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

Vol. 39 No. 1  
Vol. 39 No. 3

The Director's Message "Looking In and Reaching Out"  
The Director's Theme "Looking In and Reaching Out"



Debbie Hinchey  
2011 – 2013 Pacific Region Director

**2012 Pacific Region Convention July 26-28  
"Midnight Sun Reflections"**

The Pacific Region Convention information is contained in this issue, including registration form and the Tentative Schedule. Make the effort to experience Alaska for yourself! NGC President Shirley S. Nicolai will be our special guest. Come greet Shirley and reconnect with garden club friends from around the region. Registration and information may also be found on the Pacific Region website.

## **Director's Message**

A new year, reminiscing, and possibly new beginnings for the future are on my mind.

After receiving several questions about "Let Us Count the Ways" project of tallying the resources donated to our communities, it now seems that all activities should be counted from outreach to bookkeeping since all contribute to the clubs' function. Everyone and everything counts if you consider it a garden club activity. There is no pressure to "do one more thing." This was meant to enlighten you on how much of a community asset you and your club(s) are, and as a basis to simplify some time-consuming activities. (See Tally-Ho article on page 4.)

It has been interesting to see how many groups have streamlined their operations to put fewer burdens on members. Some Districts have combined annual meetings and some states have switched to one day annual meetings (which Nevada has successfully done for a few years.)

With communications much easier these days, some members question the need for all of the regional chairmen when NGC chairmen can now contact most state chairmen via e-mail. We can even have "conversations" of sorts via e-mail so that everyone can get a word in and read what others have to say. I see the merits of this idea with some, but not all committees. What do you think?

I appreciate the viewpoints sent to me to make garden clubs more pertinent, attractive to new members, and fun for all. Happy New Year!

Debbie

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

Theme: "Alaskans Giving... Caring"



This President has just returned from a lovely trip to our 50<sup>th</sup> State – and as I sit at my desk writing this, the temperature outside is registering **42 below zero!** This is in excess of a 100 degree change in just a 24-hour period!!!! It's a lovely day to be safely tucked inside where I can look out upon our gorgeous pastel

skies and reflect upon what an incredible and diverse membership we have throughout our Great State, the wonderful accomplishments of our clubs and their members this past year, and the exciting plans for this New Year ahead!

Our Alaska clubs have certainly been spreading the cheer this holiday season! Not only among their own members with parties and potlucks and caroling and craft-making, but also among those less fortunate. Our members have made floral centerpieces for nursing homes and baskets for shut-ins; erected Christmas trees in public places to share with others; taken those who can't go on their own Christmas shopping; and spent countless hours one-on-one with people in our communities who need an extended family! One club had a lovely holiday flower show and tea at a local bank and accompanying museum, highlighting indoor plants, our native horticulture and crafts.

Our days are now just starting to get longer – yes, we've already passed the "hump" of the winter solstice - so our "forever optimistic" gardeners are getting out those seed catalogs and ordering seeds for our Spring plantings, planning their landscapes, and sharing their wealth of knowledge on how we can all be better gardeners and stewards of the land!

Plans are underway for our Pacific Region Convention in Anchorage in July. Alaskans are known for their great parties - this will be no different! Please join us July 26 - 28. We have a great group signed up for our Pre-Convention Tour from Fairbanks through Denali National Park to Anchorage – you'll be able to recognize us by those exhausted facial muscles from all our smiling and laughing – and, of course, those bulging eyes from all of the moose we've seen!

Our State Board has implemented many new monetary awards for our clubs and members this year, and we continue to work on bringing our bylaws up-to-date and providing our clubs and members the best knowledge and assistance that we possibly can.

And, as always, we're looking forward to Spring!

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

Everyone is invited to the 2012 CGCI Wildflower Conference which will take place in Palmdale, California on April 4-6, 2012. Highlights include the following presentations, entertainment and tour:

- **"Creating a Butterfly Garden Habitat"** by Julie A. West, President, California Garden Clubs, Inc.
- **"Highway Landscaping"** by California Dept. of Transportation, Los Angeles County
- **"California Conservation Issues"** by Steve Hartman, California Native Plant Society, Los Angeles/Santa Monica Mountains Chapter
- **"Saving the Ancients"** by Robin Kobaly, Executive Director, SummerTree Institute
- **"Antelope Valley Wildflowers"** by Milt Stark, well-known writer and photographer
- **"Natives in the Garden"** by Lili Singer, Theodore Payne Foundation
- Entertainment by the **Antelope Valley Showcase Chorus**
- Carpool to Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve, a project from CGCI's historical past that members, clubs and districts supported for twelve years with donations.

