. In 2015 submit

your winning state entry to Pacific Region. See the Pacific Region website for further details.

To qualify for the NGC Award of Excellence #25 Regional Award, all eight states must participate in the Pacific Region Project "It's Our World! It's Our Responsibility! Plant Seeds of Knowledge and Stewardship." This embraces our NGC President's Award, "Choices Matter" and your Director's Theme, "Expand Horizons - A Conservation **Rainbow**." Make it happen by submitting your state's application to PR Director's Project Chairman, Sandra Ford, sandraford@cableone.net, no later than November 1, 2014. Monetary awards await the winners. For details see our website, pacificregiongardenclubs.org.

PR **Rainbow** Fundraiser will continue through April 1, 2015. Looking for a special gift? Or just wish to refresh your wardrobe? Match these garden and nature themed **Rainbow** - colored T-shirts, caps and/or mugs to your personality. Please see Chairman Maxine Smolowitz's article on page 18 and on the website. The T-shirts/caps will again be worn at the 2015 Pacific Region Convention in Eugene, Oregon.

**Thank you** Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. and Chairman Sandra Ford for hosting Pacific Region's 71<sup>st</sup> Convention. Coeur d'Alene is beautiful and the programs matched the magic. And thank you Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs for inviting Pacific Region to your state for our 72<sup>nd</sup> Convention, April 20-22, 2015 in Eugene.

During the coming months, support Kristie Livreri's quest to plan the 2015-2017 term as Pacific Regional Director and be willing to serve on the Board of Directors.

Happy Gardening Everyone!

*Elaine*

**Garden Clubs bring Health and Sense of Cohesion to Communities**

*By Russell Ford, Land Conservation Chairman*



The connection between individual health and the health of the natural environment is spurring community organizers, public health officials, and garden clubs to advocate new kinds of neighborhoods across the country. Communities are transforming from gray land to **green** land, with networks of gardens, parks and trails.

Recent studies have shown the gardens may accomplish what grocery stores cannot: getting people to actually eat their veggies! Simply building new supermarkets in areas with low access to healthy, affordable food does little to boost vegetable consumption among residents. **But eating habits change when people grow their own produce.**

A health professor at University of Colorado compared the diets of gardeners to non-gardeners in some of Denver's lowest income areas. They found that 56% of community gardeners ate the recommended five or more servings of vegetables per day, while only 25% of non-gardeners hit that target.

A study in Berkeley, California, showed that communal gardening is especially effective at developing a child's appreciation for vegetables such as **spinach**, **beets** and **squash**. The hands-on experience of gardening can improve the way people eat – regardless of factors like income or education level.

**But gardening can do far more than just improve the way people eat.** Gardeners who grow flowers and ornamentals can have a major effect on their communities. Neighborhood beauty, such as flower gardens, is strongly related to the health of a community. It is all about aesthetics. If you don't think your surroundings are beautiful and worth engaging with on a daily basis, then you won't go outside, or be active. Some low-income communities experience virtually no violent crimes, while others are plagued by it. Studies have concluded that it is not the economic status of a community, but its social interaction that fosters a belief that residents can make a difference by working together. What better way to foster a sense of cohesion among neighbors that makes them more willing to act on behalf of the common good than gardening – whether vegetable, flower or ornamental gardening. Some suggest that a sense of community can spread to community members who never even step through the garden gates.

Think about the effect your garden club could have on a community if you got involved in an existing community garden, whether vegetable or flower. Or maybe what you could do to transform some of the gray land to **green** land by developing and maintaining flower gardens and enlisting community members. What a wonderful way to participate in our Pacific Region Project and **"Educate yourself, Your Garden Club, Your Community!"**

**NGC President's Project Liaison – Education**

*By Alexis Slafer, President's Project – Education Chairman*



Do you ever think about the *big picture* as you listen to your local club or district program? Perhaps you should take the time to consider how that program, speaker, or project fits in to National Garden Clubs, Inc. President Linda Nelson's special project "*Making a World of Difference: Choices Matter*" or the

Pacific Region's Theme: "*Expand Horizons – A Conservation Rainbow*" along with Director Elaine Gunderson's Project: *It's Our World! It's Our Responsibility! – Plant Seeds of Knowledge and Stewardship*; and, above all the *NGC Conservation Pledge*.

Sometimes the information is absorbed as it is presented -- in finite sections. But we should be considering how those pieces fit together to create the whole. In these cases, the whole is truly greater than the sum of its parts.

It is clear that our efforts and successes demonstrate the educational opportunities that are inherent in the NGC Conservation Pledge and special projects and themes of NGC and our region. These successful Regional **Rainbows** provide opportunities to think about what seeds of knowledge are being planted and are growing in your local state, district, and club. Don't hesitate to share them – so we can all find the pot of **gold** at the end of the Pacific Region **Rainbow!**

*Ed Note: photo was taken on our Pacific Region Pre-Convention Tour to Glacier National Park.*

### **NGC Conservation Pledge**

*Adopted May 19, 1994*



I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forest, land and wildlife.

### **Gardener's Tip**

*From The Green Thumb newsletter of Southern California GC*

Does your climbing rose only bloom on the ends of the stems? For blooms along the length of your climbing rose bend canes to a 45° angle from the ground.



### **Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. Janet Petersen, President**

*Theme: "We All Live Downstream, Choices Matter"*



I have returned from my first NGC convention in Oklahoma. What a treat it was to meet all of our Pacific Region Presidents. Linda Nelson ran a well-organized meeting. We are so fortunate to have her be a part of our Pacific Region.

At NGC, Judy Seydel from Idaho Falls received the Award of Excellence. It is the highest honor a non-garden club member can receive. If and when you are ever in Idaho Falls we would hope you would stop and visit the Japanese Garden situated in the middle of the Snake River in downtown Idaho Falls. It is a jewel.

In July Idaho was the host of the Pacific Region convention. I am so proud of how are clubs came together to put on this event. And a big thanks to Sandy Ford! We hope those of you who attended had a wonderful time.

One of our summer goals in Idaho is to promote new membership and new garden clubs. We have an enthusiastic gardener who has volunteered to help promote this project. She has many great ideas. As we strive to increase our number of new clubs I want to mention the longevity of other clubs in our state. Roberts Town and Country GC and the Long Valley GC celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this summer and Golden GC celebrates its 75<sup>th</sup> diamond anniversary. Congratulations!

### **Development of a Botanic Garden**

*By Beverly Brune, Gardens, Arboreta & Public Gardens Chairman*

In 1973 three men had the dream of creating a botanic garden on 33 acres on a steep hill in the middle of the City of Thousand Oaks, California. This garden was to be on land donated to the Conejo Recreation and Parks District. With all volunteer workers, innumerable hours and undying dedication, the garden developed into today's Conejo Valley Botanic Garden.

The Trail of Trees was proposed in 2005 to replace invasive *Brassicaceae*, (mustard weed), on a 150 by 400- foot south slope in the garden. Upon receipt of a grant from the Principal Financial Group and matching funds from the Westlake Village Garden Club, development began with grading a road for truck access, clearing footpaths, placing boulders, and installing underground irrigation lines to locations where each tree would be planted. Garden volunteers, Boy Scouts and local groups groomed the

area by pulling the ever-present mustard and by spreading mulch on this slope. On April 7, 2007 the first thirty trees were planted.

California Garden Clubs' Robin Pokorski chose the Trail of Trees as her President's Project from 2007 – 2009, thus creating the biggest donation in the history of the garden. In the years to follow, additional plantings bought the total number of trees to seventy two. Fifty varieties of trees are represented with two or three of some varieties. The trees show their various characteristics for the public to enjoy and evaluate for their own gardens. Each tree is labeled with the family, botanic and common name as well as country of origin and planting date. Trees are available for honorariums or memorials with a second label denoting the dedication. In the springtime California poppies form a carpet under the trees.

