



WACONIAH

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

Vol. 38 No. 4

The Director's Message

"Birds, Bees & Butterflies: Protect, Feed & Enjoy"



Sandra Ford

2009 – 2011 Pacific Region Director

Director's Message

Scottsdale, Arizona was the place to be for the Pacific Region Convention. The committee worked hard for over 2 years for a great convention. Renee Blaschke, National President, was our honored guest.

This was the end of this administration, but our work is never done. We can always do more and make things better for our communities and our children. Our birds, bees and butterflies are still in decline and need all the help we can give them.

"Gardening is the promise of rebirth, hope and acceptance brought on by nurturing Mother Earth" (quote from USA TODAY). Gardening and birding

are in the top 10 category for exercising for fun, our health, for our wildlife and a **greener** earth. You can get more exercise in 10-minutes of gardening than you can in 10 minutes working-out on a treadmill...and it is a lot more fun!

Our members embraced our National President Renee Blaschke's projects of "Planting it Pink," community gardens, and especially planting daffodils. So many new Blue Star Markers now sit in a bed of daffodils.

A million thanks to all our members for your wonderful projects such as new butterfly gardens, planting trees, recycling, going native, and working with our school children to teach them to appreciate nature. It has been an honor to serve as your director these past two years. While visiting our eight states, it was such a pleasure to renew old friendships and to make many new friends. My job was easier because of a great Board to work with! You are all appreciated.

Many thanks to other organizations, such as the Audubon Societies, Nature Centers, and Botanical Gardens for taking the time to do programs for our garden clubs, flower shows and tours for our school children. Together we have all helped to make our country and especially the Pacific Region more beautiful.

At the close of the 2011 NGC Convention in Washington D.C. in May, we will welcome Debbie Hinchey, from Anchorage, Alaska as the new Pacific Region Director for 2011-2013, as well as Shirley Nicolai, from Ft. Washington, Maryland as the new NGC President. New challenges and new ideas await our support and we wish our new officers success.

Thanks you for your support and friendship!

Sandra

By Kim Saville, Horticulture Chair

Theme: "Dig In and Grow"

Here in Oregon, February is going out like a lion with scattered snow showers and below freezing temperatures. This has not dampened our spirits, as seen at last week's Yard and Garden Show, with hordes of gardeners eagerly snatching up seed and plants. Spring is definitely on our minds.

For my part, I started the first of what will become 1500 veggie and herb plants in my **UNHEATED greenhouse**. Not to worry, though. While I shiver, my little plant babies are snugly warm with heat mats and grow lights. Why so many? I'm glad you asked. First off, I'm just nuts about words like sustainable and organic and home grown. My mission, our mission, as gardeners should be to share our knowledge and our bounty. Most of my plants are donated to my local food bank for distribution to their low income clients. The dollar savings of growing your own is obvious, but my biggest hope is that I am helping to pass along the gardening "bug" to others.

Last year I had the privilege to help a group of homeless teens start their first garden. They had received a large donated plot with donated plants. Imagine how I felt when I noticed all of my unique plant tags labeling the veggies. It was the first time I had seen the final destination of some of my plants. It was a summer of nurturing. Me nurturing the kids, they nurturing the plants and in return, nurturing me right back. My labor, their labor and a new generation of gardeners was born.

Helping your community is priceless. Reach out and share your time and love and knowledge of gardening. Ensure the next generation will know the taste of "home grown." The rewards will be more bountiful than your zucchini.



Washington is finally seeing longer days and spring on the way! It's a fabulous season in the Northwest. Everything is lush & **green** with blossoms and new leaves everywhere. It also gives us dirty knees and fingernails trying to sneak in a few hours of gardening between showers.

