



WACONIAH

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

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

Vol. 41 No. 4

The Director's Theme "Expand Horizons - A Conservation Rainbow"



*2013 - 2015 Pacific Region Director
Elaine Gunderson
and NGC President Linda Nelson in
New Orleans, Louisiana*

**Pacific Region 70th Convention
July 1-3, 2014**

"A Jewel in the Gem State"

See pages 7-10 in this issue

Registration deadline: June 10

Director's Message

The Southwest winter has been unusually mild. However, for the States north, winter has been unrelenting. Take heart, spring is here.

WELCOME to Garden Clubs of Idaho's New President **Janet Petersen**. She quickly came up to speed with State, Pacific Region and NGC responsibilities. Welcome also to **Myrtle Findley** of California who is the new Environmental Concerns Chairman.

DIRECTOR'S THEME/PROJECT: With the arrival of spring, there are numerous opportunities to serve our communities through civic development projects. Gardens with edibles, container gardens, planting trees and shrubs, educational events or refurbishing an existing project are ways for local clubs to participate. The state through its districts and local clubs will then support Pacific Region's Theme, "Expand Horizons - A Conservation Rainbow," bolstering NGC's Conservation Pledge as well as fulfilling Pacific Region's Project "It's Our World! It's Our Responsibility! - Plant Seeds of Knowledge and Stewardship." Each state, which includes all districts and local clubs, count your projects, describe what was accomplished and include approximate community hours. Send to **Sandy Ford**, Pacific Region Director's Project Chairman. Deadline: November 1, 2014. Sandy will provide further directions in WACONIAH's August issue. Remember at the end of a **rainbow** there is a pot of **gold**. What will your pot of **gold** illuminate?

SCHOLARSHIP: States are in the process of having their Spring Board of Directors' Meetings and Conventions. Wouldn't it be wonderful to spotlight and honor a member(s)

with a Pacific Region Membership Book of Recognition Award as a tribute for their service to their club, district, state, region or NGC. Go to the Pacific Region website and send the application form with your donation to **Karen Varty**, Book of Recognition Chairman, 7380 SW East Lake Court, Wilsonville, OR 97070-8457 or kvarty@comcast.com. Donations support the Pacific Region Scholarship Fund. A special certificate will be mailed to the honoree.

Another way to support scholarship is a Pacific Region Life Membership to honor members who provide support, service or education on all levels - local, district, state, region or NGC. Membership is available for \$40 and includes a pin! Help to support a \$1,000 Pacific Region Scholarship Program. **Garnet Ascher** is Pacific Region Life Membership Chairman, garasch39@msn.com or 503-292-4460.

WACONIAH: It has been a busy year for Pacific Region. Communication through the region's newsletter, *WACONIAH*, has expanded from 12 to 20 pages providing informative and educational news. Thanks to every board member who has written an article - 54 individuals who created 82 articles. KUDOS to **Robin Pokorski**, Editor and hubbie, **Greg Pokorski**, Assistant Editor for their skills.

CONVENTION: Lastly, there is still time to attend 2014 Pacific Region Convention in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. See the Pacific Region Website or refer to the *WACONIAH* February issue for registration details. **Remember to purchase and wear a color of the rainbow T-shirt on Wednesday's Boat Cruise.** (See PR Fundraiser flyer attached to this issue.)

Happy Gardening Everyone!

Elaine

NGC Conservation Pledge

Adopted May 19, 1994



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



Spring is just around the corner in Idaho and so I send spring greetings from our state. Due to ill health GCII President Karen Mallon resigned and as 1st Vice President I assumed the presidency. Since January we have updated our website and are in the process of publishing our *Gem State Gardener* newsletter.

Idaho is hosting the Pacific Region Convention in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, July 1-3. We encourage all of you to attend. **Sandy Ford** is the chairman of the convention and has done an amazing job.

Several of our garden clubs are organizing educational programs for school children. They are teaching children how to grow gardens, importance of insect pollinating and creating fresh and dried designs for a Flower Show. The Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster contest has gone from 421 entries to 1200 entries this year. This last year one of our clubs renovated a neglected city lot in the center of their town and developed a community-gathering place. Another club developed a native pollinator garden. A U-Cut flower garden was developed to provide proceeds for their community garden. These are just a few of the many things our busy Idaho Garden Clubs have accomplished.

Looking forward to seeing you in Coeur d'Alene at the Pacific Region Convention.

National Garden Week ***June 1-7, 2014***

By Shirley Schmidt, National Garden Week Chairman

The more involved in the community that your garden club can be, the more awareness you can generate not only for YOUR garden club, but for your state, region and National Garden Clubs and everything we do!