The donations during Pacific Region Director Beverly Brune's term were also presented to the garden. A bronze plaque is imbedded on one of the three benches on the Donor Recognition Kiosk.

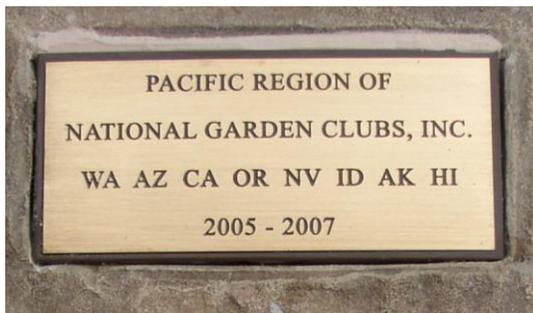
The generosity of these organizations and individuals has given an unbelievable boost to the garden. The newest project is the development of Sage Hill, an area beyond the Trail of Trees, where pathways wonder through large areas of native plants.



*Dombeya wallichii* tree, Madagascar.  
Fragrant pink blossoms.



*Prunus serrulata* 'Kanzan', Japan, Flowering Cherry



*Bronze plaque on the single bench*



*Cassia leptophylla*, Gold Medallion Tree



*Donor Recognition Kiosk, Pacific Region & CGCI on tiles in center bulletin case*

If life deals you lemons, make lemonade.  
If it deals you tomatoes, make Bloody Marys.

**Alaska Garden Clubs**  
**Becky Hassebroek, President**

*Theme: "Let's Keep Our World A-Buzzing"*

Summers in Alaska! It just doesn't get any better than this! Long sunny days with 24 hours of sunlight. Seeds just can't wait to pop out of the ground. EVERYONE has flowers growing in anything that will hold water – we are only restricted by our imagination!



Our garden club meetings have been replaced with garden tours. We find the most interesting places to see. Alaskans are indeed a creative bunch (this is all one house below)!



Our members are busy working in their gardens as well as their community projects. It's a time for flower shows and house guests!

We tried a new approach to our annual convention this year that we'd like to share because it was a great success! There are certain challenges at times being a small state (small in garden club members, that is!). We only have four major clubs that can host a convention - that equates to once every four years and that's a lot to expect! We decided to make a change and have club-hosted conventions in odd-numbered installation years, with non-hosted annual meetings in even-numbered years. This year, we decided to hold our first non-hosted annual meeting in Homer, Alaska, in conjunction with the Kachemak

Bay Shorebird Festival. We rented two large homes overlooking the Bay to house our attendees with a living room large enough for meetings. We brought in groceries and all worked together to make easy meals - enjoying them sitting out on the deck in the sunshine overlooking the Bay.



We restricted our meetings to only one day, so everyone could have time to enjoy the Festival. EVERYONE was pleased. One of the big draws for people to attend conventions is, of course, to get to visit with old friends you haven't seen for a while and meet new ones. This communal style of meeting and lodging succeeded AND exceeded our expectations. We're looking forward to coming up with new ideas for new places to visit! Who knows where we Alaskan gardeners might end up next?! You can be sure we're going to have a good time!



***Sale Item??***



Let's sell this sign as a fundraiser... I'd buy a couple!

**Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs**  
**Brynn Tavasci, President**

*Theme: "Garden Club — Outside the Box"*

Summer weather in Washington State has a lot to offer our adaptable, resilient, and imaginative gardeners. We offer in return a friendly, giving, and sharing atmosphere for those who like to learn about gardening in all of the challenging climates that we enjoy.

Capitol District's Judges Council just finished the Flower Show Schools Series. Hosting these schools is a labor of love that is rewarding for all involved. Lasting friendships are built between the students who attend, and educational connections are made between the chairmen and instructors who provide their time. East Lake Washington District has completed Course I of Gardening Study School with great success. Tulip Valley Garden Club in Chuckanut District has voted in the affirmative to host a Landscape Design School in the near future. Commitment to projects like these can be beneficial to the building of lasting relationships while sharing our love of gardening education. Port Angeles Garden Club dedicated three years of fundraising to provide a Blue Star Memorial Marker to honor veterans. At the ceremony it was evident that this collaborative enterprise had been a bonding and joyous project that culminated in a wonderful celebration for the club members and veterans alike. A beautiful and meaningful memory for everyone involved.



Another wonderful memory will be the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention, "It's Just Ducky." Where else would you find Pacific Region Director Elaine Gunderson donning a ducky visor and ducky earrings with joyous glee? Elaine also happily joined in with our napkin-folding workshop and fantasy flower demonstration. Everyone enjoyed how she easily blended in to our convention fun! Awards night was an opportunity to glam up the group with "Wee Hats" made out of recycled items. Snack cups, yoghurt containers and cardboard were made into handy "free" hat forms that were decorated in high style and worn with

fashionable pride. Penny Decker from Florida entertained us with her humorous presentation of gorgeous designs, a real highlight for our members. We also took time to do a little garden club business in between all of the hilarity. Co-Chairmen Betty Burkhart and Marion Nancarrow did a fabulous job



and we all appreciate their work.

Friendship-check, Education-check, Creativity-check,.....you name it, we've got it. In sun, wind, or rain we adapt, learn and grow in our beautiful state of Washington.

***A Cold Case Revisited***

*By Rilla Crane, Endangered Species Chairman*

It was before the California Garden Clubs 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (1991) that the Northern Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) was a big news issue. Now, a quarter of a century later, this little owl is still newsworthy. In 2013 the Obama Administration designated 9.6 million acres to be set aside in Washington, California and Oregon to save the habitat for wildlife, including the Northern Spotted Owl.

Some garden club members will remember going to Humboldt (1992) for that California state convention. A big protest was underway to save the Northern Spotted Owl. As we flew into Eureka and the Humboldt area much of what had been shown in the news became evident. Whole swaths of forest had been clear-cut taking all the undergrowth in the process for ease of log removal. During our visit some of us went by a local lumber yard in active operation. At that time, business was very good for the lumber companies and local workers. The main concern facing the area was for the livelihood of the many lumber workers.



What was all the controversy about?

In the 1970s people began to notice a lot of the old growth forests were being cut down. These forests were the habitat for many birds and animals. Undergrowth was scraped clean for the removal of the cut logs causing rainfall runoff and taking away additional habitat for smaller animals. In the forefront of the controversy emerged the plight of the Northern Spotted Owl. It had become "threatened" if not "endangered."

The Spotted Owl is not only beautiful, but has its job to do. It helps control rodents, reptiles, insects, etc. A cause was found for some environmentalists to save this owl. Friction ensued between the loggers, lumber companies and the environmentalists. Many young people were willing to go to the area to save the trees and thus the Spotted Owl. Some chained their bodies to a tree to stop the loggers from cutting it down. Other creative ways were also invented to stop tree-cutting. During this period we learned new terms: tree-sitting, tree-sit extractors, dream catchers, platform-sit, trans-arboreal travel, tree-spiking, etc. With so much public outcry, many old growth areas were spared. Regardless of opinions about the Spotted Owl, this was a significant accomplishment.

The present question now is the Spotted Owl safe? NO! A new threat is on the horizon. This time it is not only from humans, but the Barred Owl. Its habitat had been in the eastern states, but slowly has migrated west due to development and reduced food supplies. The Northern Spotted Owl prefers old growth forests and does not migrate that much. The Barred Owl is larger and more aggressive than the Spotted Owl. It is faster in reproducing and increasing its numbers while the Spotted Owl is losing its habitat and food source to this owl. The Northern Spotted Owl is listed as "threatened" by the EPA.