The deadline to register for the conference and the hotel is **March 23, 2012**.

Registration form: [CaliforniaGardenClubs.org](http://CaliforniaGardenClubs.org). For information, contact Operation Wildflower Chairman, Merrilee Ray at [TMRay@ridgenet.net](mailto:TMRay@ridgenet.net).



**Pacific Region Pre-Convention Tour**

By Becky Hassebroek & Robin Pokorski, Tour Coordinators

Are you sure you don't want to join us? This is a trip of a lifetime and it's gonna be great!!! Contact Robin Pokorski at 818.361.7873 or [RobinP@juno.com](mailto:RobinP@juno.com). The deadline has been extended - reserve your place today!

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

Theme: "Just Imagine"



Cool foggy winter days are luring Oregon's President into a writing mode. Skiers are sad because there is very little snow on Mt. Hood! Cross-country skiing is still available and the gyms are open to anyone needing to remove a few pounds after dining and nibbling on all those wonderful holiday goodies.

Last fall the state board met in Eugene, Oregon for a Fundraiser Tea Fashion Show to help defray Linda Nelson's 2013 NGC Convention Installation Expenses, and then drove to Cottage Grove where Sharon Wilson and Willamette District hosted our Oregon State Board Meeting. The gardens surrounding the Inn were in excellent condition and a wonderful tribute to a past designer and garden club member who had succumbed to cancer earlier in the year.

State officers have been busy visiting district meetings all fall. Next month I will give an inspirational program to clubs to help encourage members to enter our local fairs. This is one way to get flower show school credits; however, I am pleased to announce that districts are really talking about hosting small standard and small/miniature shows. Clackamas District will be hosting one during our June Convention!

Our district directors are interested in our new projects; such as community gardens and planting in public spaces which they will be maintaining. One district taught classes at a garden center this fall with the owner paying dues for new folks who joined clubs.

Oregon had a successful flower show school with ten testing and passing. The chairman and I plan to drive these students to Grants Pass for the Spring school. A marvelous Symposium is scheduled in March at the Holiday Inn, Wilsonville, Oregon. Umpqua District will be planning a Blue Star Memorial Celebration later this spring. Membership is on the top of my list - and we have had new members join. **Cedar Mill Garden Club has had 11 new members join in the last two months!**

I am encouraging Conservation of all types and Awards. We are learning that we do not have to do all that paperwork, JUST EMAIL AND USE FLICKR. We are learning that the state and national chairman will help us IF only we ASK. We are in need of a Gardening Study Chairman!

This has been and is a wonderful opportunity for me to grow in leadership roles as well as sell our programs and ideas to the public. I look forward to creating an arrangement for the flower show in Buffalo and attending convention as well as taking a quick trip to Alaska in July. I hope this finds you in great spirits and ready to plunge into new and exciting projects this coming year.

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

Theme: "Nurture Natives — and each other"



The Holidays are over, a new year has begun, catalogs have been gleaned, orders were placed for new plantings, and spring is just around the corner.

Our delightful 65th WSFGC Holiday Show " 'Tis the Season" (a Specialized-Advanced Standard Flower Show) was held at Holiday Inn,

Everett on Nov. 2-3. Many members from around the state brought 104 horticulture specimens, 86 designs, 16 artistic crafts, 14 adult and two youth educational exhibits. Youth also had 10 horticulture and 23 design exhibits. Our terrific teamwork was led by Chairman and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Terry Critchlow.

WSFGC Past President Lana Finegold will demonstrate floral designs at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show at Washington State Convention Center, Seattle on opening day, Wednesday, February 8, at 9:30 a.m., on the DIY stage. Inspired by this year's show theme, **A Floral Symphony... Gardens Take Note**, Lana will be "Creating Harmony." She will use outdoor foliage for indoor designs. We will also have a booth there. Stop by to visit.