We just held Gala XXXIII which is our annual design program and luncheon to benefit Headquarters House on Beacon Hill. The house was built in 1883 and along with its historical significance comes high maintenance. Each gala we invite a fabulous designer and this year was no exception. Wow! Tony Todesco is a wonderful designer and teacher! He taught us about the new designs, his mechanics made sense and the depth of his designs & incorporated "space" were almost a new way of designing. For anyone who has not had the opportunity to experience Tony as an instructor you are definitely missing out. His program and workshops were equally inspiring. As members left each workshop there were rave reviews and no one wanted to leave.

We are also enjoying the thousands of daffodils planted the last two falls for "Golden Days." We even planted several pink varieties to overlap with "**Plant It Pink**." Our climate is perfect for daffodils, one of the few bulbs that actually multiply and naturalize in our gardens.

Now on to the Pacific Region Convention and NGC Convention to have some fun and say hello to all of you. See you in Scottsdale! (Don't worry, I'm not driving this time.)

Pacific Region Scholarship Winner

Two scholarship applications for the \$1,000 Pacific Region scholarship were received – one from Oregon and one from Nevada.

The scholarship recipient is **Lindsay Rose Gilbertson** of Reno, Nevada. Lindsay is in a Masters Program in Hydrogeology at the University of Nevada, Reno. **Congratulations, Lindsay!**

Somebody may want to know:



Hydrogeology (hydro- meaning water, and -geology meaning the study of the Earth) is the area of geology that deals with the distribution and movement of groundwater in the soil and rocks of the Earth's crust, (commonly in aquifers).

"For it is in giving that we receive."

St. Francis of Assisi

A Beautiful Oasis

By Sally Bagley, President, Southern California Garden Club

After many bumps and hiccups during the planning process a beautiful little oasis and habitat for butterflies has been created at the Sepulveda Garden Center. Jane Troutman, CGCI Butterfly Chairman and long-time garden club member, had long dreamed of creating a garden to attract these beautiful insects.

Our club received approval from Los Angeles Parks and Recreation in the early part of 2010 and allocated a site that Jane felt would be the perfect spot. Many club volunteers set about the process of removing the grass, amending the soil and then under Jane's direction, planted drought tolerant California natives, including lots of milkweed plants to encourage the monarch butterfly to make it their home, although our first visitor sighted wandering leisurely through the flower beds was an egret.

During the next few months as the garden started to evolve, so did the excitement and help. Robin Pokorski returned from a trip with a colorful Butterfly Crossing sign which has been put on the little corner fence that a club member had constructed. Albert Chang arrived with boxes of rocks to outline the walking pathway. A birdbath and bench were donated; while George Priest crafted an amazing birdhouse. The ongoing watering and weed control is done on a rotating basis by various club members.



By October the garden was mature enough for us to invite the public to attend the official dedication conducted by Grey Wolf, who blessed the garden with a unique Native Indian ceremony and much to everyone's delight, the monarchs had already started their magical process because the milkweed plants were covered with newly hatched caterpillars.

If you ever have the opportunity to be in our area we hope that that you will visit the garden and invite you to sit quietly on the bench under the tree to watch the magic around you.

A Butterfly's Discriminating Taste

By Inez Thomason, Butterfly Chairman



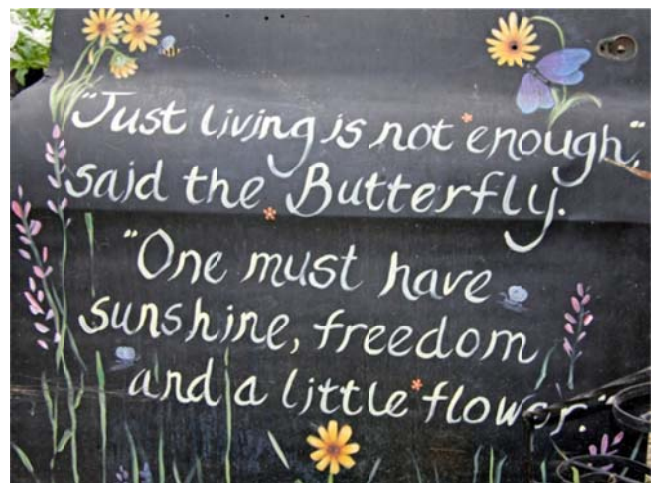
While a flower's color, shape or scent will attract butterflies to some degree, the biggest draw by far is the bloom's nectar.