What will happen to this Spotted Owl? One suggestion was to kill some of the Barred Owls, but dismissed as a solution since the Barred Owl would reproduce quickly. Another consideration has been voiced. Do we kill one species to save another? The additional forest dedicated to wildlife may save the Spotted Owl for a while, but many believe eventually the Spotted Owl will become extinct. Is this another case of survival of the fittest? We have returned to where we started for the survival of the Spotted Owl. It seems like déjà vu.



Will this remain an open cold case file or shelved as closed?

**California Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Rita Desilets, President**

Theme: "Growing Together"



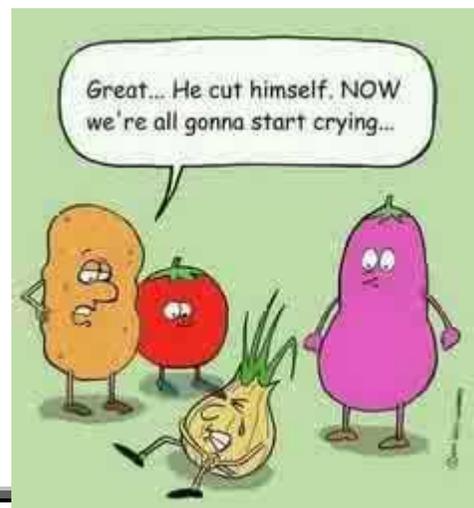
At the April 2014 Wildflower Conference in Tehachapi, Dr. Daniel Gluesenkamp, Executive Director of the California Native Plant Society, told of their society's exciting new project during his informative presentation. Of the more than 6,500 California native plants, scientists have found 2,500 to be rare and more than two dozen of these have been lost to extinction. At the June CGCI Convention the "Rare Plant Treasure Hunt," was adopted as California Garden Clubs' (CGCI) newest 5-year project.

Highlights of the project include:

1. Train Rare Plant Treasure Hunt volunteers to discover and document rare plants throughout California.
2. Collect seeds from rare plants so that they can be stored in liquid nitrogen and so be permanently preserved in case of disaster.
3. Collect seeds from rare plants for genetic sequencing by UC scientists, to more fully understand their history and better plan how we can save them.
4. Begin a de-extinction project, to find seeds of extinct California plants grow the seeds to increase the number and preserve these seeds in liquid nitrogen for eventual resurrection.

CGCI's goal is to raise \$3,000 or more per year to support the project. After five years the project will be re-evaluated to see if support should be continued.

*California Garden Clubs are making a difference!*



**Pacific Region Website**  
[www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org](http://www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org)

By Carol Norquist, Website Chairman

The Pacific Region website continues to have several hundred people a month look at the site. They look at all kinds of information including the calendar, forms, the board member area, and photos. They have searched for award and convention information, particular people such as Jeanette Pruin, particular garden clubs, *WACONIAH*, scholarship information, membership information and much more. Many have used the contact us form and I have passed these on to the appropriate person or state president. There are anywhere from 8000 to 12000 page views each month, so if you have garden club information or events, please be sure to send it to me to put on the website. Click on Contact Website Chairman at the bottom of the home page.

Although the majority of the people visiting our website are from the United States, we have had visitors to the site from South Africa, Philippines, Ecuador, Yemen, Mexico, England, Italy, Japan, Romania, India, Germany, Australia, Brazil, and China to name a few.

I use the state newsletters to get information, particularly events, for the website. Thank you to California, Arizona, and Alaska that have included me in their newsletter emailings. I will include any information that chairmen wish to have on the website and will find the appropriate spot for it. The home page also includes all currently known dates for national and regional conventions and fall-board meetings. Also please let me know if there is other information needed on the website to make garden club better for you and others.

On a separate note, National Garden Clubs (NGC) is asking for photos, along with a brief explanation of what is going on in the photo, for their Facebook page. The NGC chairman is Yvonne McCormick and her email is [Yvonne@lastate.edu](mailto:Yvonne@lastate.edu) and her phone is 515-832-6850.

**The more ways we promote who we are and what we do, the more visible garden clubs will be.**

**Pacific Region States' Websites**

- Washington: [WAGardenClubs.com](http://WAGardenClubs.com)
- Arizona: [AZGardenClubs.com](http://AZGardenClubs.com)
- California: [CaliforniaGardenClubs.org](http://CaliforniaGardenClubs.org)
- Oregon: [OregonGardenClubs.org](http://OregonGardenClubs.org)
- Nevada: [NevadaGardenClubs.org](http://NevadaGardenClubs.org)
- Idaho: [GCII.org](http://GCII.org)
- Alaska: [AlaskaGardenClubs.org](http://AlaskaGardenClubs.org)

What was green and a great trick shooter?

--Annie Okra

**Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Carol Mossholder, President**

Theme: "Arizona, Our Land-Be Proud, Productive and Preserve"



It is the beginning of the garden club year. Most of our garden clubs do not meet in the summer and many members spend the summer in other states. I hope you all will have a good summer. In Arizona, this is the time of year that we update the directory. A few clubs elect new officers every year.

I have just gotten back from the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention held in Norman, Oklahoma. If you have never been to a convention, you don't know what you have been missing. You get to meet other gardeners from all over the United States, there are fun things to do and you get to see another part of the country. It is also a good chance to pick up unique containers, *Vision of Beauty* calendars and other things from NGC. At the Awards Banquet, I received the awards for Arizona. We won an NGC Scholarship, the NGC Essay Contest and an award for our publication "High Desert Celebration." I know that there are many great projects going on in the state and I would encourage you to enter them for an award.

The Pacific Region Convention was July 1-3 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. It is especially nice to meet with other people from our own region. I am pleased that there are others from Arizona attending this convention. This is the time that your state president gets to meet with the other state presidents in our area and discuss the problems we have and hopefully come up with some solutions. Pacific Region Director Elaine Gunderson gave out the Pacific Region Awards for Arizona at our annual meeting on April 10. Alta Vista Garden Club won 1<sup>st</sup> place for its club newsletter, Desert Designers won 1<sup>st</sup> place for its yearbook, and Scottsdale Garden Club won 1<sup>st</sup> place for its flower show schedule. Please consider entering your projects for the Pacific Region Awards. I know that we have several projects that could win an award.

I just attended Cerbat GC's fundraiser with President-Elect Tina Box. The program was on bonsai and we both received one to take home. There were lots of great things in the raffle and Tina was a lucky lady that day and took home two baskets. We, along with

several others, attended the Prescott Garden Tour put on by Alta Vista GC on June 14.

I have asked each District Director to give a program on one of the topics of the NGC President's Project "Does It Matter?-Education for Responsible Choices" which is supported by the Pacific Region Director's Project "Expand Horizons-A Conservation **Rainbow**."

**Central/Eastern District** chose Water and they will do a program on water at their next district meeting on December 2, 2014.

**Northern District** chose Forests and are planning a wonderful program on Forests on September 15, 2014.

**Southern District** chose Land and had an outstanding program given by two docents from Tohono Chul Park on "Wildflowers in Arizona."

**Western District** chose wildlife and did a fantastic program on "Bees" given by Karen Bowen at their district meeting,

We covered Air at our Annual Meeting on April 10, 2014, which was attended by NGC President Linda Nelson. Everyone received handouts with information from the Maricopa County Air Quality Department to share with their clubs.

Many of our clubs are having programs to support the NGC President's and Pacific Region Director's Projects.

**Old Town Scottsdale and Tempe GC** are having a program presented by The Nature Conservancy on "Restoring Arizona's Forests."

**Gold Canyon GC** will have a program on "Indoor and Out-of-Door Water Conservation."

**Flagstaff Flower & GC** has planned programs on "Be Good to Your Trees," "Bees, Please!", and "Gardening for the Future with Sustainable Gardens."