What a great time to celebrate your Garden Club in your area!! *Download the poster from NGC - http://www.gardenclub.org/media/3689/2014-2015_National_Garden_Week_Poster.pdf and hang them all over town!

*Write an article and include pictures to share some of the wonderful projects you're doing or creating!

*Schedule an interview with the local radio station!

*Set up an information booth at the library, or nursery, or shopping area. Include a hands-on project for the kids.

* Offer a nursery a day for 30-minute workshops related to their plants. Or demonstrate how to plant a variety of containers.

*Create mini-arrangements to be delivered to Food and Friends.

*Plan an event in a local retirement center using your floral bounty at this time of year.

Did you know that NGC offers this award?

National Garden Week

A Certificate of Merit and a \$100 donation by The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. may be awarded for best overall promotion of National Garden Week; entry to show community awareness throughout the entire week and include local and/or state proclamations.

Let's have a winner from Pacific Region!!!

Nevada Garden Clubs
Vicki Yuen, President

Theme: "Growing in Nevada"

NGCI celebrated its 50th anniversary in October 2013. We began as the inkling of an idea by Linnea Miller Domz and Hobby St. Denis, and have grown now to eleven clubs and 200 active members. As with many state organizations, our membership numbers have gone up and down. We are gradually increasing again after a drop, due to our building closing for a year and a half.

The Anniversary Committee worked very hard to put together a memorable event. And indeed it was. A lovely party, with many members in attendance. Even a few community members came, including a long-time friend, Linn Mills, who recently passed away. He will be sorely missed. He was always happy to give a program for our clubs, or speak at our state meetings, or help start up a new club.

Now we are looking forward to another 50 years of productive gardening and garden-clubbing! We are also excited to be nominating the next Pacific Region Director, which will be announced at the Convention in Coeur d'Alene.

Alaska Garden Clubs
Becky Hassebroek, President

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

Well, those seeds we ordered have sprouted and are growing – gaining strength - just biding their time waiting for that day when it's warm enough to set them outside. I see the first little sprout on a dahlia tuber – there are 20 of them planted in pots on my craft table (remember I am writing this in March – we usually put out our plants between May 15th and June 1st) – their mission to grow and be strong for that perfect Spring day when they also can benefit from the warmth of

that Alaskan summer sun! It's a wonderful time of year for the Alaskan gardener. The roll call question in our Club last week was "Would you change your yard's layout and, if so, what would you do?" and, can you guess, there was not one person who would leave things the same – EVERYONE was ready to get out there and change something! Why would we NOT want to belong to an organization with such devout optimists?! We can always think of a way to try and make things better!

We have had great participation from our Alaskan gardeners on establishing backyard wildlife habitats! As you are aware, gardening for wildlife makes us the very best stewards of our land! We are all thrilled with the NGC BeeGap Program. In most of Alaska, people who order honey bee hives kill them at the end of the season since they can't overwinter them and don't choose to bear the cost of sending them back outside. Thanks to the BeeGap Program, we are educating not only our members, but the rest of our communities, about these alternative, non-aggressive pollinators. While research is now being conducted on the identification of our local native bees, we are still ordering bee houses and related material to get started on what we hope will prove to be a successful alternative! We are SHARING THE WORD!

One of our Alaskan clubs is helping educate through their Flower Show, as well – spotlighting growing native with educational displays on our native pollinators! We KNOW that bringing those little critters into our gardens brings challenges for that PERFECT specimen, but we are on board to find healthy ways to protect them and are willing to settle for a "red" if that keeps our environment healthy! (Thanks to Denise Bates for that lovely native trolius and bee picture!)



We are proud of the great communication skills of our Alaska clubs! One hosts a monthly public education meeting as well as a workshop or other fun event for their members. One has their own public television program dedicated to their local garden club functions.

A club found out that a large clump of beautiful heritage roses that were especially fragrant with an incredible lengthy floral display was going to be destroyed by the highway department's widening of a road, so the members dug them all up, are overwintering them, and will be sharing them and planting them around the community. Their research showed that these roses were brought to Alaska from Eastern Canada over 60 years ago by a local nursery owner and the variety has not been offered by a commercial nursery in over 40 years.

Theme: "Garden Club — Outside the Box"

Alaskan gardeners often plant in combinations – sharing gardening space among flowers and vegetables. And, the programs our clubs select reflect that – preparing entries for the fair, worms and vermicomposting, drip irrigation for our beautiful hanging baskets and container vegetables, alternative methods for popular pesticides. Alaskans are especially youth-conscious. One club plants small variety marigold seeds indoors beginning in February and hosts a Children's Marigold Give-Away during Garden Day at a local mall in the Spring, where children plant them and take them home to watch them grow. Another club goes into an elementary school and teaches 2nd graders how to pick and condition flowers and make an arrangement that they each take home to their families for Mother's Day.