Adult butterflies typically have very cosmopolitan tastes, best served with a smorgasbord of nectar-rich flowers, especially those with flower clusters or daisy-like blooms, such as purple coneflower, mums, yarrow, and butterfly weed, as well as plants with tubular or bell-shaped flowers.

Not every nectar flower is suitable as food for butterflies. The amount of nectar a flower produces can vary within the species. Sometimes more fanciful double-flowered varieties are bred to impress the eye and not appetite. So go with species plants whenever possible, rather than cultivars.



Hans Christian Anderson:



SUPER-Sniffing Bees Combat Colony Pest

By Rosalyn McCandless, Bee Chairman



Government-developed honeybees are equipped with a keen sniffing ability to root out a deadly parasite. In an effort to stem a massive bee die-off, government specialists have developed a population of honeybees that can root out the main culprit in the epidemic - a parasite that feeds on pupae nests and spreads viruses within hives.

USDA scientists hope the population of varroa mite-detecting honeybees could potentially improve the health of the overall honeybee population. During the winter of 2007, the disorder wiped out around 1 million colonies in North America.

Varroa is considered the number one pest of honeybees worldwide according to the USDA Agricultural Research Service. For more than 20 years varroa mites have decimated millions of honeybee colonies and grown resistant to pesticides. The tiny parasites invade a colony and feed off the hemolymph, a mixture of blood and fluids inside the insect's body. The mites target immature pupae in covered hive cells, stunting their growth and causing wing and leg deformities. Within two years, varroa mites can destroy an entire colony.

Some bees have a low-frequency genetic trait termed varroa-sensitive hygiene (VSH) that enables them to locate and remove varroa mites from hives. The bees team up to open the covered brood cells and remove the mite-damaged pupae and any accompanying varroa mites from the hive. It is believed that the bees are better at smelling the odors associated with varroa-infected cells. After identifying and isolating that genetic trait USDA entomologists have developed a population of honeybees with a high expression of the VSH.

It is agreed that the VSH honeybees aren't meant for mass production as a pure stock as that would result in excessive inbreeding. The VSH trait expresses infrequently in the wild. It is important to weigh the pros and cons of selectively breeding for traits versus promoting "hybrid vigor" by allowing queens to mate of their own accord. VSH bees have so far met the USDA's expectations of thwarting varroa mite infestations and fulfilling their crucial roles as pollinators.

Considering the reproductive and hygienic success with the VSH colonies, there is optimism that the honeybee industry is on the right track toward recovery from the varroa pest and Colony Collapse Disorder. Source: Discovery News, November 2009.

Land Conservation – Restoring Parks to People

By Russ Ford, Land Conservation Chairman

California has become a leader in addressing the problems of climate change. It is setting high standards for greenhouse gas reduction, pointing the way for future federal efforts to address the world's most significant environmental challenge. Conservation shapes the State's response to global warming with three approaches to counter the effect of global warming. First, preserving and planting trees and forest, in urban areas and elsewhere, absorbs and sequesters carbon from the atmosphere. Second, land conservation preserves wildlife habitat and migration corridors that species will need to survive in a warming climate, and can be planned to anticipate such change. Finally, designed urban parks and greenways help reduce emissions by creating communities where people can walk and bike to work and find nature down the block rather than at the end of a long car trip.

In San Francisco, companies joined forces to transform parks in the city's toughest neighborhoods. The Trust for Public Land's Parks for People-San Francisco Initiative includes companies such as Banana Republic, Levi Strauss Foundation, McKesson Corporation, Pacific Gas & Electric, and the Wachovia Foundation. They each gave \$1 million to improve and transform three parks in San Francisco's high-need neighborhoods. With help from other donors, TPL has raised more than \$8 million for the initiative, and has a goal of raising \$14 million to transform Hayes Valley Playground, Balboa Park (see picture), and Boeddeker Park into world-class parks. The key to making this a success is not just the corporate contributions, but also getting cooperation from a cross section of the community, including homeless advocates, business owners, and residents.



