

WACONIAH

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

Vol. 47 No. 4 Director's Theme: **"Reconnect to YOUR Pacific Region"**



2019 – 2021 Pacific
Region Director
Robin Pokorski

**THE CALL to the
PRGC Convention is
in and
attached to this
issue.**

Director's Message

You've done it again – submitted so many wonderful articles. I enjoyed reading every one! The region is revving up and ready to spring into spring! I hope to see you at Convention. Bring a friend, someone new in garden club – show them what the buzz is all about. See page 2 for what's happening in our region!

I am so grateful to know you and to be able to call you friends – boy am I lucky, or what! I can hardly wait to see the moose pictures entered in the Photo Phundraiser.

Robin

P.S. There are only a few spaces left on the post-convention tour – won't you fill our bus? See page 2. Are you and ALL your club members going to enter the Photo Phundraiser? Remember BIG CASH prizes to the club that enters the most photos. See page 2.

CALL to Convention

All members of the Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Board of Directors are called to the PRGC Convention in Silverton, Oregon to be held at The Oregon Garden, April 27–30. All officers and chairmen are expected to present an oral report. State Presidents, you are expected to present a video report (no more than 10 minutes, please). Please advise if you will not be attending.



Judy Shelton is a **GEM** because of her gracious and capable presence as Arizona President.

~ Robin Pokorski

Come See Oregon!

By Peggy Olin, Convention Chairman

Pacific Region Convention

April 27 – 30, 2020

"Connecting in a Kaleidoscope of Colors"

Silver Falls State Park: Truly the Crown Jewel of Oregon State Parks - over seven miles of canyon trails wind past ten spectacular waterfalls.

The Lodge and other buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Dining: Restaurants offer something for everyone's tastes. Mexican, Italian, Thai, Northwest Cuisine and American are just a few of the specialties you'll find. Silverton has your hunger covered.

Shopping: Looking to find a true treasure? You'll find it at one of Silverton's unique and eclectic shops. Apples to Oranges knitting supply, fabric, arts & crafts, and Boutique stores offer everything from fine antiques to the funky must-have.

Nearby Wineries and Brewery: J. Albin Winery, Silverton Wine Bar & Bistro,

Walk around the peaceful **Mount Angel Abbey:** set high above Mt. Angel on a 300 foot bluff, this is a century old Benedictine monastic community built in 1883 by Swiss Benedictine monks. Tour the lovely chapel and lobby gallery, or visit the rare book room. You can also enjoy the Benedictine Brewing at the Abby where they grow their own hops in their backyard.

Play a round of golf at the Evergreen Golf Course: This outstanding golf course is just five miles from Silverton city center.

Gallon House Bridge: Oregon's oldest covered bridge. It was named for the days when liquor was sold by the gallon or quart in a nearby house.

Gordon House: Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, widely heralded as the greatest architect of the 20th Century. It is the only Wright-designed building in Oregon and the only one in the Pacific Northwest that is open to the public. Located on the grounds of The Oregon Garden. Separate admission is required to the Gordon House.

Photo Phundraiser – Special Event

By Karen & Paul Ramsey, Contest Chairmen

The Photo Phundraiser will be held at the Pacific Region Convention at The Oregon Garden in Silverton, Oregon, April 27 – 30, 2020.

Rules and the online entry form are available on the PRGC website.

Enter your pictures in one of ten categories (5 categories in color and black/white):

1. Landscapes / gardens
2. Animals
3. Insects and birds
4. Single bloom
5. Director's choice – **MOOSE**



\$5 per entry or 5 entries for \$20 – all phunds raised go to the Region. Cash prize to BEST IN SHOW! and to the club with the most per capita entries!

To enter contact Karen or Paul Ramsey, 541-479-5513 SierraKR@aol.com

Please participate and make this a fun and lucrative fundraiser for YOUR Pacific Region!

What's Cookin' in the Pacific Region

By Robin Pokorski, Cookbook Chairman Cohort

Pacific Region is proud to debut its **"What's Cookin' in the Pacific Region"** cookbook at the 2020 Pacific Region Convention. I have long thought that garden clubbers are some of the best cooks around and wanted to share YOUR great recipes. Recipes were solicited from all of our Pacific Region states. The only caveat was that a main ingredient needed to be grown or come from your state. I had hoped for at least 10-12 pages, I thought 30 pages would be ideal, but I was blown away at your response and you will find more than 125 pages of fabulous culinary delights from all around our region. You people are simply the best!

Advance orders are being taken. Reserve your copy today with me. The price will be set as soon as the printer gives me her bill. The books will be available at the Sales and Treasures Table at Convention.

Do you love that Washington apple cake? It's in there. Do you crave a good Alaskan salmon recipe? It's in there. Remember how good that Potato Soup was? It's in there, too! **Be sure YOU have a piece of our Pacific Region history.**

CONVENTION CALL DOCUMENTS ARE ATTACHED TO OR INCLUDED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

2020 Post-Convention Tour – April 30 – May 2

By Bob Gordon, Tours Chairman

Are you going on the Post-Convention Fundraiser Tour with us? If so, it's time to get out the checkbook and send your \$25 refundable deposit to Becky Hassebroek, PRGC Treasurer, 518 Slater Dr, Fairbanks, AK 99701 by **February 15, 2020.**

Day 1 – Thursday, April 30 –

Participate in the Scavenger Hunt at The Oregon Garden.

Day 2 – Friday, May 1 – McMinnville, Oregon

Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum; lunch with McMinnville Garden Club; Durant Olive Mill and pizza party!

Day 3 – Saturday, May 2 – Corvallis, Oregon

Chintimini Wildlife Center; brunch on your own; Hudson Victorian home tour; tea; Victorian floral design demonstration

**Space is limited.
JOIN US FOR THE
FUN!!**



Cost: \$225 per person - balance due March 15, 2020.

What's Comin' Down the Pacific Region Pike

By Robin Pokorski, Director

We've got a lot going on in the Pacific Region. And I hope you each are a part of some aspect.

At our Convention in April at The Oregon Garden, we gather on Monday, April 27 – the Board of Directors will all be meeting in their respective Team Meetings. I hope ideas are shared and action comes out of these meetings.

Then we hold our Pre-Convention board meeting where the board will do a little board business.

Each meal will present ideas to be shared, so I hope you attend and take these ideas back to your club, district and state.

The final evening on April 29 will involve lots of us as we play *Pacific Region Jeopardy*. We considered inviting Ken Jennings but we didn't want to embarrass him if he didn't know as much about the Pacific Region as he knows about everything else.



When someone asks what I did over the weekend, I squint and ask, "Why, what did you hear?"

State Presidents' Reports

This term, the state presidents are writing their reports based on a common assignment. **What partnerships does your state have? How were they obtained?** If your state isn't featured it's because nothing was submitted!



Robin Pokorski is a **GEM** because she came to Washington to help Chinook District celebrate "Christmas Over the Top."
~ Jeanette Pruin

Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc. **Judy Stebbins, President**

Theme: "Make a Difference Whenever, Wherever and However You Can – in Your Garden Club, in Your Community and in Yourself"

Our latest Partner is the online group "Las Vegas Gardening Community" with over 3000 followers. The Springs Preserve, a part of the Las Vegas Water District, allows us to have an information table at their twice a year Plant Sale. Volunteers Aleta MacFarlane and Karen Elliott met some people from the online group and established a relationship. In Jan. we will host them at the NV Garden Club Center for a "Seed Swap". This will be great for making us more visible in the community and for gaining new members who are already interested in gardening.

From Sunset Garden Club, Henderson, NV President Nancy Bovill:

"Sunset Garden Club partnered with the City of Henderson to establish and maintain a rose garden in memory of one of our founding members. The garden is located in front of the Silver Springs Recreation Center where it is visible to the public. We often get comments from passers-by on how lovely it is.

In conjunction with the Henderson Libraries, our members provide gardening support and interaction for their summer children's reading program. This year's summer theme was "Outer Space Alien Gardens". In past summers, the children created "Fairy Gardens" and "Dinosaur Rock Gardens". Sunset Garden Club provides the expertise of our gardeners, as well as the soil and plants. This is a fun way to teach the students basic gardening skills.