All of our clubs are active with seniors in local nursing homes, cleaning trails and weeding at the local botanical and other community gardens, and planning and ENJOYING our wonderful Summer Garden Tours! One of our members, Verna Pratt, Alaskan Author and Wildflower Expert, is teaching a two-day class at Denali Park this summer on High Country Wildflowers – those of us who signed up even get to overnight at the site high up in Denali Park in a "yurt" – you'll have to look that one up! I can't wait! Verna has received national honors and recognition for her contributions to educating the public about Alaska's native plants and wildflowers, and she was just inducted into the Alaska Women's Hall of Fame that celebrates the women who shape Alaska! Congratulations, Verna!

Our members are movers and shakers and some of the best people I would ever hope to meet, and it's a great honor for this President to be on "bear-hug" status with them all!

And,



too!

***The mind is like a parachute -
it only works when it is open -
Anonymous***

Bogachiel Garden Club in the Olympic Peninsula District of WSFGC gets it. What do they get? They totally understand the fun and creativity that is at the core of my project, "Put a New Twist on Recycling." This club held a tea that was built around recycling. As a matter of fact they named their tea, "Restore, Revamp, Reuse." They followed the theme of their tea to a "T" starting with signage for the event in the form of beautiful artwork utilizing old picture frames with the theme spelled out in reused items like doilies, straws, and bows off of presents. These wonderful framed letters would be fun to use in your home spelling words appropriate to the use of the room. Or, for even more fun, inappropriate to the use of the room. It is always good to keep your guests guessing. Centerpieces for tables held many recycled objects like lacy crocheted runners and placemats made with plastic bags and revamped tin cans and cups for staging and gifts. Veteran crafters are never empty handed of a project, they never sit idle, every opportunity for creation keeps their hands busy and their minds coming up with more ideas. This is why recycling and crafting go hand and hand. Saving the planet one artsy recycling project at a time.



Photo above: This table has spoons that have been painted to use for garden markers, grandmother's teacups, reuse of paper cups for gift boxes and tin cans used for plant holders.

Theme: "Growing Together"



Photos above: This is a reuse of picture frames and objects for the theme "Restore, Revamp and Reuse"

"Capital City Garden Club in Olympia may be one of the smallest clubs in the state with 13 members, but we might also have the most fun!" This was the opening line in an email from this club where they shared their enriching experience of building birdhouses and bird feeders out of a "pile of lovely pre-greened and mossy cedar boards." They also used old license plates, small tin cans and twigs. What a wonderful way to make birdhouses for little to no cost and have fun doing it, not to mention providing habitat for the birds who share our world.

Other activities in our state include the planning meetings and work parties involved in putting together our state convention "It's Just Ducky." Chairmen Betty Burkhart and Marion Nancarrow informed their husbands that they would be unavailable for several months as they took care of this important business. Host Chinook District is excited to invite everyone to the Embassy Suites Hotel in Tukwila, WA, June 1 – 4, for a "re-duck-ulously" fun time.



Director's Project

By Sandy Ford, Director's Project Chairman

Reminder – November 1, 2014 is the deadline for all Pacific Region state presidents to report what their garden clubs did to promote the regional project - "It's Our World! It's Our Responsibility! Plant Seeds of Knowledge and Stewardship." No project is too small!

There is still plenty of time for garden club programs, displays at flower shows and fairs, libraries, and garden centers with possible handout material. Need help? Contact me, Sandra Ford, Director's Project Chairman at sandraford@cableone.net.

CGCI had a membership promotion booth at the popular San Francisco Flower & Garden Show in San Mateo, CA from March 19-23, 2014. The table held the expected items: brochures, educational gardening pamphlets, district and club brochures, bookmarks with labels on the back explaining the Zip Code Club Finder on the website. There were display boards and sign-up sheets for the upcoming Wildflower Conference and 10-day fundraising Colors of Fall cruise along the East Coast.



Something new was added this year – a hands-on planting experience that drew visitors to the booth. A sign in front of a dishpan full of potting soil read "Plant a Seed, Grow Green Beans." When asked "Would you like to grow a dwarf bush string bean?" the responses ranged from "I save seeds and grow my grandmother's beans each year." to "What do I do?" The planting experience led to a discussion about garden clubs and would joining a local club be of interest. Leads to clubs not currently part of CGCI were discovered and collected. Reaction to the seed planting activity was always positive. Comments included: "This was so much fun! Thank you." and "I'll come back next year and let you know how my plant did." Who would have thought a little bean seed could do so much!