**Indian Ridge GC** is concentrating on "Rainwater Harvesting."

**Tucson GC** had a program on "NGC Projects, Goals & Objectives given by former AFGC President Carol Parrott. Joan Cass, Education Director at Tucson Wildlife Center gave a wonderful program on "Rescuing & Rehabilitating Wildlife." Heidi Schewel, horticulturist with the U. S. Forest Service, gave a program on "U. S. Forest- Coronado Update." Meg Quinn, Pima County Natural Resources, gave an informative program "Stamp Out Buffalograss."

**Weeders' GC** had a program on "Monarch Butterflies."

**Pecan Grove GC** will have programs on "Watering Needs of the Desert," "Attracting Hummingbirds," and "Carpenters with Wings."

**Yuma GC** is planning programs on "Butterflies," "Composting," "Insects in the Garden" and "Watering Needs in the Desert."

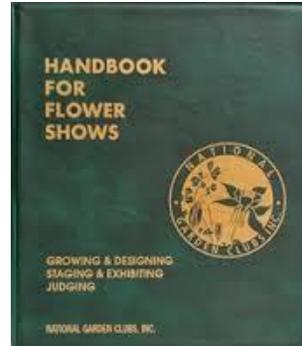
***Working together, We Can Make a Difference!***

\*\*\*\*\*-----\*\*\*\*\*-----\*\*\*\*\*

So many weeds, so little time.

### ***Flower Show Schools: 2014 Point Scoring***

*By: Marva Lee Peterschick, Flower Show Schools Chairman*



What is acceptable in point score sheets by NGC Standards?

**WATCH REPETITION** - Repetition of the phrase in all three boxes across **NOT ALLOWED**, even in Plant Identification. There are ways to say the same thing at least three different ways.

**THE MAIN GOALS OF POINT SCORING IS TO ENCOURAGE AND INCREASE VOCABULARY OF JUDGES, AND FUTURE JUDGES TAKING FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS.**

**If the quality term is in the exhibit column,** it cannot be repeated. For example, you cannot say "At peak of perfection" or "Healthy" or "Well-groomed" or "Acceptable Staging" without using other words with them. Ask yourself why and use those words to describe the specimen.

If there is a problem with blemishes, state what the blemishes are, if the plant isn't staged properly, state what the problem is. Don't just state "lacks wedging." State "Wedging would increase pose" or "Leaning due to lack of wedging."

Instructors cannot accept words by themselves like "Average, true-to-type, typical, acceptable, appropriate, good bad, etc. Some comments are listed in the *Handbook*, but must be used with other words in connection with the specimen being described. What is the fault?

Feel good terms like "Lovely" and "Wonderful" and "Stunning" aren't descriptive enough comments about the criteria as much as an overall expression of the exhibit. Instead, concentrate on why the specimen is "wonderful" or "lovely" or "stunning." For example, "Wonderful new cultivar of zinnia never seen" or "Lovely because all qualities are above average with very few faults."

**2013-2014 Pacific Region Awards**

*By Julie West, Awards Chairman*



The Awards team met mid-March to judge over 100 entries submitted for consideration to win Pacific Region awards. The following observations were noted:

The Pacific Region awards application follows NGC's award application and all six questions must be answered with the only exception being for yearbooks. If

you submit your entries early, it allows time to go back to obtain any missing information.

It is helpful if your state award application follow's NGC's six-question format so this may be something your state may wish to consider adopting for uniformity at the state, region and national level.

Only one entry per category is permitted so only the first-place winners should be sent to Pacific Region. It is not for the region awards committee to determine the state's first-place entry by sending duplicate entries in the same award category.

Websites, Facebook pages and publicity flyers are not considered "Any Other Publication" - that is reserved for printed material. The 2015-2017 awards committee may add these categories but they are not available this term.

For newsletters distributed electronically, hard or printed copies are required for judging purposes - whether it is a club, district or state as stated for PR Award #2 and PR Award #6.

No entries were received for PR award categories #15 Small Standard Flower Show requiring a Book of Evidence nor PR award category #16 Native Flora Education. Don't miss an opportunity to enter and win!

Since the 2014 Pacific Region Convention is being held after the state conventions, the award certificates, checks and spreadsheet of winners were mailed to state awards chairmen April 14, 2014. This will not be the case in 2015 since the Pacific Region is scheduled for April before the majority of state conventions. The award certificates, checks and spreadsheet of winners for the 2014 awards year will be prepared to be presented at the 2015 convention in Oregon.

Thank you for participating in the Pacific Region Awards program. We look forward to receiving your 2014 awards year entries for presentation in 2015. Remember, you can't win if you do not enter!

God blesses my garden,



but I wish He'd help weed it!

**Pacific Region Convention Highlights  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho**

**71<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention –  
July 1-3, 2014**

*"A Jewel in the  
Gem State"*



The Coeur d'Alene Resort

**Pacific Region Convention Business Recap**

*By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian*

- Meetings were held by the Pacific Region Executive Committee and other committees on July 1, by the Pacific Region Board of Directors on July 2, and convention sessions on July 2 and 3.
- These new chairmen were ratified: Mary Lou Paulson, Butterflies Co-Chairman; Myrtle Findley, Environmental Concerns Chairman; Susan Smith, Youth Poetry Co-Chairman.
- Region assets of \$50,828.65 were reported.
- The 2014-2015 region budget and 2015 region convention budget were adopted.
- Kristie Livreri and Vicki Yuen, having been elected by the governing board of Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc., were presented as 2015-2017 Pacific Region Director and Alternate Director.
- Having been elected by the governing board of their state garden club organizations, Sandra Ford (ID) and Charlene (Shane) Looper (CA) were presented as 2015-17 NGC Nominating Committee members and Robyn McCarthy (ID) and Julie West (CA) were presented as the alternate members.
- The invitation from Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc. to hold the 2016 Annual Convention in Henderson, Nevada was accepted.
- Minor Revisions to the Policy and Procedure Guidelines and to the Convention Procedure were adopted.
- It was voted that Boosters will now be designated Pacific Region Boosters rather than *WACONIAH* Boosters.

- It was voted **that e-mailed copies of *WACONIAH*** will become a privilege of members of the Pacific Region and **may be distributed without restriction at no charge.**
- It was voted that **the subscription rate for mailed copies of *WACONIAH* be \$20.**
- Having learned in a banquet program presented by Region Historian Jeanette Pruin that there was an error in the numbering of our conventions (Coeur d'Alene was billed as the 70<sup>th</sup>), **it was voted that the 2015 Convention will be the 72<sup>nd</sup> (not the 71<sup>st</sup>) Region Convention.**
- Total convention registration: 128. Voting strength: 55.

### ***Pacific Region Convention Recap***

*By Lana Finegold, NGC Multiple Refreshers Chairman*

"A Jewel in the Gem State" was the theme of the 71<sup>st</sup> annual Pacific Region Convention in Coeur d'Alene Idaho July 1-3, 2014 at the beautiful Coeur d'Alene Resort. Region Director Elaine Gunderson, from Arizona, presided at the meetings and introduced every Pacific Region and NGC Board member present. The weather was glorious and the lake sparkled. Coeur d'Alene Garden Club offered a free tour of three amazing gardens, the best of the best from previous annual garden tours (texture was the focus of the photographer's garden with Asian accents, waterfalls and wooden structures on a steep hillside garden and garden decor in garden rooms made the other two gardens visually unique).

To end July 1, Pacific Region Historian Jeanette Pruin shared her research about Pacific Region conventions and we learned that our Region convention is a year older than thought. We were treated to a musical interlude and the choir ladies (one from each state in the region) sang vintage songs. July 2 began with a business meeting and then Shirley Schmidt of Oregon led a memorial service. The whole convention went on a boat ride with Idaho Potato Bar lunch on board. We explored Duane Hagadone's private garden at his estate on the lake. Duane owns the resort and is especially fond of red geraniums (called duaniums by the locals). We were privileged to see his garden because NGC President Linda Nelson was with us. After the garden tour, Elsie A. Olesen led a session about Bees and the BeeGAP Program.