Pacific Region says,

"Thanks for the memories, Sandy!"

Those Wonderful Little Hummingbirds

By Sherry Cossey, Bird Chairman



Within the Trochilidae (Hummingbird Family), there are 339 species and 116 genera. Hummingbirds occur ONLY in the Western

Hemisphere, with almost half the species (163) living in the "equatorial belt" between 10 degrees north and south of the equator. Within the continental United States, 20 species of breeding hummingbirds have been recorded and most are in the Pacific Region of Garden Clubs area.

Not all hummingbirds have the word "hummingbird" in their names; there are sabrewings, jacobins, woodnymphs, and many others. Some are named for a dominant color, such as ruby-throated hummingbird, black-chinned hummingbird, or green-breasted mango. The bee hummingbird is the tiniest of all birds and among the smallest of warm-blooded



vertebrates; an adult male weighs about 1.95 g--less than the weight of two paper clips!--and its nest is only 3 cm across. By comparison, a typical adult female ruby-throated hummingbird weighs 3-5 g and her nest is twice as broad as that of the bee hummingbird.

The nest of the ruby-throated hummingbird is hard to find because it is so small and is usually well camouflaged with an outer layer of



lichens. Although it may appear obvious on this naked pine twig in the photo, when it

contained eggs and young the nest was hidden by pine needles and cones. Several western U.S. hummingbird species build their nests semi-communally and in the open, making them easier to

spot. The best way to find one is to wait for the female to lead you to it when she is gathering spider webs for the nest. However the nest can be up to half a mile away from a good feeding area.

Among ruby-throated hummingbirds, nests may be in hardwoods or evergreens from about three to 60 feet above the ground. They are often situated in the crotch of in an outer, down-turned branch overhanging water. Some of the western U.S. hummingbirds build frequently in the open on fence rails, porch lights, and other human-made objects.

Hummingbird nests are fairly fragile and usually do not last through the winter--especially in locations where there is heavy snowfall. It is not uncommon, however, for a female ruby-throated hummingbird to use the same tree--even the same branch--in successive years. Females may use the same nest for a second or third clutch within the same breeding

season, and there are also records of a female hummingbird building a second nest while she was still raising chicks in her first nest! Because it is against state and/or federal law to collect and/or possess hummingbird nests in the U.S. and Canada, you must leave any hummingbird nest in place--even after the breeding season is over.

The hummingbirds return year after year to your feeder and provide much enjoyment for everyone, not just birders! I used to take mine down in the winter, and when they started circling the area where the feeder belonged, I knew it was past time to put it up! Now I leave it out year-round and have Annas there all winter.

See www.rubythroat.org or www.birdzilla.com. Center picture -- ruby-throated hummingbird

Pacific Region Convention Business

The following recaps the business conducted at the 67th Pacific Region Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona:

1. New policy and procedure guidelines will be posted on the Region's website.
2. Two thousand (\$2000) dollars was donated to the 2013 NGC Convention to be held in Seattle, Washington (Linda Nelson's installation).
3. Adopted the 2011-12 budget and the Pacific Region Alaska Convention budget.

By Mary Lou Waitz, Wildflower Chairman

The Northwest and Mountain West are blessed with a diversity of environmental conditions that make them exciting landscapes in which to live. Some of the climatic extremes of the Northwest coastal and mountain region (torrential winter rains or heavy snows, intense coastal storms, soils that are wet in winter and dry in summer, and periodic fires) can be hard on conventional gardens. Wildflowers provide solutions to many gardening problems since, unlike most domesticated, horticultural plants, they have the ability to make it on their own without human assistance.