Looking back over the year, I can truly say that I have enjoyed being the President of AFGC. My first task was to send out *The Benefits of Belonging to AFGC* to the clubs over the summer.

Another big task involved working with Josephine Vincze to put out a new Directory/Yearbook.

We had a special Fall Board of Directors Meeting in the Rose Garden at Mesa Community College after Desert Designers dedicated two benches in memory of Lisa Stephens, a former AFGC President and NGC Accredited Master Judge and former Pacific Region Director.

I attended my first NGC Fall Board Meeting in September at the NGC Headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri. It was wonderful to see the grounds and the special carpets. We also, toured the Missouri Botanical Garden adjacent to our Headquarters' grounds.

I've gotten to meet with the Finance Committee twice now, so I am beginning to see how things work.

To go along with the NGC President's Project, I have asked the Districts to choose between Water, Forest, Land and Wildlife and give a program on it. At the Central/Eastern District Meeting at Tumbleweed Park in Chandler, Arizona I enjoyed a program on Feng Shui. At the Western District Meeting in Yuma at the Yuma County Extension Office, I was treated to a wonderful presentation on bees. The Southern District Meeting was held in Mimi's at the Tucson Mall. Two docents from Tohono Chul Park gave an outstanding slide show on Wildflowers in Arizona.

I've been a guest at three special occasions. The first was the 75th Anniversary of the Yuma Garden Club. It was quite an affair with everyone dressing up like they did when the club first federated. The second was a Christmas Party given by Washington Garden Club. Santa attended and we all got gifts, plus I brought home a bag of cookies. Last, but not least, was the Desert Pointe Garden Club Meeting at the Ahwatukee Recreation Center. The program was on cooking with herbs but the highlight was going to see their wonderful Blue Star Memorial marker.

We had our final Flower Show School IV March 13 & 14 at the Valley Garden Center.

I am looking forward to the NGC Convention on May 1-3 in Norman Oklahoma. A perfect way to end the year.

1. **EVALUATION!** What does it mean? According to my dictionary, it means "to appraise carefully" or "to find the value of or amount of" -----"To judge or determine the worth or quality of" or "to find the numerical value of," etc. Evaluating judges are responsible for upholding high standards by scoring wisely, objectively and in accordance with NGC requirements according to our *Handbook for Flower Shows*.
2. **Why evaluate a flower show?** Only through the above service by dedicated Accredited Flower Show Judges, and their commitment, can individual garden clubs, groups of clubs or a district, gain recognition statewide and nationally for all the work and worry of staging a Standard Flower Show. The results of an excellent evaluation can mean the great thrill of the sponsoring organization receiving a state or National Garden Clubs Achievement Award. On the other hand, a poor evaluation can mean a disappointed and discouraged club. These clubs may think twice before staging another Standard Flower Show. We must exercise care, time and effort along with our judging intelligence in giving as perfect an evaluation as possible.
3. **When to evaluate!** Evaluation begins as soon as the judge receives the schedule. The judge is either inspired or sort of let-down. When reading the schedule, the judge can visualize the beauty of the staging, the quality of the different divisions, and she prepares herself mentally for a creative or a mediocre show. This is also the time she goes over the schedule and if any errors are found, she can contact the Judges Chairman or whoever sent the invitation to judge and if the errors are corrected ahead of judging and show time, then no deductions need to be made on the evaluation under the schedule.
4. **Where to evaluate?** The judge arrives at the show area. The entrance will either inspire or it will be difficult to find any theme staging, something that should be carried throughout the entire show. The judge wants to arrive early enough to take an overall look at the entire area before judging begins. The beauty and excellence along with neatness, staging, and wide aisles are looked for according to the Evaluation Form. Evaluate on the spot. Consult with the other evaluating judges. Only through conferring with

By Toni Coon, Herb/Vegetable Gardening Chairman

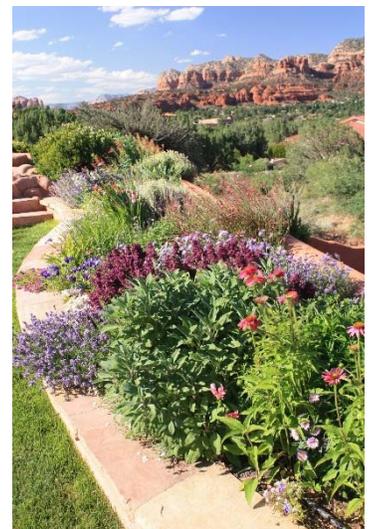
Awesome, spring is back. Energy, excitement, hopes and vision of abundance in blooms, fruit and veggies. Northern Arizona winter has been too dry, too mild. Our nurseryman is still expecting a snowy winter storm. How weird is that?