From Joyce Stork, Secretary Glitter Gulch African Violet Gardeners:

"Teaching 6th Graders African Violet Propagation Skills

In 2018, the Glitter Gulch African Violet Growers began a leaf propagation project with Faith Lutheran Middle School in Las Vegas, Nevada. The school is the largest Lutheran school in the nation, and up to 250 students are in the 6th grade each year. That year also marked

the opening of the Williams Research Greenhouse on the school campus.

Joyce Stork, a member of the club and a former teacher, had done a similar leaf propagation project in Nebraska. Stephen Blank, the department head for the greenhouse was a fellow church member of Joyce's. Once Joyce realized Stephen had students studying horticulture in a greenhouse and Stephen realized that Joyce had a workable curriculum, the project came together quickly. It was a natural fit for the GGAVG club members to participate.

The project begins each fall with a 20-minute presentation explaining the project and introducing students to African violets in a convocation. Soon after that, the students see a video showing the procedure. The actual putting down of the leaves is done over 5 days in November, working with two groups of 25 students for 25 minutes each day in the greenhouse. Joyce leads the students through the steps, while club members provide additional assistance at each of the four lab tables.

In January, the club checks on the progress of the leaves and corrects problems as necessary. And in March, the pattern is repeated in a second set of labs in which students divide the clumps of new plants. The project finishes in May when Joyce leads a second convocation with all the students reviewing how to care for violets at home. The students take their violets home soon after.

The greenhouse is well-funded, so all materials are paid for by the school. The teachers are enthusiastic about what students learn. The project is in its second year and will continue in the foreseeable future. Club members have cross-trained so that the project could continue without Joyce.

Students who participated in the first year are now sharing photos of how their violets are blooming at home. In May of 2020, these first-year students will be invited to exhibit their violets in a special class at the GGAVG annual AVSA-judged show. Students will also be featured in a lecture about how easy it is to propagate violets and grow them in a desert climate. It is hoped that parents and students will have their interest reinforced by the experience, but it will also help GGAVG assess how well the curriculum is working and what might need to be improved in the future."

Thanks to all our Nevada Garden Clubs for looking for ways to make a difference in our Community!



Congratulations to the **Rose Garden Club**, member of Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc., on its 70th Anniversary. The High Tea Celebration was a **GEM** of an event!
~ NGCI Friends

Youth and Gardening Programs

By Aleta MacFarlane, Youth Gardens Chairman



The Nevada Garden Club Center building is located in Lorenzi Park, one of the oldest parks in Las Vegas. It's about two miles from downtown Las Vegas. The land was purchased by a Frenchman for farming in 1912. It was developed into a park in 1926 after a checkered past.

One of our neighbors in the park is Acelero Head Start preschool. The Desert Gardeners Club, one of the Nevada Garden Clubs, developed a reading and gardening program for about 70 four-year-olds at Acelero. We taught a 30-minute class once a month. We

read a book and followed it with a short hands-on project. We read about worms, soil, and planting bean seeds. We planted bean seeds with the children. We read that ladybugs and butterflies are good for plants, but caterpillars and larvae are not. We brought samples of

bean plants that had been food for caterpillars for the children to see. We told them that the caterpillars ate their bean plants! These little kids remembered what we did from month to month! At our last meeting with them, we gave them a certificate of completion with their name on it. We got big smiles for our reward!

When we found out that we could not have a garden area, Dave Masur, a club member, built a portable garden. Bean seeds were planted at school, taken home by Karen, and brought back at the next lesson.

Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Judy Shelton, President

Theme: "Grow and Grow"

Garden Club Partnerships and Collaboration

Most people think of Arizona as a big, dusty desert and are surprised to learn that agriculture is Yuma County's number one industry and the winter vegetable capital of the world.

Marlena Parrott reports the Western District of Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs' work is in collaboration with the **University of Arizona**, which includes the **Cooperative Extension**, the **4-H Program**, the **Master Gardener Program**, and the **Research Farm**. Garden clubs draw on the knowledge and expertise of researchers, scientists, and professionals in



providing programming at meetings, garden shows, community workshops, and events. Garden Clubs serve as judges at competitions, such as the **Yuma County Fair**, and panelists at round table discussions, troubleshooting gardening problems and concerns. They also utilize meeting spaces and the available resources for meetings, fundraisers, and community events. They draw on the youth to share and educate, participate in Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs contests, and instill the love of gardening. Through the process, the 4-H members learn leadership skills, while promoting 4-H and representing both Garden Clubs and 4-H in a positive light.

Karen Bowen of Pecan Grove Garden Club in Yuma teaches flower arranging to a **Girl Scout** group before the fair each year. This past year the club provided materials to the girls for them to enter their projects in the Yuma County Fair. There was a class on pollinators and native plants. The Girl Scouts planted native plants in the Children's Section of the **Moody Garden** in Yuma. There are several Girl Scout badges that can be earned by learning about gardening and design from garden clubs. One of the badges is Mr. Smarty Plants.

Lydia Reibel is also involved with Kids Growing Strong (kidsgrowingstrong.org), a 501(c)(3) organization. Lydia and her husband Roy attend the **Home and Garden Show** in Yuma each year and represent Kids Growing Strong. The emphasis is on promoting strong minds, strong bodies, and a healthy lifestyle through garden-based education.

Judy Tolbert is heading up the **Landscape Design School** Committee in Phoenix. They met with the Assistant Extension Agent, Kelly Young, at the **Maricopa County Extension Center** in early 2016. Details of the National Garden Clubs Schools program and curriculum were presented. It was determined it was a good fit for both parties. Landscape Design School would offer an opportunity for Master Gardener Advanced Training and, in return, would have use of the extension facility for the courses. Collaboration with the **Maricopa Master Gardeners** has been extremely successful and resulted in 17 new Arizona Landscape Design Consultants and three New Mexico Consultants after completion of Series One.



Kim Rosenlof has organized the Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs' presence at the **Home and Garden Show** in Phoenix. This year they will have their own booth and have many activities planned. Among the speakers and demonstrations will be container gardening, composting, and seed saving.

Evie Campbell of Scottsdale Garden Club and several volunteers meet once a month with patients at a **Nursing Home** for Garden Therapy. They make table centerpieces depicting various holidays. The rule is that each piece must contain some type of plant or flower.



Partnerships that OSFGC cherishes.

The Oregon State Garden Clubs have a close partnership with **The Oregon Garden in Silverton**. This collaboration started when Jan Iseli was President of the Oregon State Garden Clubs from 1997-1999. She and

her husband were very much involved in the establishment of The Oregon Garden. Jan Iseli's family had a tree nursery in Boring, Oregon which brought her in contact with The Garden from the beginning. No wonder The Garden was her State President's project, and she was involved in many projects there. The OSFGC joined as a founder under Jan's leadership.

OSFGC has helped fund different partnership projects at The Garden, such as the fifth-grade education program. When Marcia Kay Whitelock was president from 2005-2007, she worked closely with The Garden and promoted the Frank Lloyd Wright designed "Gordon House" there. Marcia still keeps us informed about all the happenings at The Garden.

The last two years under President Gaye Stewart's leadership, we were able to hold our Fall Garden Fair in the big Hall in The Garden. It was satisfying to work together with The Oregon Garden staff. There were many interesting vendors, besides our educational and informational Garden Club booths. We organized workshops and had children's activities. It was overall a wonderful event!

Last October, in connection with the fair, we placed a Blue Star Marker by the entrance of The Garden. This marker was appropriately dedicated to Jan Iseli.

We can't wait to welcome everyone in the Pacific Region to Oregon and The Garden in April!

Our Districts have their own partnerships. One is a close partnership with the Dufur School. Phyllis Olson is the driving force behind the youth program at the school and works closely with the teachers. Together they built greenhouses, and both the Garden Club and the school get satisfaction from this partnership.

Many clubs partner with the merchants in their towns and, as a thank you, these clubs hand out swags or wreaths during the Holiday season to these partners. Many clubs or districts also have partnerships with their local, and sometimes historical gardens, and homes.

In my own district we have a close partnership with the library. We care for their plants, participate in their Street Fair and organize programs. The library lets us use their meeting room for free and even does the PR for us! We have welcomed quite a few new members that way.

This partnership goes back many years. Our district evolved from a Library Gardening Club that started in the 1930s!