The beauty of northwestern wildflowers has captivated botanists and gardeners from around the world. Modern-day gardeners can share the botanists' fascination by introducing wildflowers into their own gardens. The most common of native species can bring great pleasure as one learns their secrets.



1) The native of northern California and the Pacific Northwest is the **Washington lupine** (*Lupinus polyphyllus*) and has evolved along with the bumblebees that pollinate them. Washington lupine needs adequate moisture available throughout the year. It grows best in slightly to moderately acidic soils. Plant in full sun to partial shade, with

good air circulation. It likes cool summers. Flowering is from June to August.

2) *Oenothera caespitosa* is commonly known as the **tufted evening primrose** and **fragrant evening primrose**, is a perennial plant of the genus *Oenothera*. Flowering begins in mid-spring in California and continues to mid-summer in the high elevations in the Rockies. This wildflower has large, fragrant white flowers that open at sunset and reflects the evening moonlight to attract pollinating moths. The following day the flowers fade to pink as they wither in the noontday sun. Tufted evening primrose grows



best on gravelly, shaley, sandy soils with good drainage. Dry soil is a must.

3) **Fireweed** (*Epilobium angustifolium*) is a widely distributed wildflower that frequently is the first to appear after fires, logging, and other disturbances in conifer forests. Fireweed is a perennial herbaceous plant in the willow herb family. Fireweed is a truly cosmopolitan wildflower found along the Pacific coast from Mexico to the Arctic, and around the world. The magenta flowers of fireweed are pollinated by many species of solitary and colonial bumblebees. Although various butterflies feed on the nectar produced, they are not effective pollinators. Establish fireweed on bare mineral soil where it is sunny for at least part of the day. In the sun it can live for 20 years or more, but it dies out in the shade.



4) **Scarlet gilia** (*Ipomopsis aggregata*) is a striking wildflower that graces the dry foothills, mountain meadows, and alpine Ridges in the Rockies, Sierra Nevada, and Cascades. Scarlet gilia is pollinated mainly by hummingbirds. This wildflower produces more nectar during the day when hummingbirds and bees visit. Hummingbirds have to visit many flowers to obtain sufficient energy to support their high metabolic rate, a situation that encourages cross-pollination. The color of scarlet gilia flowers can change during the growing season. In high-elevation sites in Arizona new flowers produced during late July and early August become progressively lighter in color. These color changes coincide with the migration of hummingbirds away from the area.



5) *Polemonium viscosum* (**Sky Pilot**) has intensely blue/purple flowers and are a magnificent, uplifting, eye-opening surprise at the 12,000 foot alpine tundra and meadows. Leaves are succulent-appearing, finely

cut, and upright. These wildflowers produce a sweet nectar with a floral scent and attract queen bumblebees which emerge each year just as the sky pilot starts to bloom. "Viscosum" is Latin for "sticky." There are two different flower forms of sky pilot and both are found near the tops of western mountains. The most common sky pilot is the wildflower just described.



I have selected only five of the wildflowers native to northwestern North American woodlands and meadows. The five selected wildflower species are well adapted to the range of conditions likely to exist in gardens of this region and can be propagated without much difficulty.

References:

Ross, Robert A. and Chambers, Henrietta L., 1991. *Wildflowers of the Western Cascades*: Art, H.W., 1990. *The Wildflower Gardener's Guide*: Pacific Northwest, Rocky Mountain, and Western Canada. Pojar, Jim and MacKinnon, Andy, 1994. *Plants of the Northwest Coast: Washington, Oregon, British Columbia and Alaska*.

Planting Your Own Wildflower Garden

By Mary Lou Waitz, Wildflower Chairman

It is delightful to watch the parade of wildflowers through the growing season from blazing purple fireweed to clear blue and white Colorado columbine. Native wildflowers can add a graceful touch to the garden. Wildflowers can be grown in a wide variety of conditions, from conventional gardens to woodlands, from meadows to deep shade; some can even be grown in containers on your porch or patio. One of the pleasures of growing wildflowers is the opportunity to propagate them and thereby increase their numbers in your garden. Digging wildflowers from their native environments is not only unethical, but also frequently illegal.