My five years' garden experience is not enough to guarantee success. Achievements come in small increments I label Learning Curves. Every setback is another lesson learned. Be grateful for the lessons. The daily wide swings of high then low temperatures is the challenge here. I am a believer in the saying "Plant Where You Are." Grow what has performed well and experiment growing something new every year.

Improving the sandy soil in the veggie garden with my self-made compost and worm poop is a year-round task. Growing cover crops is as easy as 1-2-3. In the cold frame the lettuce, spinach, mâché, portulak, kale, chard and collards are thriving. Garlic, onions and shallots are sprouting too. Time to prepare the summer garden. I know that crop rotation matters; I need to find past years' notes. Sorting seeds I received from passionate garden club members is motivating too. How soon can the planting begin?

Ten Cliff Rose (*Cowania mexicana*) seedlings in the greenhouse give me joy. Must transplant them for their roots to develop. These precious babies are a product of my green thumb. The bragging rights are mine. Come along, I like to show you around ... oh, maybe next time.



other judges, can you give an honest evaluation. All the evaluating judges must confer and agree on whether the show merits an average minimal score of 95 before leaving the show site.

- How to evaluate on the form?** The evaluator's wording is important. Substantiate your percentages with excellent explanations. Mark on the front of the form where deductions are made. On the back of the form, tell the story by writing comments as specific and descriptive as possible starting with the schedule. Even if the evaluator is giving full points, they still must tell the reason for full points. Send the completed evaluation within **one week**. Each form must be signed by the evaluator and mailed separately to the appropriate state chairman.
- Remember**, Evaluations are always considered confidential and are not to be freely discussed with or shown to club members. Both state and national awards chairmen read every word. Make sure they can read it legibly!

Convention Reports



Attention Pacific Region Chairmen: If you plan (and you should) to report at the Pacific Region Convention in Idaho in July, please advise Corresponding Secretary Kristie Livreri, kristabelle7@aol.com, no later than **June 10**. All reports, whether you attend the convention or not, should be emailed or sent to Kristie as well.

This is the opportunity to share information, celebrate successes and explain or encourage participation and/or interest in your committee.

Pacific Region Websites

www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

- Washington: WAGardenClubs.com
- Arizona: AZGardenClubs.com
- California: CaliforniaGardenClubs.org
- Oregon: OregonGardenClubs.org
- Nevada: NevadaGardenClubs.org
- Idaho: GCII.org
- Alaska: AlaskaGardenClubs.org

2014 PACIFIC REGION of NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS CONVENTION

70TH Annual Convention – July 1-3, 2014

“A Jewel in the Gem State”



The Coeur d'Alene Resort

115 S. 2nd Street, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Telephone: 1-800-688-5253

Email: cdainfo@cdaresort.com

Urgent Convention Information

By Sandy Ford, Convention Chairman

The Pacific Region Convention is only three months away and several deadlines are nearly upon us:

Registration: The deadline to receive the discounted Convention Registration is *June 10*. Your registration should be sent to: Maxine Smolowitz, 3925 E. 97 N, Idaho Falls, ID 83401. (208) 523-0373

Please make checks payable to *“National Garden Clubs, Inc.”*. (Note *“PR 2014 Convention”* on memo line.)

The Registration form is available on the Pacific Region website: PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

Hotel Rooms: We are fortunate to be able to have our convention at *The Coeur d'Alene Resort* during the 4th of July week. Our original block of rooms at the Resort is sold out, but we still have a few rooms held for us at The Resort's sister property, the *Best Western Plus*. It is 2 miles from The Resort, where our meetings will be held, but they will provide complimentary shuttles to and from The Resort for our members. If you don't have a room reservation, make it now. There are only a few rooms remaining, and the Resort can't hold them open past **May 1**. Call 1-800-251-7829 and mention *“Pacific Region of National Garden Clubs”* when making reservations.

Pre-Convention Tour to Glacier National Park:

The Pre-Convention Tour to Glacier National Park now has 30 people registered, so the tour will take place as planned on June 27-30! There are only 8 seats remaining on the bus, so these will be filled on a first come basis. So if you ever wanted to visit Glacier Park, here is your chance, but don't wait to make your reservation. **Reservations will close on May 1.** The registration form is available on the Pacific Region Website, or call Alpha Omega Tours, in Medical Lake, Washington, at (509) 299-5594. Final payment is due **June 1**.

4th of July Fireworks – Boat on Coeur d'Alene Lake:

For those who are planning to stay in Coeur d'Alene for the 4th of July there will be spectacular fireworks

display on The Lake. The view from many of the hotel rooms, and from the shore, is very good. For a special treat, our Resort has boats that take passengers on the lake to view the show that evening for a fee...even VIP Boats with food and drinks.