California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Shane Looper, President

Theme: "Plant America – Plant Parks"



Finding partnerships and sponsors for our clubs can be as easy as connecting with your city or community groups. The Parks and Recreation Department or City Council in your community is always looking for organizations to join in planning or volunteering to assist in developing new parks or restoration of parks

and even to assist in improving public places other than parks.

This is a simple way for your club to get interested in community projects with your city. These partnerships can help with funding of a project or even help with grant writing. This is also a simple way of partnering with your city which may lead your club to connect with businesses. Many cities link with local businesses at community events, and it is our opportunity as a club to reach out to these businesses who want to improve the environment and have them sponsor our events. Believe it or not, many companies require their employees to do community service. And, as you meet these employees you find out that they are very interested in gardening and creating partnerships with garden clubs. Your club can join forces with businesses and individuals. Give it a try!

California Garden Clubs recently has established a fund for restoring Blue Star Memorials, as we have found that we had Memorials that were installed by clubs many years ago that are no longer in existence. CGCI's Board of Directors felt that we had to start to restore some of these memorials back to their original condition. We are now establishing a list of Blue Star Memorials to restore and plan to have them restored possibly before the end of 2020.

"Blue Stars Shine in the Pacific Region"
Director's Special Project

By Diane Franchini, Director's Special Project Chairman

It's Not Too Late



Greetings to all garden club members in the New Year. In December, with the holiday planning, decorating, cleaning, shopping, wrapping, cooking, and entertaining taking up every extra minute – you might think that **Blue Star Marker** Projects took

a back seat. Oh no, that's not the case at all. On my way to a Chinook District Garden Club Holiday Luncheon in early December, I took several phone calls and answered a couple of emails regarding **Blue Star Markers** during the two-hour drive. (Good thing my husband drove me to the event!)

I am amazed at how much activity has been generated around Robin Pokorski's Project, "**Blue Stars Shine in the Pacific Region.**" With such a heartfelt message that **Blue Star Markers** make in honoring our military and providing a permanent reminder in our communities, the amount of activity shouldn't be surprising at all. At present I am tracking the progress from research to dedication for 30 projects in 6 of the 8 states. It is entirely possible that your project is not even among those counted because you haven't (YET) sent me your club, district, or state information. The good news is that it is not too late to take on a **Blue Star Marker** project during Robin's term of office. It's not too late to get your name on the list of celebrated successes at the April convention. Just email me at franchinisd@gmail.com to be added to that list.



Speaking of dedications, to my knowledge there have been six dedication ceremonies since Robin took office. The most recent went 'over the top' in terms of location, timing, and being a first class ceremony, not surprising since the project was chaired by Greg Pokorski, Southern California Garden Club President. I was honored to be asked to join in the festivities at the Dedication Ceremony held at the Ronald Reagan

By Cheryl Drumheller, Water Issues Chairman

Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, California, December 11, 2019. The weather was perfect, the setting breathtaking, the Presidential Library outstanding, and the ceremony very moving. Approximately 60 guests were in attendance to witness a well-orchestrated event.

I mentioned the timing of this project earlier. When Greg and Robin heard that a special fighter jet was being donated and installed on the grounds of the Ronald Reagan Library, they jumped into action and placed a rush order to Sewah Studios so that the marker could be in place the week before their dedication – when lots of high ranking officials would be in attendance. Everything fell into place like clockwork. Thank you Sewah Studios for all that you do to make these dedications possible.

So no matter where you are in this process of adding a **Blue Star Marker** in your community, remember that there are resources available for you along the way. **Need some help with funding??** There's a grant for that (contact Diane Franchini at franchinisd@gmail.com). **Have a question or looking for a little advice??** I am willing to do some of the legwork for you to get you an answer. **Don't want to be left out in April when the "Blue Stars Shine in the Pacific Region" celebration begins??** Just drop me an email to join the growing list of participants. Want Robin Pokorski to attend your Dedication Ceremony?? It's not too late to send her a request to attend, but her calendar is filling up. Together, we can all make **"Blue Stars Shine in the Pacific Region."**

Attention ALL PRGC State Presidents

By Marlene Kinney, Life Membership Chairman



**TOGETHER
WE CAN DO IT**

In my efforts to simplify the PR Life Membership process and to increase memberships, I emailed each State President with questions. To date I have only received a response from Arizona, California, and Oregon. **What's up in Washington, Nevada,**

Idaho, Alaska, and Hawaii? I would love to hear back from you. Let's **Reconnect to Your Pacific Region** and make things better. Together we all can do this. Let's make our PR Director proud by supporting her and increase Life Memberships. Remember, the money raised through life memberships supports our scholarship program.

You can email me at marlenekinney@comcast.net or phone me at 925-693-0245. I will look forward in hearing back from those who have not responded to date.

Happy New Year to everyone.



Idaho's Water Quality 2019 – The Top Water Problems in Major Cities

Ninety-five percent of the state's drinking **water** comes from ground **water**, beneath the surface, and is stored in aquifers. As aquifers store **water**, they also absorb minerals and metals. These minerals and metals are not essentially harmful, but can cause

problems such as hard **water**, offensive odor, bad taste, and discoloration. Soap scum and limescale build-up on appliances, plumbing or supply lines are common in homes using hard **water**. Those who bathe in hard **water** often complain of dry, itchy skin.

Another source of **water** comes from lakes, rivers, and streams, either to supplement ground **water** or the primary source for areas lacking access to aquifers.

Common **water** problems in major cities –

Boise's **water** source is from public and private wells, with hard **water** problems.

Meridian's **water** source is public wells with hard **water** problems and water discoloration from iron and manganese, however, the city has taken several measures to remove the discoloration.

Idaho Falls' **water** source is public wells and the East Snake River Plain Aquifer. With their **water** pulled from an aquifer below the surface, there is a lack of pollutants and contaminants which makes the **water** safe to drink with minimal treatment and disinfection, however, there is hard **water**.

Hard **water** is safe to consume and not considered unhealthy. Yet, problems evolving from hard **water** can cost you money through increased soap usage, frequent appliance replacement, damage caused by limescale build-up in showers, tubs, and sinks, and damage to pipe and **water** heating units. To correct **water** hardness, there are a variety of **water** softener and conditioning systems available to improve **water** quality.

Tomato Time Approacheth

A little baking soda can help you grow sweeter tomatoes. A regular sprinkling of this kitchen staple into your plant's soil can help reduce acidity, which sweetens up your crop.



For the Love of Flower Show Schools

By Marva Lee Peterschick, Flower Show Schools Chairman



Serving as the symposium chairman back in 2002 turned out to be one of the best decisions I ever made. Donna Schumann was the horticulture instructor for our school. I had the opportunity to visit with her over dinner the night before the symposium started, and she explained to me how short National Garden Clubs, Inc. was of horticulture instructors. After she explained the requirements and she reviewed my credentials, it was a mutual agreement I should apply to become an instructor. Donna became my mentor as I wrote outlines, and she encouraged me all the way. By spring of 2004, I was certified and getting calls to teach at Flower Show Schools. For fifteen years, it has been a huge part of my life. I've had the pleasure to teach in almost all of the Pacific Region states many times over and met some wonderful garden club members.

The time comes when one must make a decision to move on with their life and tackle new adventures, so National Garden Clubs, Inc. was notified that I wished to be classified NGC Instructor Emeritus with regret as of December 31, 2019.

One of my goals now is to encourage other horticulturists from the Pacific Region to apply to serve as a horticulture instructor for NGC. It is sad that we have so very few instructors from this area. It would be an advantage to have more instructors as the Flower Show Schools would cost less - the committee would not have to pay for instructors to fly all the way from the east coast to the west coast to teach our schools and symposiums. The form to apply to be an instructor is on the NGC website: www.gardenclub.org, so go there and look it over. The easy part is filling out the form, but you must have the time to serve; it's an ongoing education. If you have any questions, I would love to be a mentor like Donna Schumann was for me. Contact me anytime at davidpeterschick@hotmail.com

Do You Know...?



... the coldest temperature ever recorded on the planet?

Answer on page 18

Crater Lake National Park in Oregon

By Cynthia Frederick, National Parks Chairman



Crater Lake became the 5th National Park in the United States. It is the only true National Park in Oregon, although there are many other National Monuments and Historical Parks within the state, all possessing exceptional value and quality.