After dinner July 2, Jon Robert Throne of Countryside Floral in Issaquah, Washington created 15 colorful designs which were auctioned by Tory Bennett,

Washington, to benefit the region. On July 3 we heard reports from the states in our region and our region chairmen. From these reports, we get ideas and celebrate our garden club accomplishments. The lunch PowerPoint program by Linda Larson led us on a journey of *Remarkable Trees*. The closing dinner in the Lakeview Terrace Patio at the resort was picture perfect as friends, new and old, gathered together to "Expand Horizons". We had become "A Conservation Rainbow" after listening to NGC President Linda Nelson from Oregon speak about "Making a World of Difference, Choices Matter." Conventions offer insight, inspiration and ongoing friendships.

### ***Going GREEN***

*By Robin Pokorski, Editor*

Cut up old vinyl mini-blind slats for plant labels. Cut one end to form a point (they go into the ground easier). Use permanent marker for a weather-proof plant label.

### ***Convention Tidbits***

*By Gale Baullinger, Treasurer; photos courtesy of Russell Ford*

Hagadone Estate: 500 acres, 1000' waterfront, 2000 red geraniums, 4 houses on property. Owner of the resort and other businesses in the area.



Hayden Lake: Clark Estate; fabulous entertainment by the Clark family prior to 1929. He was an entrepreneur accumulating wealth via lumber, silver mines, and multiple other businesses. He disappeared - 1914 - without a trace thought to have been murdered by competitive business interests. The lunch was outstanding - three courses; soup, salad and dessert.



Silver mine, Wallace - was established as a classroom as the area was desperate for miners. If you completed the class, there was a job waiting for you the day following graduation. Mining is dark, dangerous, noisy, hot work. Today's average wage is \$25/hour. The mine is located in the Silver Valley where there are seven mines still producing.

**Pacific Region Convention 2015**



From the Mountains,  
to the Valleys,  
to the waters

Oregon is hosting the 72<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Region 2015 Convention April 20-22 at the Hilton Hotel in Eugene. Our rooms will be \$99 beginning on Saturday before convention and ending on Thursday after. We will get to enjoy

wonderful food, a newly renovated hotel, and also learn about their many sustainability practices that made them a "green" hotel.

There will be a multi-day pre-convention tour for attendees focusing on some of the wonderful things Oregon has to offer – the coastline, Multnomah Falls, the gorge, perhaps a fish hatchery with enormous sturgeon, The Oregon Garden in Silverton, the Chinese Garden in Portland, and more.

Monday we will offer a special tea at the historic Shelton-McMurphey-Johnson House where the Eugene Garden Club has worked with the landscaping and gardens for the past 14 years or so (a 2-block walk from the hotel). There will also be a chance to visit 3-6 covered bridges in the Cottage Grove area along with the beautiful gardens at the Village **Green** Resort. (That resort is owned by the same people who later built a resort at The Oregon Garden in Silverton.)

Rhododendrons will be in season, and we will visit the Rhododendron Garden at Hendricks Park not far from the hotel after hearing Harold Greer's luncheon presentation about rhododendrons. Before returning to the hotel we will visit the Cascade Raptor Center. Director Elaine Gunderson is helping with arrangements for a speaker about Pacific Region butterflies for one of our luncheons. There are many sites of interest within a mile or so of the hotel including the University of Oregon campus with its many, many trees, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art and also the Museum of Natural History. Shopping at the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Market and more, one block away may interest many of us. More information coming . . .

Our evening programs include our own Char Mutschler for floral design and Kay Huston from Eugene who does wonderful impersonations of famous women. We may also have the Eugene New Horizons Band play to end our final evening.

**Monarch and Other Butterflies**

By Marian McNabb, NGC Butterfly Chairman



In May 2014, the NGC Board of Directors approved us partnering with Monarch Watch

out of the University of Kansas to help save the monarch butterfly and other pollinator species from the threatened and endangered list.

There has been a big decline in monarch butterfly



population, along with other butterfly species. There are many things we can do to help protect and bring back the monarch butterfly.

This summer we can plant for monarch butterflies. Their host plant is the *asclepias* (milkweed). Make sure you have milkweed planted somewhere in your garden. If you don't have a butterfly area, plant one. It can be as small as 5 feet x 5 feet, every little bit helps. You can plant butterfly gardens in city and county parks, around businesses, churches, schools, any area that has a space to attract monarch butterflies and other butterflies.

A few nectar plants you can put in are coneflowers, marigolds, zinnias, lantana, asters, butterfly weed, yarrow, sedum, *liatris*, clover, parsley, dill, goldenrod, *tithonia*, as well as *asclepias* for the monarch.

Once you have your butterfly garden planted, go to [MonarchWatch.org](http://MonarchWatch.org) and register your butterfly garden as a Monarch Waystation. While on the Monarch Watch website, you can order tags to tag monarchs in the fall for their migration. For monarch butterfly information contact: west of the Rocky Mountains - Jessica Griffiths ([Jessica.l.griffiths@gmail.com](mailto:Jessica.l.griffiths@gmail.com)).



Another thing we can do is limit our use or don't use chemicals on our yard and gardens. Never, ever, use chemicals on your butterfly garden. Those little caterpillars will be butterflies and moths someday, so don't

spray them, they need to eat those plants.

Many cities and towns spray for mosquitoes, the spray kills everything, caterpillars, moths, butterflies, bees, more beneficial insects than non-beneficial insects. If your town sprays, attend a council meeting and ask them to discontinue this spray and let them know it's killing everything, and destroys our environment. Yes, you can make a difference, they no longer spray in our

town. If you live in a river town, then people should protect themselves by using spray on their clothes and non-chemical repellent on their skin. It's much better than spraying the whole environment.

Fall Project: Chip Taylor with Monarch Watch, would like us to collect *asclepias* seed. We need to collect 1/2 ounce or more of milkweed seed that originated from your area. With a half-ounce they can usually start 500 to 1500 seedlings. These seedlings will be sent back to the area they were collected, helping with Monarch Habitat.

There is a great need for seed of native milkweed from the southeast United States. Please make sure it's milkweed that originated from your area as it'll be sent back to your area. The seeds should sent to:

Monarch Watch, 2021 Constant Ave., University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, 66047

Keep track of the monarch butterflies in your area, along with other butterfly species that visit your garden. Let's keep the monarch butterfly from becoming threatened, endangered, and extinct, and help protect our environment.

The University of Kansas Entomology Program



All eight regions now have a regional butterfly;

- New England Region – Monarch
- Central Atlantic Region – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
- South Atlantic Region – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
- Deep South Region – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
- Central Region – Painted Lady
- South Central Region – Monarch
- Rocky Mountain Region – Monarch
- Pacific Region – Painted Lady

I'd like to thank the regions for choosing a regional butterfly. **Together we can make a difference!**

**Issue Deadlines**

<b>November 2014</b>	<b>deadline 9-25-14</b>
February 2015	deadline 12-25-14
May 2015	deadline 3-25-15
August 2015	deadline 6-25-15
November 2015	deadline 9-25-15

**Youth Recycled Sculpture Contest Winners**

By Brynn Tavasci, Recyclable Sculpture Contest Chairman

**Congratulations** to the Recyclable Sculpture Contest winners, all sponsored by the Desert Crossroads GC in the Roadrunner District in California. 1<sup>st</sup> Place went to Edgar Almonte; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place to Kimberlee Welsh; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place to Rose Hodder. **Thank you** for promoting recycling and creativity. It can make a world of difference.