On Monday, March 12, Gala XXXIV "By the Sea" will be held at the Holiday Inn, Everett, WA. Tickets are \$35 each. The Sales Room opens at 9 a.m. Luncheon begins at noon with the design program and auction following. Our designer is Frank Acuri from Everett who designs "out of the box" with creative arrangements emphasizing local yard materials readily available for special occasions. Go to [www.wagardenclubs.com](http://www.wagardenclubs.com) for details and to order tickets. Chairman Joyce Komnick and her committee members have been working enthusiastically to bring this wonderful event to us.

Landscape Design School Course III will be held April 24-26. Chairman Debbie Skow will gladly answer questions. Check our webpage for details.

Our clubs are growing, members are enthusiastic, and we love what we are doing.

By Sandra Ford, NGC President's Project Committee



A visit this summer to the beautiful cobalt blue alpine Lake Tahoe is a good example of what is happening to our aquatic ecosystem. From the top of a ski mountain gondola ride, a docent pointed out the changes in the lake surface. Within the last 10 years, private homes and new condos were built on the California side of Lake Tahoe. The runoff from lawns and storm drains now clouds hundreds of feet of water with sediment.

Lake Tahoe is the second deepest lake in the United States, at 1,645 feet. It trails only Oregon's Crater Lake, at 1,945 feet. Only the surface water drains after a rainstorm or after melting snow, leaving accelerated inputs of nutrients behind.

Four rivers made the list of Most Endangered Rivers of 2011: Bristol Bay River (Alaska); Yuba River (California); Green River (Washington); and Hoback River (Wyoming – which drains into the Snake River of Idaho).

The mining and smelter waste in the Silver Valley, Idaho has drained into rivers and streams, ending in Lake Coeur d'Alene and the Spokane River of Washington. Toxic metals such as lead and arsenic have sickened humans, fish and birds.

With all the government cutbacks, water is not monitored for mercury or hazardous waste. Conservation programs and environmental regulations have been scaled back. Now, more than ever, we must consider promoting alternatives to chemical use in our homes and yards, and to educate the general public. Educational displays in our libraries, flower shows, schools and garden club meetings are a great start.

Google *Water Pollution*. It will take you to many different sites such as *EPA Home*, and *American Rivers*. The educational information is priceless.

Let's join our National President, Shirley Nicolai, in *Protecting our Aquatic Ecosystems!*

By Robin Pokorski, NGC Flickr Chair, NGC President's Project

To date seven of eight Pacific Region states are represented on Flickr. **Do you mean to say there isn't ONE picture of anything any garden club in Hawaii has done?** Hasn't anyone visited and taken a picture of a Blue Star Memorial or a garden or ANYTHING that can get Hawaii on Flickr? Let's help



out our paradise state and get them on Flickr. Or maybe they don't want us to know what great things Hawaii's garden clubs are doing??

Have you checked out the pictures that the **Yuma, Arizona** area garden clubs had posted on the Flickr site? They had great ideas for displays at the Home and Garden Show in Yuma.

Send pictures to Robin Pokorski at [RobinP@juno.com](mailto:RobinP@juno.com). Then visit the site ([Flickr.com/NationalGardenClubs](http://Flickr.com/NationalGardenClubs)) and find ideas for your club.

**Tally-HO – "The Tally Project"**

By Gale Baullinger, Director's Project Chairman



Ten months to go! Now that you have had three months of practice, we need to get serious about recording our time and money. The money is easy. A report from the club president should capture most of the contributions, scholarships and other community projects. The time recording is more difficult and requires a more concentrated effort. No need to get bogged down in details. Just a quick record of the event and time spent is quite sufficient. And remember, small time expenditures add up to significant time expenditures so don't think that the little job you did for your club is inconsequential. A sheet by the computer or by the phone helps to remind us to record time. Happy Recording and we will be surprised when the "Reaching Out" numbers become reality.

**Going Green**



Collect rainwater, and use it to water your houseplants and garden. Check out this picture. The planter takes the focus off the downspout and wastes no rainwater – good idea! Add compost to the water and let steep for a couple of days and you have compost "tea" with which your plants will reward you with growth and blossoms

and fruit.