1. Pick a site with at least four hours of sun per day. Avoid shady sites and poorly-drained soils.
2. Apply Roundup to remove unwanted vegetation. Apply Roundup at a rate of 1 ½ ounces per 1,000 square feet.
3. Mow the site as short as possible and remove the clippings.

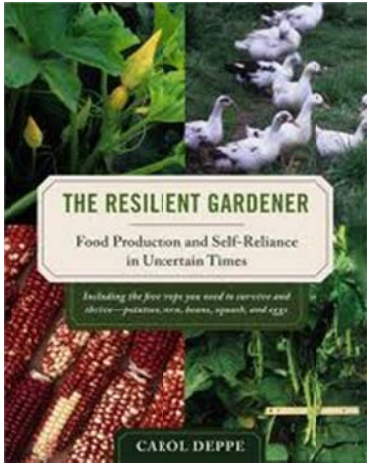
4. Add 3 to 5 pounds of regular garden fertilizer (8-8-8 or 10-10-10) and 50 pounds of dolomite limestone per 1,000 square feet.
5. Apply compost. Compost will increase the organic content of the soil and improve its water holding capacity.
6. Rototill the site to a depth of 3 to 4 inches incorporating the fertilizer, limestone, and compost. If you do not have a rototiller, use traditional gardening techniques to incorporate these materials. Remember, turning the soil to a depth of four inches is important for establishing a deep root system.
7. After tilling, use a leaf rake to smooth the entire area and remove rocks and debris.
8. Mix wildflower seed with sand to allow for even distribution of the seed over the area. The best way to obtain wildflowers for your garden is to purchase seeds from reputable suppliers.
9. Sprinkle the mixture over the entire area.
10. Use a leaf rake to lightly settle the seed. Be careful not to bury the seed more than 1/4".
11. Lightly mulch the seeded area with straw or other weed-free mulch material to protect from erosion and maintain moisture for germination. Allow 25% of soil surface to be visible after mulch application.
12. Water wildflower area to keep soil moist for adequate germination. Lightly water once a week unless it rains.

Next, enjoy watching your wildflowers grow. For best results, seed in the fall. The seed will germinate in four to six weeks. Young seedlings will grow over the winter and flower in the spring. To encourage regrowth of your wildflowers, mow the garden to a height of three inches after the first frost.

From the Pacific Ocean to the mountains and majestic forests of the Olympic Peninsula to the volcanoes of the Cascades and further on east into the high desert, Washington State is embedded in a diverse geology and range of climates that allows an astounding array of plant and animal life to exist.



By Janet Peterson, Merry Tillers GC, Idaho



Carol Deppe is a scientist, gardener, writer and cook who can change our lives by using newly emerging scientific information. In her book, "The Resilient Gardener," she gives detailed information about growing and using five key crops: potatoes, corn, beans, squash, and eggs.

Amazon describes

that in this book you'll learn how to:

"-Garden in an era of unpredictable weather and climate change

-Grow, store, and use more of your own staple crops
-Garden efficiently and comfortably (even if you have a bad back)

-Grow, store, and cook different varieties of corn to make your own gourmet-quality fast cooking polenta, cornbread, parched corn, corn cakes, pancakes and even savory corn gravy

-Make whole-grain, corn-based breads and cakes using the author's original gluten-free recipes involving no other grains, artificial binders, or dairy products

-Grow and use popbeans and other grain legumes
-Grow, store, and use summer, winter, and drying squash

-Keep a home laying flock of ducks or chickens; integrate them with your gardening, and grow most of their feed."

The "Resilient Gardener" is both a philosophical and practical book that can be used by all gardeners. It discusses many problems including personal and medical situations. It is a happy as well as down-to-earth discussion all gardeners may find useful.