**New Youth Poetry Chairman**

Please mail your state's 2014 1st place poetry entries for grades K - 9 by January 1, 2015 to:

Susan M. Smith, Co-Chairman  
4546 E. La Mirada Way, Phoenix, AZ 85044  
H: 480-598-9740 C: 602-791-5650

2014 Theme: "Good Stewards of Our Earth"

Contest details in "Youth" section of the NGC website. Thank you for encouraging youth participation!

**Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest**

By Marlena Parrott, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Chairman

For fifty-three years, across the country National Garden Clubs has partnered with the Forest Service to promote wildfire prevention and conservation among elementary school children through the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest. Winning artwork is then used by the Forest Service as a tool by conveying the messages of preventing wildfires and caring for the land. The artistry offers another

way to connect people to the importance of water, air and wildlife.

A big **THANK YOU** to all the Pacific Region garden clubs for promoting and working with schools and youth organizations by sponsoring this year's Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest! Entries were received from Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. Top winners in each grade are listed below.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Hannah Ju - California
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Leonardo Bermudez – Arizona
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Westley Bryan - Washington

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Bohmi Yoon - California
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Emas Johnson - Arizona
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Addison Payne - Idaho

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

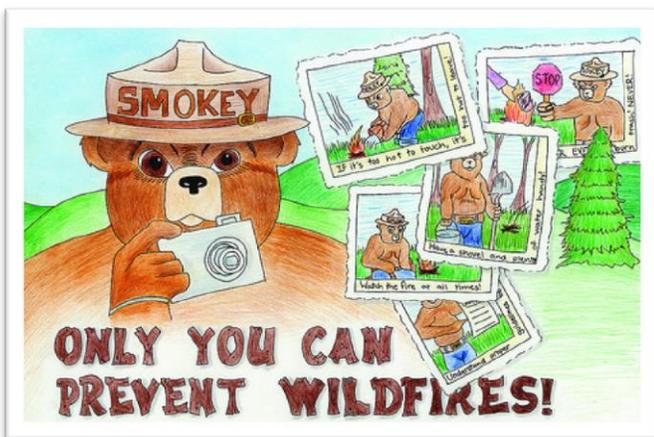
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Jacob Kim - California
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Emilee Vincent - Idaho
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Louise Roudabush - Washington

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Helmandi Sulohan - California
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Layla Herrera - Arizona
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Colton Marsh - Washington

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Jeana Yoon - California
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Lottie Inglet - Idaho
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Alaina Pooley - Oregon



2014 National Smokey Bear / Woodsy Owl  
**Grand Prize Winner:**

Joyce Qin – 11-year-old – 5<sup>th</sup> Grader  
Memphis, Tennessee

**Congratulations** to the other national winners!

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Hannah Ju – California
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Bohmi Yoon – California

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Jacob Kim – California

4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Helmandi Subhan - California

## ***It's Time! Youth Involvement Awards***

*By Debbie Skow, Youth Coordinator*

It's time! For what? To think about youth awards for this calendar year. NGC's High School Distinguished Service Project Award along with \$100 for 1<sup>st</sup> Place and \$50 for 2<sup>nd</sup> Place which may be awarded to a high school student for an outstanding civic project making a significant improvement for public benefit. Environmental, conservation, landscaping, horticulture, recycling, and horticulture therapy projects are all worthy entries. A single member club, group of member clubs, district or state garden club must sponsor the contest. Entries may include Eagle Scout Projects, Girl Scout Gold and Silver Projects, and High School Senior Projects. If you know of a high school student who has completed an outstanding civic project during 2014, consider applying for NGC Award #76 - K. Your state's 1<sup>st</sup> Place winning entry is due to PR Chairman Debbie Skow, [d.sk.1159@gmail.com](mailto:d.sk.1159@gmail.com) by January 1, 2015. Apply online using your state's or PR's award application form. **Congratulations** go to Washington's 2014 NGC 1<sup>st</sup> Place winner! An Eagle Scout who connected two trails, providing a continuous path through a woodland park.

While talking about youth, remember to apply for PR's own Youth Involvement Awards # 17a. for clubs and #17b. for districts who provide a year's program or one workshop/event involving activities with youth. First place winners will receive \$20. These entries are due to Debbie Skow by March 1, 2015.

Thank you for entering and especially for sharing your joy of gardening with our youth!

## ***The Survivor Tree***

*By Robyn McCarthy, Garden Clubs of Idaho*



This past May I attended the NGC convention in Norman, Oklahoma. My primary purpose in going to

the NGC convention was to clap for Judy Seydel whom I nominated for the Award of Excellence for a non-garden club member. But I was surprised and very much touched by a seminar I attended given by Mark Bays from the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture Urban Forestry.

Put on your memory caps everyone! On the morning of April 19, 1995, Timothy McVeigh parked a rental truck with explosives in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City and at 9:02 a.m. a massive explosion sheared the entire north side of the building, killing 168 people.

There was a survivor of this tragedy. An eighty-year-old native American elm tree surrounded by asphalt had provided the only shady parking place in front of the Murrah building. After the bombing the tree provided pieces of evidence – parts of car parts in its branches and glass embedded in its trunk. Limbs were cut off to get to the car parts and then someone decided it had Dutch elm disease and ought to come down completely. Luckily, Mark Bays of the Oklahoma Forestry Service stepped in and said he would test the tree for Dutch elm disease before it would be cut down. The tree proved clean of the disease and suddenly became the surviving symbol of the 4,000 pound bomb.

When hundreds of community citizens, family members of those who were killed, survivors and rescue workers came together to write the Oklahoma City National Memorial Mission Statement, one of the resolutions dictated that "one of the components of the Memorial must be the Survivor Tree."

Mark Bays was asked to develop a plan to save the tree and has taken this project on from the beginning. The asphalt was taken away and seeds were taken for seedlings to be grown. Because the roots of the tree ran so deep, a promontory was put on piers so that there would be no damage to the tree's root system. Each pier was hand dug by Bays and the construction crew. The design also included an aeration and irrigation system underneath the promontory which permits the air and water to get underneath the tree's roots. Half conduit pipes were installed over many of the main roots and filled with compost. The state-of-the-art system allows the tree to receive the appropriate amount of water and air to keep the tree growing for years.

Cuttings of the Survivor Tree are growing in nurseries all over Oklahoma. Owners of landscape nurseries, arborists, urban foresters and expert horticulturists from across the state and country have come together to work and preserve this piece of history. None of these people have ever charged for their work for the Memorial. Hundreds of seeds from the tree are distributed and today thousands of Survivor Trees are growing in public and private locations all over the United States.

The Survivor Tree is a symbol of human resilience. Today, as a tribute to renewal and rebirth, the inscription around the tree reads, "The spirit of this city and this nation will not be defeated; our deeply rooted faith sustains us."

If you cannot visit this powerful memorial in person, please visit it at [oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org](http://oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org)

\*\*\*\*\*-----\*\*\*\*\*-----\*\*\*\*\*



**Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Peggy Olin, President**

*Theme: "Growing for the Future, Planting in Special Places"*



Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the older woman that she should bring her own shopping bags in the future, because plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized and explained, "We didn't have this green thing back in my earlier days." The cashier responded,

"That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations."

She was right -- our generation didn't have the **green** thing in its day. Back then, we returned milk bottles, pop bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. We refilled writing pens with ink instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But she was right. We didn't have the **green** thing in our day.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an elevator in every shop and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two hundred yards. But she was right. We didn't have the **green** thing in our day.

We washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine, burning up 2200 watts -- wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But she was right. We didn't have the **green** thing in our day.

We had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief (remember them?), not a screen the size of a bed sheet. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't start up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working, so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she was right. We didn't have the **green** thing in our day.