The park spans 183,224 acres with the deepest lake in the nation as well as breathtaking scenery to be explored year around. There are four other national park sites in Oregon: John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, Oregon Caves National Monument, Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, and the McLoughlin House, which is part of the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site.

The lake itself sits in the caldera of Mt Mazama, a volcano that erupted with a force 42 times greater than that of Mount St Helens some 7,700 years ago. The intense heat completely sealed the bottom of the caldera, creating a basin that turned into a pristine lake over thousands of years. It's the deepest lake in the nation. Skiing, hiking, and camping are just a few of the many opportunities to enjoy.

Crater Lake has an excellent travel rating for a very good reason. It's beautiful, family friendly, and the locals are exceptionally gracious to those coming to marvel at its wonders. With spectacular views and fantastic photo ops, it's no surprise that Oregon is home to some of the most beautiful country to be explored.

It's worth exploring.

PRGC GEMs

By Michele Noe, GEMs Chairman

Thank you to all who've supported the GEM fundraising program of the Pacific Region Garden Clubs. You are all GEMs.



Michele Noe, Chair
For more information about the program
email me at prgcGEMS@gmail.com

Get Those Winning Posters in the Mail

By Charlotte Tucker, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Chairman



This is a reminder that the FIRST PLACE winning Smokey Bear Posters from your state, one from each grade, **MUST** be sent to:

Pacific Region Poster Chairman Charlotte

Tucker, 18047 Lime Kiln Road, Sonora, CA 95370 **before February 24**, so we can judge them and have them ready to send to NGC by March 16.

For years my local garden club paid for all the prizes we gave to our poster winners, BUT, . . . several years ago I was able to befriend my local U.S. Forest Service people. And hooray! They stepped up and have been helping me with prizes and arranging for Smokey and or Woodsy to attend awards assemblies at all our schools, too.

Since I became a VIP with Cal-Fire, I also get support from them. I now help out in the Forest Service and Cal-Fire booths at our local Fair in the summer, and also have been allowed to honor our state winners at our California State Fair, with the Forest Service and Cal-Fire providing games and goodies for the student winners and free tickets to our state fair, which include a parking pass for each family. Our winning posters are displayed at our local County Fair, and our State winners' posters are displayed at our California State Fair.

Contact your local Forest Service office and ask. You might be surprised at the friends you'll meet there and the help you'll receive from them, BUT . . . you have to ask.

Remember "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires".

Contact me if you have questions or concerns about your poster contest. The contest is my job and I love it, so call me. That's what I'm here for, and I'd love to hear from you.

Phone: (209)533-9300 or ctucker@mlode.com



Cher Habriel is a **GEM** for working so diligently to make our Region Cookbook a reality and a success.

~ Robin Pokorski

Roominate

- to consider the price of accommodations.

Oregon is Going for the Gold (or Blue Star in this Case)

By Nancy Ebsen, Oregon's Blue Star Markers Chairman

In 2019, OSFGC was honored to dedicate three **Blue Star Markers**. In May, a By-Way marker (#83) was dedicated in Newberg at the Newberg Memorial Park by the Chehelam Garden Club. In September, OSFGC dedicated a **Blue Star Memorial Marker** (#84) at The Oregon Garden in Silverton. This marker was especially done in memory of Jan Iseli, former OSFGC President and **Blue Star Marker** Chairman, as well as one of the founders of The Oregon Garden. In October, a Gold Star By-Way Marker (#85) was dedicated in North Bend at the David Dewitt Veterans Memorial Wayside by Coos Bay Garden Club.

We look forward to dedicating more in 2020, beginning with the rededication of the Biggs Junction **Blue Star Highway Marker** (#17), destroyed in the late 1960s and never replaced. It will be done on March 29 in conjunction with the OSFGC Spring Board Meeting, at the Deschutes River State Park at its junction with the Columbia River. We also plan a rededication and move of the Washburne Memorial Marker (#6) to the South Benton Museum. Our dreams include possible new markers at Bly in Southern Oregon, Camp Rilea on the Oregon Coast, and the Memorial Park in Wilsonville. At this point we dream big and pray for more. We are blessed with a dedicated group of **BLUE STAR MARKER** warriors.



The world's smallest park is located in
Portland, Oregon



Silverton, Oregon has been chosen as the site of the 77th Pacific Region Convention. You may possibly be traveling through Portland on your way to The Oregon Garden Resort, site of the convention. The Hoyt Arboretum would be a beautiful and informative detour.

Only two miles west of Portland, Hoyt Arboretum was founded in 1928 to conserve rare endangered plant species and to educate the community. Its 189 acres provide 12 miles of trails featuring over 2000 trees from all over the world. This is a living museum from six continents.

More than 6000 trees and plants in Hoyt Arboretum are online in a plant data base. Most of the trees at the Arboretum have a proven provenance, meaning they were grown from seeds collected in the wild. The Arboretum has documentation on where and when the seeds were collected. The data base allows the user to search for plants by family genus, species, common name and location in the Arboretum. Informative black placards indicating tree species with common names, scientific names and their global locations can be found around the trees. Also, an online plant inventory is available for your portable electronic device. Additional signs along the trail provide even more information about the collections in view.

Many trails will bear the name of the trees growing there. There are the Wildwood, Hawthorn, Maple, and Holly Trails. You may be lucky enough to catch the annual Magnolia Tour in April to see the wide variety of magnolias blooming then.

Some miles of trails are paved, some packed with gravel, and some are natural earth trails. Maps are available online or at the Visitor Center as well as self-guided hiking tours. A ½ mile ADA/Accessible Trail takes you above the Visitor Center and vistas of Mt. St. Helens, and Mt. Rainier can be seen on a clear day.

Drinking fountains, restrooms, and a picnic area are at the Visitor Center.

Visit hoytarboretum.org for more information or call 503 – 865 – 8733.

Oregon is Home to the Shortest River

At 121 feet, D River happens to be the shortest river in the world. Surprisingly, the river did not have a name when it was listed in the Guinness Book of Records and was just referred to as the “shortest river in the world.”

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an ecosystem based approach to insect and disease management. IPM seeks to create garden and farm environments conducive to healthy plant development and beneficial insects, and less hospitable to pests and disease. As in human health management, some key actions are preventative rather than responsive. Specific control actions employed will vary with crop type, season, amount of pest pressure, and environmental conditions, but generally fall into one of several categories.

Natural Controls. While the gardener has no influence over natural controls, it is helpful to understand how they intersect with the gardeners’ goals and situation. For example, mountain ranges to the west of the Klamath Basin are a natural control, slowing migration of pest insects from the coast and valley into our growing area. Our dry summer climate means that Klamath gardeners will encounter some plant diseases less frequently than in the Willamette Valley. Conversely, the abundant moisture this spring in the Klamath Basin meant that certain diseases, like powdery mildew, were more prevalent than in recent years.

Cultural Controls. These include a wide variety of practices around the way we raise (culture) our plants. Overhead watering is more likely to favor disease development than drip irrigation. Plants spaced too closely to each other or a building’s foundation are likely to harbor insects and disease in interior pockets impervious to wind and cold. Companion planting is a popular practice that could be considered a cultural control, although controlled research on companion planting suggests there is more nuance to it than some writing on this topic suggests. **Host plant resistance**, varieties that are less susceptible to pests, is sometimes lumped with cultural controls in IPM literature, or may be listed separately. Resistant varieties do not exist for every plant/pest combination, but should be used where they exist.

Physical/Mechanical Controls. Fencing, traps, barriers, covering plants with a cloth to prevent egg laying, mulching, reflective tape to deter birds - gardening catalogs are full of examples of physical and mechanical IPM controls not usually explicitly described as such. Drastic commercial examples include the use of air cannons in berry orchards, programmed to go off at irregular intervals to deter bird feeding. (Mostly, the cannons just interrupt the feeding.) A far more festive option is the use of “inflatable dancers”, commonly used in car sales lots to deter birds from leaving droppings on cars. Those same dancers are effective as scarecrows in berry orchards: see <https://fruitgrowersnews.com/article/inflatable-dancers-scare-off-birds/>.