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE, and they **sell out before the first of June**. If you are interested in this, call The Resort's concierge sooner than later at (208) 765-2300, ext. 21. There are also other private tour boats available (check the internet).

All the details of the convention and tours are available on the Pacific Region website: PacificRegionGardenClubs.org - It was also printed in the February, 2014, issue of WACONIAH

Or contact: Sandra Ford, Convention Chairman
sandraford@cablone.net or (208) 853-6575
Robyn McCarthy, Convention Co-Chair
robnyngcii@q.com or (208) 522-8230

Convention Credentials

By Carol Norquist, Credentials Chairman

Have you ever wondered why there is a credentials committee or chairman? Or just what credentials are for? **The credentials chairman is responsible for checking in and verifying that the people attending the meeting have the proper qualifications as voting delegates to conduct the business of the organization.** The qualified delegates receive a badge or some other sign as evidence of their right for admission to the meeting and their right to vote. A report is given at times during the meeting stating what the voting strength is. This is useful, in cases where a written vote is needed, to determine the number of ballots. The report is also used to determine whether a quorum has been met. In the Pacific Region (PR) each state determines who its voting delegates will be. Each state is allowed a minimum of two delegates. Additional delegates may be allowed as is determined by the state's National Garden Clubs membership numbers. In addition, all PR officers, state presidents and committee chairmen (Board of Directors) have voting privileges. **State presidents need to send me the names of their delegates by June 5 for the 2014 convention in Idaho.**



What started as a backyard hobby has grown into an industry to help keep our food supply secure.

Dave Hunter started raising mason bees about 20 years ago in Washington State. Through many trials and experiments, he was able to steadily

increase their numbers. When his employer, DHL (the international shipping company) closed their doors in 2008, Dave created Crown Bees, whose purpose was to raise mason bees for the almond industry.

He founded the Orchard Bee Association, a professional team of researchers, pollinators, orchard owners, and mason bee producers to accelerate the use of mason bees in orchards. Four years later, the organization is now an international collaboration team making great strides in research, development of bees, and standards.

www.crownbees.com opened its doors in 2009 and quickly became a website where gardeners can find mason bees, bee-safe products, and a great source of helpful tips for their success. Crown Bees began selling its products to nurseries in 2010 and is now found in hundreds of nurseries across the nation. "*Bee-Mail*," a monthly newsletter that "reminds you when to do what" has helped thousands of gardeners become successful.

Crown Bees became a partner of National Garden Clubs, Inc. in 2013. We are honored to help teach native bee awareness and are looking to close the bee gap through our BeeGAP program. The "GAP" in BeeGAP means "Gardeners Adding Pollinators."

Schools Information

By Greg Pokorski, NGC Schools Coordinator

Keep up to date with news about NGC schools. Look for information in each issue of *The National Gardener* and *Keeping in Touch*.

Issue Deadlines

August 2014 **deadline 6-25-14**

November 2014 deadline 9-25-14

February 2015 deadline 12-25-14



Linda Larson has a lifelong love of flowers. She is a Master Gardener, Faculty Emeritus of Mesa College and a gardener in Mesa, Arizona for over 30 years. She writes a monthly

"Traveling Gardener" column for the Maricopa Master Gardener newsletter, and AFGC State newsletter. One of her earliest memories is of daffodils lining the small stone path to her grandmother's door. Growing up on a farm in central Indiana she not only pulled weeds out of the peonies each summer, but the nightshade out of her father's soybean fields. After graduating from Indiana State University she went on to make her home in Mesa, Arizona, teaching public speaking at Mesa College. She is a member of *Tempe Garden Club* and is the Book Review Chairman for *Pacific Region*.

She couldn't keep her hands out of the dirt and has an extensive home garden with fruit trees, and over 100 container plantings, which has been included in several municipal gardening tours over the 30 years she has been an Arizona resident. By hosting tours and touring other's gardens, she was inspired to explore public gardens whenever possible.

Nearing retirement from teaching, she fulfilled the requirements of becoming a Master Gardener and has begun an entirely new career – encouraging audiences to discover the beauty and enjoyment of public gardens at home and in their travels. Her website offers readers the opportunity to be whisked away on a mini vacation through her colorful narratives and lush photography. <http://travelinggardener.com/>

Linda's program at our Pacific Region Convention in Coeur d'Alene will focus on TREES. You will be taken on a journey of remarkable tree encounters from around the world as she illustrates the importance of trees in our lives and in our gardens.

"The years between 50 and 70 are the hardest. You are always being asked to do things, and yet you are not decrepit enough to turn them down!"