2012 Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs Convention  
 68th Annual Convention July 26-28, 2012  
**"Midnight Sun Reflections"**

Clarion Suites Downtown  
 1110 West 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Anchorage, AK 99501  
 1-907-929-6461 www.clarionsuitesak.com

Each person attending the convention must fill out a separate form.

Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

State Garden Club \_\_\_\_\_ Pacific Region (PR) Position \_\_\_\_\_

Voting Status: \_\_\_\_\_ PR Board of Directors member \_\_\_\_\_ Delegate

Please check all that apply:

- |                                   |                                 |                          |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ____ Past Pacific Region Director | ____ Pacific Region Chairman    | ____ NGC Life Member     |
| ____ Pacific Region Director      | ____ NGC Chairman               | ____ Club Member         |
| ____ Pacific Region Officer       | ____ Alternate Delegate         | ____ Spouse/Guest        |
| ____ Pacific Region President     | ____ Pacific Region Life Member | ____ First time Attendee |

Full-time Package (received by June 20) **\$220.00**  
 includes: Registration (\$35.00), 2 Banquets, 2 Lunches, all Workshops, Tour.

Full time (received after June 20) **\$235.00**

One-day Registration: **\$ 20.00**

Spouse/Guest One Meal Registration **\$ 5.00**

Friday, July 27	Lunch	\$30.00
	Tour	\$35.00
	Dinner	\$40.00
Saturday, July 28	Lunch	\$30.00
	Banquet	\$50.00



**NO REFUNDS AFTER June 30** Total \_\_\_\_\_

Diet restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

I will need transportation for the optional Sunday, July 29 free City Garden Tour

Make checks payable to 2012 Anchorage Pacific Region Convention  
 Send to: Carol Norquist, 3734 W 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99517

## Tentative Schedule

### Thursday, July 26

12:00 – 3:00 p.m. Leadership Forum  
2:00 p.m. Registration  
3:30 p.m. Finance Meeting  
4:30 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting  
Dinner on your own  
7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

### Friday, July 27

Breakfast on your own  
8:00 a.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. Opening of Convention  
9:30 a.m. Business Session  
11:00 a.m. Lunch  
12:30 p.m. Tour to Portage, Wildlife Conservation Center, Alyeska Resort  
6:15 p.m. Social Time  
7:00 p.m. Dinner

### Saturday, July 28

Breakfast on your own  
8:00 a.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. Business meeting resumes  
11:30 a.m. Lunch  
1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Workshops  
5:45 p.m. Social Time  
6:30 p.m. Banquet  
Convention Ends

### Sunday, July 29

Noon – 5:00 p.m. Optional Free City Garden Tour



Please make hotel arrangements with:

**Clarion Suites Downtown**      **1110 West 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501**  
**907-929-6461**                      [www.clarionsuitesak.com](http://www.clarionsuitesak.com)

Mention Pacific Region Garden Clubs to get the group rate of \$180 plus tax.

Ideally located in the heart of downtown Anchorage, the Clarion Suites Downtown is within walking distance of many area attractions, including the **Anchorage Visitors Center**, Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center, the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center and the Anchorage 5th Avenue Mall.

**Free hot breakfast and free coffee**      **Free wireless high-speed Internet access**  
**Free *The Wall Street Journal***              **Indoor heated pool and hot tub**  
**Fitness center**

***Alaska Garden Clubs Wants YOU to Visit***

Alaska Garden Clubs looks forward to seeing you in July. We have a lot of fun activities planned, beautiful mountains to see, the elusive moose to find, and, of course, there will be a lot of light. NGC President Shirley Nicolai will be visiting. Stay for the Sunday free City Garden Tour hosted by the Anchorage Garden Club.

Up to eight gardens around the city will be open for the public to view. Over 2000 people usually visit the gardens. We will make arrangements for your transportation if noted on the registration form. Come early or stay late to give yourself time for hiking, golf, shopping, the Alaska Botanical Garden, museums, flight-seeing and much more.

The Fairbanks Garden Club's annual flower show is July 20-21 and the Anchorage Garden Club's 68th annual flower show (held outdoors) is August 4-5. We hope you will enjoy your time in Alaska and will have many ***Midnight Sun Reflections*** to bring back to your own clubs.