Blue Star Memorial Markers

By Lee Pearn, Blue Star Memorial Markers Chairman



Twenty-four **Blue Star** Memorial Markers have been dedicated in the Pacific Region between April 1, 2009 and April 1, 2011.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Alaska – 1 | Idaho – 3 |
| Arizona – 3 | Nevada - 1 |
| California – 8 | Oregon - 5 |
| Hawaii – none | Washington – 3 |

By Julie & Dave West, WACONIAH Boosters & Subscriptions

Congratulations to the following states who won a bottle of wine in Scottsdale, AZ at the 2011 Convention for the challenges issued at the 2010 Convention in Spokane, WA:

- Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs increased the number of their email subscriptions to save the expenses of snail mail by seven.
- Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs has the highest percentage of total email subscriptions with 82%.
- Idaho Garden Clubs increased their WACONIAH subscriptions by the most (two) since the 2010 Convention.
- There was a tie for the state that increased their number of boosters by the most - Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs and Nevada Garden Clubs both increased their boosters by two so they each won a bottle of wine.

As of April 15, 2010, we had 298 total subscribers (excluding complimentary out-of-region subscriptions) of which 73 were Boosters and 203 received WACONIAH in living Technicolor via e-mail. As of March 25, 2011, we have 283 total subscribers of which 71 are Boosters and 209 receive it by email.

Here is the base count as of March 25, 2011 for each state as respects the number of subscriptions, email percentage and number of boosters:

AZ	19 subscribers	68% email	5 boosters
AK	19	68%	4
CA	79	77%	20
HI	4	75%	1
ID	38	76%	10
NV	19	68%	7
OR	48	71%	10
WA	57	82%	14

Total: 283 paid subscribers 71 boosters

The overall goal to increase email subscriptions was a success! Thank you for promoting WACONIAH and supporting Boosters!

Winners at Convention

Carolyn Erickson, Washington State Federation President was the lucky winner of the Pacific Region 50/50 raffle at the Convention in Scottsdale. Carolyn won over \$1,000. **Congratulations, Carolyn!**

Marjorie Johnson, Amenities and Protocol Chairman, for the last five Pacific Region Directors, was honored for her ***10 years of service*** with a Director's Citation. **Congratulations, Marjorie!**

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian



Almost everyone will belong to some organization during their lifetime (as each of us belongs to a garden club, district, and state, regional, and national

garden club organizations). A basic understanding of parliamentary law is helpful to everyone who participates in deliberative assemblies. It is essential for leaders and potential leaders.

Such understanding contributes to well-conducted meetings, which are appreciated by all. More is accomplished. Time is saved. Equality is attained. Dictatorship is avoided, and the will of the majority prevails in comparative harmony.

Parliamentary law is based on the principle that "rights must be respected: rights of the majority, of the minority, of individual members, of absentees and the rights of all of these together." Order, justice and courtesy make it work. By applying parliamentary law, deliberative assemblies of any size can discuss even complex questions in a minimum of time and, without disregarding each member's right to his opinion as expressed finally by his equal vote, arrive at the general will of the majority on the subject being considered.

***Welcome Debbie Hinchey from Alaska
2011 – 2013 Pacific Region Director***



LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

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

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

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL

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

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

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

GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL

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

Editorial

Just a final word from your editor as we go to press with this final issue of the 2009 - 2011 administration. Your editor sincerely thanks those of you who so faithfully fill the pages of our Pacific Region newsletter and our **Director Sandy** who has pounded the pavement for articles as well.

I know many of you but some I do not. Those who don't know me have asked over and over again to run a picture of myself and since we're wrapping up a term, I acquiesce to your request. This picture was taken when I was a little younger, thinner and my antlers bigger but it's still me.