By Cheryl Drumheller, Oregon

Biological Controls. Sometimes shortened to “biocontrols”, this category includes beneficial insects and mites, whether naturally present in the system or purchased at an insectary and introduced into the crops. Also included are pesticides derived from plants or bacteria - think Bt, Neem, and similar products. Termed biopesticides, this is an area currently seeing lots of research and advancement. While not all beneficial insects or biopesticides are available (or economically feasible) for homeowners at this time, recruiting beneficial insects into the home garden to control some pests is fairly easy: provide appropriate habitat and plant material. The Xerces society provides detailed information on how to go about providing beneficial insect habitat: https://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Habitat-Planning-Beneficial-Insects_Feb2017_web.pdf.

Chemical Controls. While there are no restrictions on the types of pesticide used in an IPM program (i.e., organic or conventional), chemicals are always considered the option of last resort in an IPM program - due to potential impacts to beneficial insects and to the greater environment. Generally, IPM recommends that the pesticide used be specific to the problem insect or disease instead of broad spectrum, and practitioners are encouraged to use the product with the least potential for negative environmental impacts. Surprising to some, when all potential impacts are considered, sometimes the IPM practitioner will choose a conventional pesticide over an organic one. For example, many organic insecticides have a very short window of effectiveness, meaning that in some situations they will need to be applied multiple times over a growing season. Compared to a conventional pesticide providing longer protection without impacts to beneficial insects, the organic treatment requiring multiple tractor passes over a field and significantly more labor may be less optimal. One detailed discussion of conventional and organic pesticides covering misconceptions about the use of pesticides in organic agriculture can be found here: <https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/science-sushi/httpblogsscientificamericancomscience-sushi20110718mythbusting-101-organic-farming-conventional-agriculture/>.

Some of the practices that now fall under the umbrella of IPM, like crop rotation, have been practiced in agriculture for centuries. Others, such as biopesticides, are rapidly changing and growing in today’s agricultural environment. The concept of using all the tools available to manage pests rather than reliance solely on chemicals, thus reducing negative impacts to the environment, is central to IPM. The Master Gardener plant clinic in Klamath County is open through September and able to assist with questions about implementing IPM in home gardens.

Point Man Ministries (PMM) in partnership with Coos Bay Garden Club dedicated a Gold Star Memorial By-Way marker at Dewett Veterans Memorial site, North Bend, Oregon, October 5, 2019. This was ten years in the making by PMM. The marker is a tribute to all Gold Star Families whose loved ones paid the ultimate price.

Those in attendance witnessed the moving tribute as Patriot Guard (motorcycle) Riders stood with flags in hand during the dedication. Bandon Veterans Honor Guard presented the Colors and provided the three-volley rifle salute. During the military tribute, servicemen stood proudly as their service medley was played. Nancy Ebsen, Oregon Blue Star Chair, spoke of the history of the Blue and Gold Star By-Way Memorial Markers. After a moment of silence, Emerald Russell, a Marshfield senior, sang “If Heaven Was Needing a Hero.” In closing, dual taps were played, followed by the U.S. Coast Guard flyover (Air Station North Bend). This was such a moving tribute.

The wreath was made by Mary Kerr, President of Coos Bay Garden Club and Rogue District Director.



Remember, if you lose a sock in the dryer it comes back as a Tupperware lid that doesn't fit any of your containers.



Barn owls are one of the most distributed birds in the world, found on all continents except Antarctica. Barn owls occupy a wide range of habitats and altitudes: forests, deserts, grasslands, agricultural fields and urban areas. They are medium size nocturnal raptors. Females are larger, darker and more spotted than males: 13-16 inches tall with a wing span of 39-49 inches. In winter, they roost in dense conifer, caves, buildings or barns. Their diet consists of small mammals, especially rodents. They also eat birds, reptiles and insects. The barn owl's ability to locate prey by sound is the best of any animal that has ever been tested.

Washington Owls: Thirteen owls are residents of Washington State: barn, barred, boreal, burrowing, flammulated, great horned, great gray, long-eared, spotted, western screech, northern saw-whet, short-eared and snowy owl.

Arizona Owls: Arizona has thirteen species of owls. Year-round owls in northern Arizona are the barn, western screech, great horned, Mexican spotted, northern pygmy and northern saw-whet. Desert owls include the great horned, barn, burrowing and the elf owl. Summer can bring the burrowing and the flammulated owl and, on rare occasions, the long-eared owl. The whiskered owl is a small owl of mountain oak forests in southeast Arizona that winters in Mexico.

The Elf owl is mainly limited to the south and central part of the state. The owl prefers deserts dominated by the saguaro cactus, mesquite trees, and riparian canyons dominated by sycamores found in elevations between 3000 and 5000 feet.

California Owls: The great horned, western screech and the barn owl are year-round residents of Southern California. The burrowing owl makes its home in abandoned underground rodent burrows in desert areas. Nesting grounds in Southern California are vital winter hold-overs for burrowing owls that migrate. The population numbers of the northern pygmy and northern saw-whet owls are dwindling due to the loss of preferred habitat by deforestation and urban encroachment.

The California Spotted owl lives in forest habitats of the western slope of the Sierra Nevada mountains and the

coastal range beginning in Monterey County extending to Baja California in Mexico.

Northern California is home to many owls: great gray, California spotted, barred, great horned, western screech, flammulated, Northern saw-whet, northern pygmy, long-eared, short-eared, Burrowing and barn owl.

Oregon Owls: Oregon has fourteen species of owls: barn, flammulated, western screech, great horned, snowy, northern pygmy, burrowing, barred, great gray, long-eared, short-eared, boreal, northern saw-whet and the northern spotted owl.

On the Oregon Conservation Strategy Species List are owls in need of conservation help. They include the Flammulated owl, Northern spotted owl and the Great gray owl.

Nevada Owls: Nevada is known for its rugged landscape and unique biodiversity. Nevada is home to twelve species of owls and home to the lightest one - the elf owl which weighs around 14 ounces. Great horned owls are the largest nocturnal raptor weighing between 2-4 pounds. Other species include the western screech, northern saw-whet, long-eared and burrowing owl.

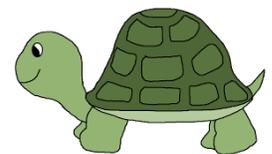
Idaho Owls: The resident owls are the barn owl, flammulated, western screech, great horned, northern pygmy, burrowing, barred, great gray, long-eared, short-eared and northern saw-whet. Winter visitors are the northern hawk and snowy owl. Several Idaho owls are strictly nocturnal. The barn and long-eared owl become active only after dark. The burrowing and pygmy owls are more likely to be diurnal - active during the day. The great horned owl is crepuscular - most active at dawn and dusk.

Alaska Owls: There are ten species of owls in Alaska inhabiting landscapes as diverse as the windblown treeless tundra of the Arctic, the deep still boreal forest of the Interior and the moss-draped rainforest of the Southeast.

The great horned, boreal, snowy, barred, great gray, northern hawk, northern pygmy, northern saw-whet, western screech and short-eared owl. The northern hawk owl pursues its prey during the day in the spruce and fir forests.

Hawaii Owls: Two owls inhabit Hawaii. The introduced barn owl and the native pueo, known as the Hawaiian short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus sandwichensis*). This owl is diurnal – a day-time hunter.

It's the start of a brand new day, and I'm off like a herd of turtles.



The Five-Ws Club

By Sheila Parcel, Book of Recognition Chairman

You ask... What is this new Club? It's not NEW...Just a new name for PRGC Book of Recognition!

The Five-Ws Club of PRGC!!!.....

Do you have a member in your club, your district, or in your state you would like to honor with a donation to the PRGC Book of Recognition? Please note that your honoree need not be a member of the PRGC Board (although it would be acceptable). These funds go towards scholarships. Don't look any further... JOIN THE FIVE-Ws CLUB OF PRGC.... All you have to do is answer the five Ws of RP Elves... (that would be Robin's Elves).

WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY???.

and donate to the PRGC Scholarship fund in the name of your honoree. Submit the check payable to Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. and mail to Sheila Parcel, 2711 W 100th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99515. Your nominee will be added to the PRGC Book of Recognition which will be displayed at every PRGC Convention.