A light rain is falling, but the sun is shining and you can feel the energy almost crackle...people are quicker to smile, and there is more bounce to their steps. It is spring in Seattle. Rain or shine, "RainShine," the Emerald City is awakening and all its beautiful gardens and trees are sending out new growth after the months of drizzle and cloud cover that is the maritime winter. This vibrant gardening mecca is the perfect setting for the upcoming National Garden Clubs Convention. It will be held at the downtown Sheraton Hotel May 24 - 26, 2013, and Pacific Region's own **Linda Nelson** is to be installed as the new National Garden Clubs President!

Now is the time to get on board to help make this a convention one of which all of Pacific Region can be proud. States, districts and clubs may all help with this effort by placing an "ad" in the convention program. Think of those special people who have done so much for your state, district or club and thank them for their hard work in a very distinctive way. Welcome incoming officers or pay tribute to those officers who are outgoing. Perhaps special congratulations for **Linda Nelson** as she takes the reins of NGC. You can think of any number of events or people to include in your thank-you or special "ad." Remember to get this into your budget for the 2012-2013 year and be a part of this fabulous event!

**GALA XXXIV, Washington**

By Joyce Komnick GALA XXXIV Chairman



Come enjoy the excitement, humor and 'outside the box' creativity of one of the country's top designers, Washington State's own Frank Arcuri! Frank began working with flowers at the young age of 16, selling arrangements of Styrofoam, angel hair, candles and a Madonna to family friends. This was the beginning of a now, 50-year love affair with flowers.

Tickets for the noon luncheon and design program are \$35. Contact Barb Vest at 253-588-2014 or email [BVest1@comcast.net](mailto:BVest1@comcast.net).

All proceeds benefit our Headquarters House, The Garden House.

**"RainShine"**

May 24-26, 2013 Seattle, Washington

**GARDEN CLUB ADVERTISING RATES**

**COLOR**

Full Page	4 1/2" w x 7 1/4" h	\$300
Half page	4 1/2" w x 3 3/4" h	\$150
Quarter page – vertical	2 1/2" w x 4" h	\$75
Quarter page – horizontal	4 1/2" w x 2" h	\$75

**BLACK AND WHITE**

Full page	4 1/2" w x 7 1/4" h	\$150
Half page	4 1/2" w x 3 3/4" h	\$75
Quarter page – vertical	2 1/2" w x 4" h	\$50
Quarter page – horizontal	4 1/2" w x 2" h	\$50
Two lines – horizontal only	4 1/2" w x 1" h	\$30

Please send camera ready copy electronically (preferably jpg) to [rtsuji60@comcast.net](mailto:rtsuji60@comcast.net) AND [gingerknutsen@msn.com](mailto:gingerknutsen@msn.com) and put "NGC ad" in the subject line. Deadline: March 1, 2013.

Send check payable to **2013 Seattle Convention NGC** to:

Debbie Skow, [NGC2013@gmail.com](mailto:NGC2013@gmail.com)  
1375 SW 174<sup>th</sup> St, Normandy Park, WA 98166-3462

**Attention: All Pacific Region Garden Clubbers**

Subject: Alaska Symposium

If you would like to come to Alaska this summer and are not coming for the Pacific Region in July and you need a refresher – HOW ABOUT JUNE?? – the Alaska Judge's Council is holding a symposium June 16-17. Your significant other can go fishing or play golf or hike to the top of Flattop Peak (or look for MOOSE) while you enjoy:

David Robson, University of Illinois  
Horticulture - Roses and Irises  
Allied Subjects – So you think you know the Handbook??? (Interactive)

Fran Wittgartner, Colorado  
Design - Creativity & the New Designs  
Allied Subjects – Toolbox 101

I'm wondering if Robin would come to Alaska twice in one summer if she had a chance of seeing these (sans snow of course), Sheila Parcel



By George Perko, California Garden Clubs, Inc. Financial Advisor



The Pension Reform Act of 2006 requires most nonprofit organizations, REGARDLESS OF SIZE, to be registered with and reporting to the IRS in some manner annually. The IRS has recently begun to strenuously enforce registration. The IRS is also conducting a transitional relief program for nonprofits, with reduced fees and paperwork depending on

size of the organization, which will run through Dec. 31, 2012. Virtually all garden club organizations should be filing a form 990-N (e-Postcard; electronically over the Internet), short-form 990-EZ, or long-form 990 annually, depending on gross receipts and total assets. Annual gross receipts of the nonprofit are particularly important in determining the IRS form to be used, and some major cutoff points involve gross receipts that are normally \$5,000 or less; \$25,000 or less; or \$50,000 or less.