—T.S.Eliot

In garden club: it may be that the years between 55 and 95 are the hardest!

—Greg Pokorski



2014 PACIFIC REGION of NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS CONVENTION
70TH Annual Convention – July 1-3, 2014
Convention Highlights

Elaine Gunderson, our Pacific Region Director, will be conducting her first Pacific Region Convention at the beautiful Coeur d'Alene Resort, July 1-3, 2014.

Tuesday Banquet: *A "Black & White Affair" to Celebrate our 70th Convention*

The first evening banquet, on July 1, is the Life Member Banquet (open to all), **"Black & White Affair,"** to celebrate the **70th Convention of the Pacific Region.** Come dressed up, party, and visit with longtime friends!



Wednesday Luncheon: *Boat Cruise, Potato Bar & Garden Visit*

Idaho is famous for its potatoes, and you won't want to miss the Wednesday "Potato Bar" luncheon on the **Coeur d'Alene Lake Tour Boat**. The highlight will be a visit to the private gardens at the lake-front home of our Resort's owner, Duane Hagadone, which will be in full bloom! The garden is not open to the public....this is a treat not to miss! Everyone is encouraged to wear their Pacific Region Rainbow T-shirt!



Wednesday Afternoon Program: *"BeeGAP & Mason Bees"*

Following our boat lunch/tour on Wednesday, an afternoon workshop will feature Dave Hunter of Crown Bees, who has partnered with NGC to teach gardeners about the threat to the bee population and involve us in raising Mason Bees and teaching others. **Learn how to become a BeeGAP Partner!**



Wednesday Design Banquet: *"Trends in Color"*

Join us on **Wednesday evening** (July 2) for our **Design Banquet** (6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.). We are delighted to have **Jon Robert Throne** as our guest. Jon was inducted into the American Institute of Floral Design in 2001, and owns Countryside Floral in Issaquah, WA.

He will bring 15 finished designs to the banquet, all with a strong emphasis on color. To top off the evening, **the famous auctioneer, Tory Bennett, from Washington Garden Clubs, will auction off all of these designs.**



Thursday Luncheon Program: *"Remarkable Trees"*

The lunch program on Thursday (July 3) will be presented by **Linda Larson**. She is a member of *Tempe Garden Club*, Arizona and is the Book Review Chairman for Pacific Region.

Linda's program will focus on TREES. You will be taken on a journey of remarkable tree encounters from around the world as she illustrates the importance of trees in our lives and in our gardens.



Thursday Dinner: *NGC President: Linda Nelson*

Our 70th Convention will wrap up with dinner on the outside Lakeview Terrace of The Resort. **The evening will feature our own Linda Nelson, National Garden Clubs President.**

Linda is a long-time member of the Pacific Region. She is a former *Pacific Region Director* (2003-05), and former *President of Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs*. By now, she has traveled abroad and attended several of our 51 state conventions, and will share the progress garden clubs are making for her theme, ***"Making a World of Difference – Choices Matter."***





Pacific Region
of
National Garden Clubs

"Expand Horizons – A Conservation Rainbow" **REPORT OF ACTIVITY**

The 2013-2015 Pacific Region Project is: ***"It's Our World! It's Our Responsibility! Plant Seeds of Knowledge and Stewardship."*** The officers of the Pacific Region, along with the state presidents and their officers, have been asked to promote education through workshops, speakers, and seminars to educate their members, and the public, in making responsible choices that will protect and conserve our natural resources...**Air**, **Water**, **Forest**, **Land**, **Plants** and **Wildlife**.

State presidents are asked to report their state's activities to accomplish our project's goals in the categories listed below. The reporting period is from April 2013, to October 1, 2014. **The format below is suggested for the Pacific Region states to use in collecting data from each club president.** Club presidents are to report these results to their chairman or state president by **October 1, 2014**, so that the chairman can total and send a final report to the regional chairman, Sandra Ford, by **November 1**.

Club: _____ **District:** _____

Briefly describe your activity in the appropriate category below. Also, identify each activity with one of the following codes:

C – Club Meeting D – Display W – Workshop FS – Flower Show O - Other

Air:

Water:

Forest:

Land:

Plants:

Wildlife:

A GOOD Forest Fire

By Pat York, Penny Pines Chairman



From the desk of Pat York, Penny Pines Chairman for California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI) -- Penny Pines, the reforestation project in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service, has been like a forest fire in itself for several years in California with the CGCI members along with other

individuals contributing to this worthwhile project. In each edition of CGCI's official publication, *Golden Gardens eNews*, the donations are listed by name and whether "In Honor" or "In Memory" of a special person who has contributed to the reforestation of our National Forests helping to replant the burned areas in our California National Forests. A plantation of 365 seedling trees can be purchased for \$68 from the Forest Service. This is the kind of fire every Pacific Region state can afford to have!