67th Annual Pacific Region Convention

April 14-16, 2011
Scottsdale, Arizona
"Desert Splendor"



2011 – 2013 Pacific Region Officers

Director – **Debbie Hinchey** – Alaska
 Alternate Director – **Carol Norquist** – Alaska
 Recording Secretary – **June Willard** – Washington
 Corresponding Secretary – **Elaine Gunderson** – Arizona
 Treasurer – **Betty Burkhart** – Washington
 Historian – **Jeanette Pruin** - Washington
 Advisor – **Sandy Ford** - Idaho
 Parliamentarian – **Greg Pokorski** – California
 WACONIAH Editor – **Robin Pokorski** – California

Issue Deadlines

August 2011	deadline 6-25-2011
November 2011	deadline 9-25-2011
February 2012	deadline 12-25-2011
May 2012	deadline 3-25-2011

Gift to our 2009 – 2011 Director



Director Sandy is surprised by rock gift!
 "Thank you for all the fond memories etched in stone of a bird, bee and butterfly." Sandy



Butterfly Photo Contest Results

Contest #1 Butterflies outdoors wherever you find them.

- 1st Place – Irene Lindsey, Visalia, CA
- 2nd Place – Jan Haneke, Meridian, ID
- 3rd Place – Kris Ethington, San Clemente, CA

Contest # 2. Butterflies on plant material in a container.

- 1st Place – Janie Cornelious, Albany, OR
- 2nd Place – Gwendolyn Powels, Reseda, CA
- 3rd Place – Sherry Cossey, Eugene, OR

Calendar of Events

- May 16 Alaska **Arbor** Day – Plant a Sitka **spruce** with a **moose!**
- May 27-30 NGC Convention, Washington, D.C.
- June 5-11 National Garden Week
- July 26-28, 2012
68th Pacific Region Convention,
Anchorage, Alaska

Indoor Gardening in Alaska

By Lee Skidmore, Indoor Gardening Chairman

The Ketchikan Garden Club has about 65 members and all have some indoor plants. We've learned to raise everything from tall ficus trees to ferns, cactus, succulents, orchids, begonias, and African violets.



Some members have one or two AeroGarden Hydroponics Garden Systems. Through the long, dark winter months, tomatoes, peppers and strawberries ripen on the counter. Amazingly, tomatoes and berries taste just like the summer vine-ripened fruit. This system even has flowers that will bloom sitting on the kitchen (or Ketchikan) counter.

Many members use light stands (see pic) to keep flowers blooming year-round. Others use light stands to start seeds and cuttings to have larger plants to put out in spring.



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WACONIAH
 Vol. 38 No. 4
 May 2011

NGC Award Winning Newsletter



You are \$PECIAL!
Taking your WACONIAH by email
\$ave\$ the Pacific Region lot\$ of dough!
Thank\$

Plant It Pink

By Kristie Livreri, President, Nevada Garden Clubs

Members of the UNLV Women Softball Team participated in a "Plant it Pink Project" at Eller Media Stadium on the Campus of University of Nevada at Las Vegas. This was a follow-up to a planting in the fall of 2009 of pink tulips and pink snapdragons.

On March 29 the young women met at the entrance of the stadium armed with spades and hole-diggers and Vitamin B-12. They selected spots near the ticket booth and entry gate to the stadium. Nevada Garden Clubs provided the plants which were pink petunias, pink geraniums and pink snapdragons. Several of the tulips planted in the fall have just started to peek their heads above the ground.

What an apropos project for these young women to draw attention to the cause of Breast Cancer Awareness. This will be an attention-getter as fans arrive at the stadium for the games.



Our thanks go to Coach Pete Manarino and his assistant Maggie Livreri for helping to organize this event before the Rebel girls went to practice on this beautiful day in Las Vegas. We look forward to many more Plant it Pink Projects with the softball team at UNLV.

WACONIAH Staff

Editor	Robin Pokorski	RobinP@juno.com	818-361-7873
	512 Newton St, San Fernando CA 91340-2421		
Asst Editor	Greg Pokorski	GregPokorski@earthlink.net	
Subscriptions/ Circulation/ Boosters	Dave West	JDavidWest@aol.com	707-829-9342
	850 Grandview Rd, Sebastopol, CA 95472-2930		
	Julie West	JulieAWest@aol.com	