Oregon Welcomes the Pacific Region

Excerpts from *Mental Floss*



The name 'Oregon' is believed to have come from French word 'ouragan' (meaning "windstorm" or "hurricane") referring to the powerful chinook winds of the Columbia River.

Founded in 1859, Oregon is known for its wild west past, its quirky present-day traditions, and its many natural marvels (including the world's largest living organism).

Oregon is home to the biggest mushroom on earth. Spanning approximately 2.4 miles in Oregon's Blue Mountains, the enormous honey fungus is believed to be somewhere between 1900 and 8650 years old.

Give Native Plants a Chance!

By Jennifer Culp, Native Plants Chairman

At this time of year, the typical plants that come to mind for interior and exterior decorating during the holiday season are Poinsettia, Mistletoe, English Ivy, and Holly. All are excellent choices! When I was a young lass growing up, my mother would spray paint pine cones with gold paint and place them in a large Cornucopia. She would hand me the hand cutters and send me out into the yard with instructions to cut off some Flaming Thorn branches loaded with berries for her. She would wash the branches off in the kitchen sink and trim them to fit her needs, and the Cornucopia would be arranged to show off the wonderful bright red berries mixed with the freshly painted gold pine cones. The Cornucopia would then adorn the dining table from Thanksgiving through Christmas Day and beyond.

I was reminded of this Christmastime memory while I was enjoying the red berries on the native plant known as "Toyon" in the Rose Family. It grows to be a large plant with lovely white flowers, with various colors of berries following later. The berries are initially unpalatable due to cyanide, but later ferment to the point that birds can appear "impaired" after consuming large amounts of them. Don't try this yourself!

What other native plants do you decorate with during the holidays? Do you use pumpkins, squash, gourds, junipers, various trees, and other varieties mixed in with



your native pine trees? We'd love to hear suggestions and ideas from you!

Give native plants a chance!

When you ask me what I am doing today, and I say "nothing," it does not mean I am free. It means I am doing nothing.

By Brynn Tavasci, Historian and Project Chairman

Kristie Livreri, 2007 - 2011 president of Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc., was installed as Pacific Region Director April 22, 2015 in Eugene, Oregon. The theme for her term was "Look to the Garden through the Eyes of a Child – A Kaleidoscope of Possibilities," and the Unified Project was "Pacific Region Works with Children."

The 72nd Pacific Region Convention "Beyond the Neon" was held April 5-7, 2016 at Green Valley Ranch Resort in Henderson, Nevada. There was a pre-convention tour to Hoover Dam and Lake Mead. Other highlights included a Blue Star Memorial rededication and tour of the beautiful Springs Preserve and a design program by Helga Salmon. Workshops included "Kids Growing Strong" and "Parliamentary Procedures for Garden Club Meetings."

The 73rd Pacific Region Convention, "Best of the Northwest-the Pause that Refreshes" was held April 18-20, 2017 at the Embassy Suites in Tukwila, Washington. The Honored Guest was NGC President-elect Nancy Hargroves.

Pacific Region voted to continue as a region, achieved 501(c)(3) status, and approved new Bylaws.

Officers:

Director	Kristie Livreri
Alternate Director	Vicki Yuen
Recording Secretary	Sheila Parcel
Corresponding Sec.	Sherry Cossey
Treasurer	Becky Hassebroek
Historian	Jeanette Pruin
Parliamentarian	Greg Pokorski
WACONIAH Editor	Robin Pokorski
Website Chairman	Carol Norquist
Advisor	Elaine Gunderson

State Presidents:

Washington	Terry Critchlow
Arizona	Judy Tolbert
California	Sue Bennett
Oregon	Shirley Schmidt
Nevada	Nancy Lee Loesch
Idaho	Janet Peterson
Alaska	Marti Black
Hawaii	Ann Swider

WARNING

There is an email going around offering processed pork, gelatin and salt in a can. If you get this email do NOT open it. It's spam.

By Kristie Livreri, Scholarship Co-Chairman



Martha Smyser and I will be waiting by the mailbox during the week before March 1. By now, state scholarship chairmen should have received applications for the Pacific Region Garden Clubs'

\$1,000.00 Scholarship. Last year four applications were received. We are certainly hoping to double that amount.

Please refer to the website regarding requirements. We look forward to forming a committee to review applications and reward the winner.

Please note that the same person can be the applicant for the National Garden Clubs Scholarship, and California may submit two applicants for the National Garden Clubs Scholarship.

Good luck to all applicants.

Arbor Days Around the Pacific Region

By Mary Lou Goodwin, Arbor Day Chairman

Hawaii - 1 st Friday in November	Kukui Tree
California - March 7-14	California Redwood
Oregon - 1 st full week in April	Douglas Fir
Washington - 2 nd Wednesday in April	Western Hemlock
Arizona - Last Friday in April	Palo Verde
Idaho - Last Friday in April	Western White Pine
Nevada - Last Friday in April	Bristlecone Pine
Alaska - 3 rd Monday in May	Sitka Spruce

National Arbor Day is on the last Friday of April and celebrated at the same time by 28 other states.



HOW TO PLAN AN ARBOR DAY EVENT

1. Determine the date of Arbor Day in your state.
2. Choose the type of tree planting project you'd like to organize.
3. Decide who needs to be involved: adults, children, both?
4. Organize a planning committee and set a date for the event. Encourage involvement of scout troops, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc. if desired.
5. Choose the planting site and species and get all the necessary permits.
6. Analyze needs and costs; set a budget. Get trees donated, if possible.
7. Raise funds; recruit volunteers.
8. Order trees and supplies.
9. Invite media participation.

Washington Consultants Council Tours PowellsWood Garden

By Lana Finegold, Correspondent

Photos by Al Finegold



On October 10, 2019, the Washington Consultants Council toured the PowellsWood Garden in Federal Way, Washington.

The tour guide was Justin Henderson who is head groundskeeper. This garden surrounds a former home and includes many garden rooms. It also features some tropical plants, like banana trees. Admission fee is \$7, and the fee is reciprocal with some other gardens in Washington State.



Justin started by telling us that, for many years, the soil was built with thick layers of mulch. By building the soil, it can now support many diverse plants. The banana trees are purchased each year and rapidly grow huge, while other tropical plants and Northwest plants fill the border. Because this garden is near water, the climate is moderated to accept some tropical plants.

This garden also supports a forest with a viewing platform. The forest is comprised of Northwest Natives, and these are enhanced with an enormous display of fuchsias during the late summer. We could see



woodpecker holes in some of the tree trunks. The forest area includes many fern varieties and deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs.



After the tour, the Council elected new officers, ate a potluck lunch, and had an official meeting. The new officers are Terry Critchlow - President, Barb Purdey - Vice President, Debbie Angel - Secretary, and Lona Carter is continuing as Treasurer. Outgoing President Sally Priebe installed the new officers and conducted the meeting.

Youth Essay Contest

By Ann Wallace, Youth Essay Contest Chairman



Title:

"MY FAVORITE GARDEN"

What kind of garden is it?
Does it have flowers?
Vegetables? Butterflies?
Did you plant it? What
makes it special to you?
What did you learn from it?

Section A: Grades 1 to 3 (30 to 50 words)

Section B: Grades 4 to 6 (100 to 200 words)

Original essay using one side of an 8½ x 11" sheet of paper.

May be computer-generated. Attach name of writer, grade level, address and sponsoring club or affiliate.

Due March 15, 2020. Winning essays will be published in *WACONIAH*

Send to Ann Wallace, 11276 Via Vista, Nevada City, California 95959. Questions??: annrwallace12@aol.com

Gardener's Tip



Fasten a chip bag clip over both garden gloves' cuffs when not using them to keep spiders out. It will also be easier to find the pair. Use peppermint oil around windows and doors and mist vinegar near entryways to block common pests from entering your domicile.



This camel is a critically endangered species living in parts of China and Mongolia. Only about 1,400 Wild Bactrian Camels survive.

Most live on the Lop Wild Camel National Nature Reserve in China, with smaller populations in Mongolia.

They are large double-humped camels and native to Asia. These camels have long narrow slit-like nostrils, a double row of long thick eyelashes, and ears with hairs to provide protection against desert sandstorms. They have tough soles with two large toes that spread wide apart and a horny layer that enables them to walk on rough and hot stony or sand terrain. Their thick and shaggy body hair changes color to light brown or beige in the winter.