If a nonprofit has failed to file its required IRS tax form for three consecutive years, starting with fiscal years that ended in 2007, it may be subject to automatic revocation of its tax status [501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(7) etc.] by the IRS at any time. The IRS has issued guidelines for organizations to regain their tax status, and the rules are available on the IRS website [www.irs.gov; look under heading Charities and Nonprofits]. For example, organizations which have lost their 501(c)(3) status (whether as an independent organization or as a participant in a state umbrella organization's group exemption program) can reestablish tax-exempt status, but these guidelines forbid a state group exemption program from reinstating the organization in the state group exemption program.

Many states have also enacted enhanced registration requirements. For example, in California, in 2011 all 501(c)(3) organizations became subject to state reporting requirements with both the Franchise Tax Board and the Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts. Organizations in other states are advised to review their state reporting requirements for recent changes.

The Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs, Inc. is not a licensed tax preparation firm and is unable to provide further information related to a particular organization's facts and circumstances. An organization may wish to consult local tax professionals to assist it with specific facts and circumstances.

IRS CIRCULAR 230 DISCLOSURE: To ensure compliance with Treasury Department regulations, we inform you that any U.S. federal tax advice contained in this article is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties that may be imposed under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.

By Vicki Yuen, Nevada Garden Clubs President



If you have driven on our desert highways, you have probably seen the Creosote Bush (*Larrea tridentata*). It is the airy olive-green shrub that seems so evenly spaced in the desert landscape. It can grow as high as 12 feet, but we usually see it about chest-high or head-high in the Mojave Desert. After a rain, the leaves are a rich yellow-green and you may see small yellow flowers. (These will mature into fuzzy round capsules.) In dry conditions, the leaves will show as olive-drab. In very dry conditions, the leaves that are not shed are a dead-looking brown - but if the bush is well-established, it is not dead!

Some people consider the creosote bush the quintessential desert plant. It has that aroma after a rain that is the true and familiar scent of the desert - sharp, cleansing and invigorating. It is a lovely addition to any residential desert landscape, providing needed shade for smaller plants, especially cacti and succulents.



Creosote bush may prevent certain other plants from growing nearby, though. The reason we see it so well-spaced in the desert is that its roots secrete a substance that keeps roots of other nearby creosote bushes from growing, and prevents other young creosote bushes from becoming established. (This doesn't prevent the bush itself from rejuvenating, as new growth arises from the outer edges of the root crown, away from this growth inhibitor.) In addition, the oils leached into the soil from the bush will inhibit seeds from sprouting. Seeds will sprout only after a

rain has washed away those oils. Plants which are not grown from seed should do well around the bush, however.

Creosote bush leaves are double-lobed, like a puffy V. They are unpalatable to most insects and animals. (Exceptions include a small desert grasshopper and a walking stick; these have adapted so well to the resinous leaves that they can eat nothing else.) However, the flowers are visited by dozens of species of bees and other insects. The berries will attract several species of birds.

These are extremely slow-growing plants. Specimens over 13,000 years old have been found in the California desert. Even in the nursery, with regular watering, it may take several years for the plant to reach a foot high. Individual branches usually live 20-60 years. As old stems in the center die, new ones sprout on the perimeter.

Generally, pruning is not necessary for its appearance. You may want to remove old branches. If the plant is pruned heavily, it will revive, but it will never be as pretty. When transplanted, it needs a fair amount of water to get established - daily for a week, then weekly until it is settled in its new home.