We drank water from a fountain or a tap when we were thirsty instead of demanding a plastic bottle flown in from another country. We accepted that a lot of food was seasonal and didn't expect that to be available all year round by flying it thousands of air miles around the world. We actually cooked food that didn't come out of a packet, tin or plastic wrap and we could even wash our own vegetables and chop our own salad. But she was right. We didn't have the **green** thing in our day.

People took the bus, and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their mothers into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

Isn't it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn't have the **green** thing back then?



**Big Changes for WACONIAH**

By Terry Critchlow,  
Circulation Chairman

With all the fun,  
friends, and

excitement of our convention, we did some important business as well. The convention body voted to make WACONIAH available to all Pacific Region members. **All your members may now receive our newsletter by email free, no subscription fee.** We are excited with this change. This means ALL - every garden club member - can receive the latest news from all eight states in the region as well as the latest environmental and educational tips and projects. With so many using email this number collectively is very large and would be impossible to manage. Distribution will be up to each individual state.

Hard-copies, sent by mail, will be available to members that do not use the Internet or prefer in-hand copies for a \$20 two-year subscription. A new subscription form is available on the website or from any of your WACONIAH staff.

**Do YOUR part – share this newsletter with your club and district members. Spread the word!**

\*\*\*\*\*-----\*\*\*\*\*-----\*\*\*\*\*

We win by tenderness; we conquer by forgiveness.

--F.W. Robertson

**Protocol – Poetry in Action!**

By Gaye Stewart, OSFGC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President

Please listen my friends – I'll tell you true  
Protocol guides that you must do

Respect for the American flag  
On the ground, floor or water it must never drag

The speaker facing the audience to recite  
Always position the flag to their right

Check with your facility to be sure a flag is there  
It will save you embarrassment and pulling your hair

Plan ahead and personally invite meeting guests  
Treat them as royalty with care the best

A Page assigned to an honored guest is good  
It blesses the page to help – as it should

Picking them up at the airport with a smile  
Welcomes them warmly and with style

At your District or State meetings too  
There is a seating arrangement to do

Check your Protocol Handbook to see  
Where does the President sit and the rest to be

Who is presiding, the President or other  
You must know to avoid a "mutter"

The State President will call for a report

To share the good news of great import

Be ready, I say, to stand proud and tall  
About your District or Committee, tell all

Time is limited – 3 minutes to talk  
Report it all quickly before you must walk

Be gracious, courteous and respectful too  
Protocol guidance requires that you do

We are Garden Club Members, in the know  
Protocol follows us wherever we go

Friends and Communities watch us proceed  
In helping create the beauty in the world we need

Ed Note: Above presented at the Oregon State  
Federation of Garden Clubs 2014 Convention.

\*\*\*\*\*\_\_\_\_\_\*\*\*\*\*\_\_\_\_\_\*\*\*\*\*

The deeper a man digs for knowledge in his  
garden the more he realizes that he has only  
scratched the surface.

### **2014 NGC Convention Highlights Norman, Oklahoma**



Pacific Region's State Presidents attending: Left to  
Right:

Carol Mossholder (Arizona), Brynn Tavasci  
(Washington), Becky Hassebroek (Alaska), Elaine  
Gunderson, Regional Director, Ann Swider (Hawaii),  
Vicki Yuen (Nevada), Janet Petersen, (Idaho), Rita  
Desilets (California) and Peggy Olin (Oregon).



### **2014 NGC Convention – Pacific Region**

**Congratulations to Char Mutschler**, NGC Design  
Instructor, from Oregon who created the floral design  
complementing Pacific Regional Director's Project,  
"Expand Horizons - A Conservation **Rainbow**." She  
hit the mark!

### **2014 NGC Convention Recap**

*By Lana Finegold, NGC Multiple Refreshers Chairman*

*Black Gold & Red Earth* was the theme of the 2014  
NGC Convention in Norman, Oklahoma May 1-3, 2014  
at the Embassy Suites Hotel. The convention theme  
design, in the lobby, was very colorful and  
educational. Along both sides of the halls leading to  
the meeting rooms were spectacular designs by  
South Central Region representatives. On May 1, the  
Life Membership Banquet featured entertainer Argus  
Hamilton and new NGC Life Members and new  
members of the Golden Circle were inducted in lovely  
ceremonies. In addition to the many meetings and  
interesting state and regional reports, attendees were  
entertained at the opening lunch by two hilarious  
women "designers" who had us in stitches with their  
antics. And when they finished they had us up and  
dancing with parasols.

Voting strength on May 2 was 276 with 505 people  
registered. Seminars provided an array of learning  
opportunities: Behind the Scenes at WAFSA, Murphy  
Farms Organic Gardening, Mason Bees, Oklahoma  
Wildlife, Parliamentary Procedure, Oklahoma City  
Memorial Tree. The design banquet featured  
Professor Jim Johnson of Texas. See pictures in *TNG*  
Summer 2014 issue (p. 4-5). The designs were  
enormous as was the banquet room.

May 3 began with Region Breakfasts, a chance for  
Regions to come together as one. At lunch the Award  
of Excellence winners were celebrated. See *TNG*  
Summer 2014 issue (p. 16 & 17) for more about the  
winners. The 85<sup>th</sup> annual convention ended with the  
Awards Banquet complete with birthday cake (*TNG* p.  
2). Happy Birthday, NGC!

Take Home Ideas: 1-a paper Habitat for Humanity House raised money for H for H. You colored a section with markers and made a donation. Each part of the house had a monetary value. 2-Educational Exhibits were interspersed between regional designs making every walk to the meeting rooms and banquets a lovely learning experience.

Did you know: NGC is an international organization with a strong International Affiliates presence in Mexico, Central and South America? There are affiliates in Canada and Europe as well.

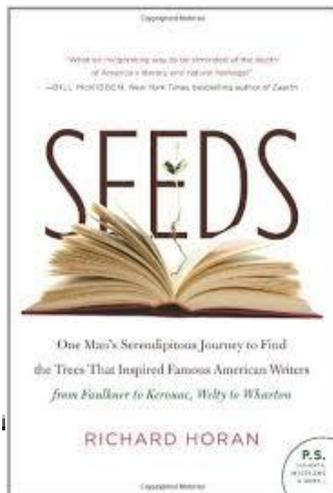
### **2014 NGC Convention Business Recap**

*By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian*

- The NGC Board of Directors met on May 2, and convention sessions took place on on May 2 and 3.
- NGC President Linda Nelson presented a State President Certificate to Janet Petersen, new President of Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc.
- 2014-2015 annual budgets of the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund, the Operation Wildflower Fund and PH&E were adopted.
- An NGC Membership Photography Contest was ratified.
- The name change of "Therapy Gardens/Gardens for the Blind/Handicapped" to "Therapy Gardens for the Disabled" was ratified.
- It was ratified that NGC share with the states fundraising oportunities of NGC partnership programs.
- It was ratified that seven years of NGC Annual Meeting Minutes be available on the NGC website.
- The North American Butterfly Association and California's Organization of Floral Art Designers were ratified as national affiliates.
- The recommendation that NGC accept the offer of Crown Bees to increase the percentage of their normal buyback price for uncleaned/unharvested cocoons from 40% to 50% was approved.
- The recommendation that NGC sponsor a tour in the 2015-2017 administration to the Galapagos Islands with optional extension for Machu Picchu and Peru's Land of the Inca (a Tri-Refresher is proposed) was approved.
- A partnership between NGC and Ames was approved.

The appointment of Elaine Gunderson as NGC contact person with Ames was approved.

- Amendments to three standing rules were made.
- Pacific Region Director Elaine Gunderson and the presidents of the Pacific Region states



reported to the convention body.

- Total convention registration: 505. Final voting strength: 319.