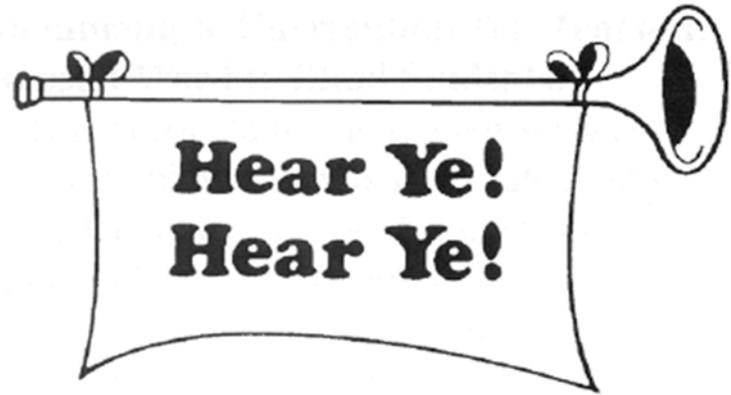
This camel is one of the few mammals able to eat snow to provide itself liquids in the winter. While the legend that camels store water in their stomachs is a misconception, they are adapted to conserve water.

Wild Bactrians face many threats, the main one being illegal hunting for their meat. Hunters have been killing them by using land mines in the salt water springs where the camels drink. Other threats include scarcity of access to water, attack by gray wolves, and toxic effects from illegal mining.

Pacific Region States' Websites

PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

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



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Your Name Needs To Be In Lights!
There Are Awards You Need To Win!**

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WANTED

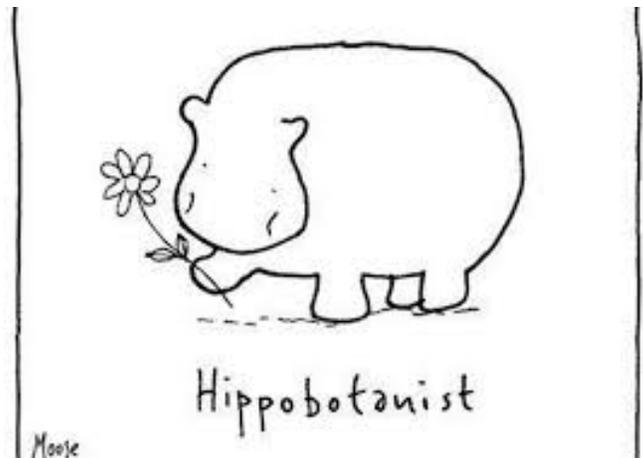
Clubs that have a positive membership gain. We need to know what you're doing RIGHT!

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PLEASE CONTACT YOUR MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE IMMEDIATELY!

NGCMemberships@gmail.com

907-456-3066



By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian



New Edition of Robert’s Rules is Coming

Be aware that the 12th edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised* (RONR) will be released at the National

Association of Parliamentarians’ National Training Conference in San Antonio, August 28-30, 2020. If your club is in need of a copy of RONR at this time, you might want to borrow it from a library or someone rather than purchase a new copy of the current 11th edition. Once the 12th edition is published, it will automatically become “the rulebook” for the many organizations which have adopted RONR as their parliamentary authority. Plan to acquire the new edition once it is released.

Convention Approaches

The Call to the Pacific Region Convention is out. PRGC board members (officers, state presidents, former directors and committee chairmen) are expected to attend. Our bylaws state that attendance at PRGC meeting is expected of Executive Committee members (officers and state presidents) and our standing rules state that committee chairmen attend the annual convention and report as requested, and if unable to attend, request permission to be excused from the Region Director and prepare written reports as requested.

Convention includes committee meetings limited to members of those committees (Executive Committee, Finance & Budget, Organization Study), the board of directors meeting (all are welcome, but only board members have a vote), and general convention sessions open to all (board members and official delegates of the member states have a vote). Each member state garden club is entitled to two to twelve official delegates, depending on its membership numbers as stated in our standing rules. Convention is not only when the business and administration of the organization is carried out on behalf of the membership, but is also an opportunity for networking, education, celebration of garden club accomplishments, and planning for the year ahead. There are meetings of the various teams of committees (remember that in the garden club world our committees are often committees of one – you, the chairman), workshops, informative speakers at meals, presentation of awards, recognition of accomplishments and tours.

Board members and convention delegates should know which meetings they are to attend and be familiar with the issues that are to be voted upon. If in doubt, ask the parliamentarian or the director. Come to convention and be a part of parliamentary procedure in action. And come to convention to have fun, learn, and get information to share with your clubs, districts and state organizations.

By Debbie Angel, Washington

Gardening School Series 12, Course 3 will be held in Federal Way, Washington, April 13-14. Subjects to be covered will include: Factors that influence plant growth, New plant development and evaluation, Container gardening – outdoor, Houseplant basics, Teaching tour of the Rhododendron Species Foundation Garden, and a supplemental topic to be named later.

The School host is Marine Hills Garden Club. The Local Chairman is Debbie Angel, debbielangel@gmail.com, and the Registrar is Dorothy Hitchcock, dhitchcock72@gmail.com.

Registration includes complimentary refreshments and lunches.

Registration:

- Full-time, April 13 & 14 \$85
- One-day registration \$45
- Exam or Refresher fee \$5
- Late fee (after April 1) \$10
- Cancellation fee \$10

No refunds after April 6

So You Wanna Recycle?

By Gail Vanderhorst, NGC Recycling Chairman



Remember the great pumpkin pies and apple pies from Costco that we all enjoyed over the holidays? Well, the plastic pie holders make great indoor or outdoor plant saucers, and you will have no more stains on your carpeting, wood floors or patios. Not the aluminum pie tin but

the outer plastic pie holder. Or you can plant succulents in the plastic pie holders. Just poke a few holes in the bottom if you want to plant succulents. They look great and are a nice neutral cement color that doesn't interfere with your décor. Save a few and try it out.



Botanic Gardens in Your Neck of the Woods

By Harriet Vallens, Botanic Gardens Chairman

This garden club member has never had an opportunity to spend three or more days in a hotel surrounded by a botanic garden. When we go to Silverton, Oregon for our Pacific Region Convention, all attending will be fortunate to enjoy the views of The Oregon Garden from multiple parts of The Oregon Garden Hotel and Resort.



First, some history of this property. Beginning thoughts of an Oregon garden were formed by the Oregon Association of Nurseries in the 1940s. It was conceived as a public showcase. Almost fifty years passed before the Oregon Association of Nurseries started looking for a location for the garden. At the same time, the City of Silverton was looking for a way to use reclaimed wastewater. A two-hundred and forty acre site was on a master plan in 1966. Groundbreaking took place in June of 1997. The Garden officially opened in 1999, with several U.S. officials participating in the ceremony.

The original park drew many visitors. Within a few years there were several costly early expansions and a decrease of visitors, creating financial losses in the early 2000s. Contributions from the city, county, and state



enabled the park to continue operating, but that was not enough to keep it solvent. In 2006 The Oregon Garden Foundation turned over the operation of The Garden to the Moonstone Garden Management Corporation, while the Foundation continued to have ownership. Moonstone purchased 11 acres of land from the City of Silverton near the already built water features. Moonstone built a 103-room resort hotel on the land. The hotel opened in 2008. The arrangement had

Moonstone repaying a \$5,000,000 bond from the revenue of the hotel-resort and Garden. This Oregon Garden Hotel and Resort will be the beautiful site for our 2020 Pacific Region Convention.

There are many special features to visit while we are in The Oregon Garden. By the year 2005 there were twenty specialty gardens. Among them are: a Jackson and Perkins Rose Garden, a Children's Garden, a Silverton Market Garden, a Conifer garden with one of the largest collections of dwarf and miniature conifers in the U.S., and a 25-acre grove of native Oregon white oaks. The Water Gardens are particularly beautiful. In addition to the gardens, there is an amphitheater for concerts and events and a house built by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1964 in Wilsonville - transported to its present site in 2001.