#### **Calendar of Events**

Mar 7	California Arbor Day – Plant a California redwood!
Apr 1-7	Oregon Arbor Week – Plant a Douglas fir
Apr 11	Washington Arbor Day – Plant a western hemlock
Apr 27	Arizona Arbor Day – Plant a paloverde!
Apr 27	Idaho Arbor Day – Plant a western white pine!
Apr 27	Nevada Arbor Day – Plant a single-leaf piñon or bristlecone pine
May 16-19	NGC Convention, Buffalo, New York
June 3-9	National <b>Garden</b> Week
July 21-25	PR Pre-Convention Tour
July 26-28	68 <sup>th</sup> Pacific Region Convention, Anchorage, Alaska

#### **Issue Deadlines**

<b>May 2012</b>	<b>deadline 03-25-2012</b>
August 2012	deadline 6-25-2012
November 2012	deadline 9-25-2012
February 2013	deadline 12-25-2012

#### **School Days**

*By Elaine Gunderson, Schools Chairman*

#### **FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS**

February 9-11, Course I, Cottonwoods Resort, Scottsdale, AZ

Contact: Sharron Luoma, 480-585-7673  
[luoma@cox.net](mailto:luoma@cox.net)

April 17-19, Course IV, Sacramento, CA

Contact: Carolyn Flynn, 530-389-2549  
[duoflynn@earthlink.net](mailto:duoflynn@earthlink.net)

April 24-26, Course III, Clarkston, WA

Contact: Edith Cole, 509-843-1010  
[edithcole@wildblue.net](mailto:edithcole@wildblue.net)

May 9-11, Course II, Grants Pass, OR

Contact: Suzy Twist-Powell, 541-862-7090  
[sueann@banyanfinancial.com](mailto:sueann@banyanfinancial.com)

#### **FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL SYMPOSIUM**

February 12-14, San Diego, CA

Contact: Laura R. Crenshaw, 619-435-1631  
[Rock1221@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Rock1221@sbcglobal.net)

March 27-28, Wilsonville, OR (Holiday Inn)

Contact: Sherry Cossey, 541-485-5772  
[cossey@rioussa.com](mailto:cossey@rioussa.com)

Char Mutschler, 503-585-5023

[charfloral@comcast.com](mailto:charfloral@comcast.com)

#### **GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL**

July 2-3, Course I, Encino, CA

Contact: Robin Pokorski 818-361-7873  
[RobinP@juno.com](mailto:RobinP@juno.com)

#### **LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL**

April 24-26, Course III, Normandy Park, WA

Contact: Sue Williams 206-988-5158  
[suendave\\_163@comcast.net](mailto:suendave_163@comcast.net)

#### **The Joe Show**

#### **Invitational Design Program and Fundraiser**

*By Elaine Pinkerton, Washington*

The "Joe Show" will be held March 23 at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, 2650 148<sup>th</sup> Ave, SE, Bellevue, Washington. This event will be a designer's challenge to raise money for the 2013 NGC Convention. Invited designers will be supplied with sculptures from Joe's large collection and flowers. Designers will draw for these items then be given a time limit to complete the design in front of the audience. All designers will be working at the same time. Our own Iron Designer challenge. Lunch will follow after the program.

Tickets are \$20, on sale now. For information contact Elaine Pinkerton, 360-668-0243 or [Pinktwo2@att.net](mailto:Pinktwo2@att.net)



Return Address:  
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 850 Grandview Rd  
 Sebastopol, CA 95472-2930

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 February 2012

**NGC Award  
 Winning Newsletter**



*You should pat yourself on  
 the back – you take  
 WACONIAH by email.  
 Thank you!*

**Leadership Forum – Pacific Region Convention, Anchorage**

Thursday, July 26, 2012 – 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Led by Robin Pokorski, 2007 – 2009 California Garden Clubs, Inc. President

What do YOU need to know to be a presiding officer or treasurer or secretary? What do YOU need to know to handle difficult members? What do YOU need to know to increase membership or motivate your current members to participate? Come to the Leadership Forum – now, don't get scared but it's three hours – yes, three, but it's action-packed! Two hours just wasn't long enough to answer all the questions at the last five forums in California. You'll learn lots and have a good time learning it. Bring your questions and issues and a pencil to take notes, there'll be plenty of ideas to share with your club.

**Leadership is ...Rewarding, fun, interesting ..... make the most of your position!**

**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>	
Subscriptions/ Circulation/ Boosters	Dave West	<a href="mailto:JDavidWest@aol.com">JDavidWest@aol.com</a>	707-829-9342
	Julie West	<a href="mailto:JulieAWest@aol.com">JulieAWest@aol.com</a>	850 Grandview Rd, Sebastopol, CA 95472-2930