### **Book Review: Seeds**

*By Linda Larsen, Book Review Chairman*

*Seeds, One Man's Serendipitous Journey to Find the Trees That Inspired American Writers from Faulkner to Kerouac, Welty to Wharton, by Richard Horan 2011*

Gardeners have been known to be readers and for a travelogue combining both trees and literature this book is a thoughtful and entertaining read. Richard Horan believes "where we played as children, . . . is intricately woven into our emotional and intellectual circuitry and we carry the leafy landscapes and odors in our souls throughout our journey on earth." On a typical family vacation to Springfield, Illinois, Horan notices a photograph of Abraham Lincoln standing under a small basswood tree in front of his home. He realizes the tree, now mature, still stands. A tree once witness to Lincoln's life and a piece of the landscape which shaped his view of the world. Inspired, Horan begins a quest to collect seeds from the childhood trees of influential writers and cultural figures in the United States. What follows is an entertaining journey rich in anecdotes of the lives of the people and landscape descriptions of their homes. You will finish this book with a greater admiration for the trees in our lives and the humanity of individuals both more famous and more like us when we sit under the shade of a tree.



### **PACIFIC REGION FUNDRAISER**

Choose a Rainbow Color and Support Pacific Region

Looking for a special gift for someone? Or just freshening up your wardrobe? Match these garden- and nature-themed rainbow colored T-shirts to your personality. Support Pacific Region and enjoy the colors! Share with your clubs, districts and councils. Help spread the word!

Our Pacific Region fundraiser includes T-Shirts with coordinated caps and mugs, the colors are beautiful. Encourage your garden club members to purchase one for themselves or for a gift. They make wonderful gifts.

See the Pacific Region website for 'T Shirt Advice Sayings Rainbow Colors.pdf' with the colors and

saying on each shirt, cap and mug. There is also a separate no color order form.

*Orders must be received by Maxine Smolowitz by April 1, 2015.*

Place an order through Maxine Smolowitz, [mamolowitz@yahoo.com](mailto:mamolowitz@yahoo.com), for 12 or more items to be shipped direct to you from the vendor with no shipping charges.

Mail order form with check made payable to Pacific Region to:

Maxine Smolowitz, 3925 E 97<sup>th</sup> N, Idaho Falls, ID 83401  
[mamolowitz@yahoo.com](mailto:mamolowitz@yahoo.com), 208-523-0373

1. Your club could combine their orders (12 or more T-shirts and caps) and provide one ship address. This does not include mugs.
2. Order quantity for mugs is 12. The mugs do not have to be the same. They are shipped separately and only in increments of 12. Please provide shipping address.

### **Horticulture Tip**



Don't sow vegetable seeds too deep because it forces the young plants to struggle their way to the surface, depleting them of the energy they will need to grow and thrive above the surface.

### **Roster Changes**

Please note the following roster changes:

Butterflies Co-Chairman

Mary Lou Paulson  
360-452-7701

[chuck\\_marylou@hotmail.com](mailto:chuck_marylou@hotmail.com)

Environmental Concerns Chairman

Myrtle Findley  
PO Box 1480, Colfax, CA 95713-1480  
[Myrtle@exwire.com](mailto:Myrtle@exwire.com) H: 530-346-2450

Youth Poetry Co-Chairman

Susan M. Smith  
4546 E. La Mirada Way, Phoenix, AZ 85044  
H: 480-598-9740 C: 602-791-5650

### **Calendar of Events**

- Sep 23 – 27 NGC Fall Board Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa  
Nov 1 Director's Project entry deadline  
Jan 26 – 28 NGC Winter Executive Committee Meeting – Las Vegas, NV  
Jan 29 – 30 NGC FS Symposium – Las Vegas, NV

Apr Pacific Region Pre-Convention Fundraiser Tour

**Apr 20-22 Pacific Region 72<sup>nd</sup> Convention – Eugene, OR**

May 12 – 18 NGC 86<sup>th</sup> Convention – Louisville, KY

### **School Days**

*By Sheila Parcel, Schools Chairman*

#### **FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL**

September 30-Oct 2, Course II, Eugene, OR  
Contact: Linda Rettig, 541-754-8064  
[RettigL@comcast.net](mailto:RettigL@comcast.net)

#### **FLOWER SHOW SYMPOSIA**

August 3-5, Auburn CA  
Contact: Mary Arakelian, 916-632-0220  
[arranger1mka@yahoo.com](mailto:arranger1mka@yahoo.com)

August 26-27, Wilsonville, OR  
Contact: Sherry Cossey, 541-475-5772  
[cossey@rioussa.com](mailto:cossey@rioussa.com)

#### **LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL**

October 23-24, Course I, Santa Rosa, CA  
Contact: Marry Ann Swanson, 707-762-3118  
[emswanson@comcast.net](mailto:emswanson@comcast.net)

### **Schools Information**

*By Greg Pokorski, NGC Schools Coordinator*

I want to thank those Pacific Region members who serve on the NGC schools committees and who contribute much time and effort to make our schools succeed. Lana Finegold serves as Multiple Refreshers Chairman. Julie West serves as Vice Coordinator of Special Projects, working to develop common forms that can ultimately be used by all three of these schools. Sally Priebe serves as a GSS Accrediting Chairman and Alexis Slafer serves as a LDS Accrediting Chairman. And thank you to all in the region who promote and sponsor our schools by taking local, state and regional school chairmanships.

I challenge all of our states to conduct each of these schools as part of our mission to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forest, land and wildlife.

Historically, only three of our eight states, California, Oregon and Washington, routinely conduct Gardening Study Schools, but I am happy to report that Alaska and Idaho are each considering and trying to develop a Gardening Study School.

California's new Consultants Council, a Tri-Council, just sponsored a successful Tri-Refresher in

conjunction with our state convention. Its theme was "Together Our Choices Matter," and classroom instruction and two tours challenged us to distinguish between positive and negative environmental, gardening and landscape design choices. You are welcome to use or modify this timely theme, especially during this next year.

***Director's Travel Schedule***

**2014**

Sept 24 -28 NGC Fall Board Meeting – Des Moines, IA

Sept 30 – Oct 10

Civil War Tour to

Pennsylvania, Washington DC, Maryland & Virginia

Return Address:

WACONIAH Circulation

48933 US Highway 12

White Pass, WA 98937-9507



WACONIAH  
Vol. 42 No. 1  
August 2014

NGC Award-Winning Newsletter



**2015**

Jan 26 – 28 NGC Winter Executive Committee Meeting – Las Vegas, NV

Jan 29 – 30 NGC FS Symposium – Las Vegas, NV

Apr 9 -12 AFGC 80<sup>th</sup> Convention – Yuma, AZ

Apr Pacific Region Pre-Convention

Fundraiser Tour

Apr 20-22 Pacific Region 72<sup>nd</sup> Convention – Eugene, OR

May 12 -18 NGC 86<sup>th</sup> Convention – Louisville, KY

June 9 – 12 CGCI 83<sup>rd</sup> Convention – Reno, NV

Are you sharing this issue of  
WACONIAH with someone  
in your club or district?

*The Official Presidential - Directorial*  
**Wave**



***The Official Wave***

*By Russell Ford, Photographer*

Trend-setters Elaine and Linda show us how the

wave of champions  
is done!

---

**WACONIAH Staff**

Editor	Robin Pokorski	<a href="mailto:RobinP@juno.com">RobinP@juno.com</a>	818-361-7873
	512 Newton St, San Fernando CA 91340-2421		
Ass't Editor	Greg Pokorski	<a href="mailto:GregPokorski@earthlink.net">GregPokorski@earthlink.net</a>	
Circulation/ Boosters	Terry Critchlow	<a href="mailto:tcritchlow@aol.com">tcritchlow@aol.com</a>	509-945-5465
	48933 US Highway 12, White Pass, WA 98937-9507		