The Oregon Garden is sustained totally by reclaimed wastewater from a treatment plant on the grounds. This treatment plant not only provides water for all of the gardens year-round, but also provides water for farmland and for habitat for amphibians and waterfowl in the surrounding area. The final treatment of this wastewater is in a series of 25 ponds on the grounds of the Gardens.

I am so looking forward to visiting all of this beautiful botanic garden with you while we are at our Pacific Region Convention April 27-30, and Post-Convention Tour April 30-May 2, 2020.

Issue Deadlines and Issue Focus

The deadline for the May 2020 issue is 3-31-20. The issue focus is: ***How is getting clubs to work together accomplished in your state? What projects/activities are happening that involve more than one club?***

Answer to "Do You Know"



The coldest day ever recorded was -144 degrees Fahrenheit, recorded in Antarctica. Even moosies won't go there!



The Pacific Region (8 states) is collecting ideas from each state to assemble into an action-packed, success-oriented Membership Idea Book. Has your state submitted its great ideas to be included in this helpful publication?

If not, it's not too late, but you'll need to quickly send your membership ideas to Gaye Stewart, Membership Chair; RosesRemembered@aol.com. Remember our Region's goal is to grow overall membership by 20% by 2021; NCG's goal is 21% (which is 10% each of the next two years). We've got to get our "Hustle On" to reach these goals!!!

Here's a couple of membership ideas Karen Bowen, Arizona Western District Director, submitted for inclusion in the new membership book in process:

1. "Once Upon a Time" (Build a fairy garden) - A garden club invites adults and/or youth to bring a container and their favorite tiny fairy to the event. The club provides plants, soil and gravel to create a fairy garden. Handouts are given to those in attendance listing the club's meeting information and the monthly speakers for the year. Tri-folds giving information about the club can be displayed.
2. "Art in the Garden" (Local artists, both adults and youth, create a painting or other type of artwork, such as beading, molding clay or creating gift cards, in a garden or park.) - The public is invited to walk around and view the artists at work and vote for their favorite artist. The artist earning the most votes by the public is awarded the "People's Choice Award" and a cash prize. Local high school or college art teachers judge the artwork and award "Best in Show" and "Most Creative Artwork" and give cash prizes. Artists can sell pieces they have already completed at the event. The club can sell refreshments as a fundraising event. Tri-folds giving information about the club can be displayed and handouts about monthly programs and location of meetings can be given to the public.

Remember to "Invite, Invite, Invite." Use a club business card with time, day and address of the meetings. Put your phone number on the card in case there are questions later. If your club has a website or Facebook page, add that information to the card.

Now, let's do this – Build your membership. Challenge your members to bring a guest to each meeting. Remember, I want your success stories and ideas to incorporate into our Pacific Region Membership Handbook!



Basil grows best in a sunny location and needs a well-drained, rich soil. Plants started indoors and hardened off in May can be planted outside to their permanent location and spaced about 2" apart. Since moisture is important to a good crop, mulching the area will not only discourage weeds but will maintain the moisture level of the soil, keeping the plant healthy.

Basil prefers a soil pH of 5.5 to 6.5. Fertilize it sparingly as this decreases the fragrant oils. To encourage a bushy, healthy plant and to maximize production, don't be afraid to prune it a lot. Pinch off the flower buds as soon as they begin to emerge. I usually prune it every two to three weeks.

The foliage is easily bruised. Just brushing against its foliage releases its wonderfully spicy fragrance. Varieties can grow to a height of 2½ feet and about as wide. Foliage colors range from pale to deep green, vivid purple, and even purple laced with goldfish yellow foliage. The texture varies from silky and shiny to dull and crinkly.

Flowers appear in summer as whorls on the ends of the branches and are either white or lavender. Some of the unusual fragrances and flavors include cinnamon, lemon and anise.

The ideal time to harvest basil and other herbs that are to be dried is on a sunny morning immediately after the dew has evaporated and before the day becomes too warm. When harvesting basil, cut it back to about 1/4 of an inch above a node. Leave enough foliage on the plant so it can continue growing healthy.

There are several methods you can use to dry basil; all methods are relatively simple. First dry basil in small bunches by hanging them upside down in a dark, dry, warm, well ventilated room. Use twine, rubber bands or twist ties to hold the bundles together.

Second, you can dry the leaves on screens placed outside in the shade on a hot day. Cover them with cheesecloth to keep the leaves from blowing away.

Still another method of drying is on a low setting in the microwave. Lay the basil on a paper towel and cover it with another paper towel. It could take up to three minutes to dry in the microwave. Stop periodically throughout the drying process to turn the basil to help promote quicker drying and to avoid burning.

It is difficult to dry herbs without burning them because of the hot spots in the microwave. If you smell the herb as its drying, chances are you have lost many of the fragrant oils. After drying the basil, store in a sealed, preferably dark container away from the heat.

By Robin Pokorski, Director



Did you look at the January puzzle? That's how I spent New Year's Day creating that for you. I laughed so hard. It's available on our website or from me. Thanks to those of you who are playing along. **The first person to correctly complete the puzzle and return to me will receive 10 points. Everyone who returns the puzzle will receive 2 points (and a bonus of 5 points if complete).** A fabulous prize awaits the winner in Silverton!

You can still submit prior puzzles if you haven't looked at the answers.

Director's Calendar/Travel Events

- Jan 27-29 NGC Winter Executive Committee Meeting – St. Louis, Missouri
- Feb 3-6 Official Visit – California Garden Clubs, Inc. and Tri-Refresher
- Feb 10-13 Leadership Workshop, Brandon, MS
- Feb 19-21 Flower Show School, Las Vegas, NV
- Mar 27-31 Blue Star Dedication, Dallas, Oregon & OFSGC Spring Meeting
- Apr 9-18 Leadership Workshop, Tampa (Deep South Region and Florida Federation)
- Apr 27-30 PRGC Convention, The Oregon Garden, Silverton, Oregon
- Apr 30 – May 2 PRGC Post-Convention Tour
- May 12-15 NGC Convention, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- May 26-30 California Convention, South San Francisco
- Jun 7-8 Oregon Convention, Wilsonville
- Jun 8-10 Official Visit - Washington Convention, Ellensburg
- Jun 11 **Blue Star** Dedications (2), Washington



Hopefully the Director will be attending some **Blue Star** Dedications and visiting your state.....

Calendar of Events

- Feb 15 \$25 refundable deposit for Post-Convention tour due to Becky Hassebroek
- Mar 15 \$200 balance for Post-Convention tour due to Becky Hassebroek
- Apr 15 Last day to postmark convention registration
- Apr 24 National Arbor Day
- Apr 27-30 Pacific Region Convention, Silverton, OR
- Apr 30 – May 2 Post-Convention Fundraiser Tour – McMinnville and Corvallis – **JOIN US!**

Please update your Directory with the following:

Add-ins

Official Calendar – Internal Organization Team
Orvalita Hopkins – August 26
 4136 N. 4th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85013
 602-206-6070 Orvalita@hotmail.com

Official Calendar – Internal Organization Team
Carol Mossholder – April 26
 2020 W Cactus Run Dr, Green Valley, AZ 85622
 520-625-0705 CMossholder@cox.net

Changes:

Carol Vallens' address - 19448 Blackhawk Street, Porter Ranch, California 91326

Nita Wood's home address - 3125 Link Ct. S., Salem, Oregon 97302

Resignations/Deletion:

Sally Priebe – Official Calendar Chairman
 Merrilee Ray – Xeriscaping Co-Chairman

School Days

By Launa Gould, Schools Chairman

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL

February 19-21, Course 3, Las Vegas, Nevada
 Jean Engelmann, 702-456-3126
WJEngelmann@gmail.com

GARDENING SCHOOLS

February 15-16, Course 3, Turlock, California

March 7-9, Course 1, Turlock, California

March 28-29, Course 2, Turlock, California

April 18-19, Course 4, Turlock, California
 Contact: Berni Hendrix, 209-402-2351
Distdirvld@gmail.com

April 13-14 Course 3, Federal Way, Washington
 Contact: Debbie Angel: Debbielangel@gmail.com

TRI-REFRESHER

Feb 3-6 Long Beach, California aboard the Queen Mary!
 Contact: Alexis Slafer, 323-292-6657
AJSlafer@gmail.com

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