If your Penny Pines Chairman will send me the donations from your state, I will announce them in *WACONIAH*. Let's start this kind of fire and never put it out!

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

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



Lady Bug Landing started in April, 2005 in Coos Bay. It was the first developed in Coos County and has been used as a model for future community gardens. This garden park has 60 individual raised beds, including some that are wheelchair accessible. Coos County Oregon State University Master Gardeners

maintain demonstration garden plots of vegetables, berries, herbs and perennial flowers on the perimeter of the garden. All the food is donated to a local food bank and mission.

Coquille Community Garden Board was organized in the fall of 2008 by a group of local people who wanted a conveniently located garden where townspeople had the opportunity to grow their own vegetables. We had 18 beds for renters, including three for people with physical limitations, and eight demonstration beds that the board volunteers gardened for food bank donations. Currently, there are 27 beds for renters and seven demonstration beds used for teaching classes

and also growing for local food banks. We have two fundraisers each year, a Spring Plant sale and the Autumn Tomato Taste-Off. Each spring we start vegetable seeds with the intent of providing healthy veggie starts for our local gardening community. In the fall the idea behind the Great Tomato Taste-Off is to have local gardens bring in a few of the tomatoes that are their favorites and they think taste the best. We slice them up for the community to taste and then vote for their favorites. We also offer a tomato-inspired snack plate for \$3 to help us raise money for maintaining the Community Garden.

A large part of our activity in Bandon with the Bandon Good Earth Community Garden is to provide educational opportunities for public regarding gardening knowledge and techniques. We work closely with the Bandon School District and other youth programs to provide health education through hands-on learning. Students learn to cultivate and harvest edibles and to become a positive and productive part of our community.

Plants Stewardship

By Jan Billiam, Environmental Concerns/Conservation Chairman

I must admit I have a passion for plants! Spring is always much anticipated and exciting, as I evaluate past growing seasons and plan for the ones ahead. Trial and error experiences with plants I just wanted to see in my landscapes were pretty much what I have planted in the past...regardless of my zone, watering requirements, sun exposure, and environment.

Today, however, more environmental and conservation concerns are influencing my decisions on plants selected. Can more native plants be incorporated into the landscape? How much water will the plants need once established? How sensitive to the local environment and climate will a plant be seasonally? These are just a few of the questions that need educated answers before choosing the correct plants. It's important to be proactive and knowledgeable before heading off to the garden store!

There are many diverse sources of information in each of our locales to make sensitive choices on plant material this spring and I'd like to share some that have been the most helpful to me:

- * **University Cooperative Extension Offices**, offer specific plants lists for hardiness, water requirements, planting times, pruning tips, etc. Trained Master Gardeners may offer advice from firsthand experience. Your county Master Gardeners may hold plant sales from their plant divisions, cuttings, seeds and seedlings from their successful landscapes.
- * **Full Service Local Nurseries** often have well-informed, experienced staff to help with landscape choices best for conservation of resources and the

environment suitable for your climate. Some of the larger home improvement stores may carry beautiful specimens of annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees that may or may not survive in your area. Read labels and ask questions before purchasing.

- * **Sunset's Western Garden Book** is regularly updated with the botanical and common names of plants for all growing zones, watering and sun exposure requirements. This book is a "must have" when I go plant shopping!
- * **Local Public Gardens and Plant Sales** offer tried and true optimal plants for landscape possibilities and for sale. In Phoenix, for example, the Desert Botanical Garden invites visitors to tour acres of labeled plants well suited environmentally to the Sonoran desert, as well as plant sales to the public several times a year.
- * **Local Farmer's Markets** are especially useful for those growing fruits and vegetables. Growers are usually happy to share information on high yield plants, as well as remedies for plant diseases and problems.
- * **Community Gardens** can be excellent sources for learning what grows well and under what conditions, in your locality.
- * **Garden Club Friends** are often the most reliable sources of all!

Gardening books and magazines still inform and entice me to try something totally beautiful and new each spring, but I'm learning to do the research on what this new plant's requirements will be **before** the purchase! My gardening future looks bright when I can create a beautiful landscape and still be respectful and sensitive to my local environment and climate! Time to get planting!!!

Energy Conservation

By Pat Babcock, Energy Conservation Chairman

St. Patrick's Day has passed and I have put my **green** shirt aside to think about energy conservation energy in a **green** way.

We need to keep **Earth** beautiful by thinking of climate change and global warming. We need to care about **reducing** the amount of waste that goes into our landfills, **reusing** the organic waste as compost and **recycling** waste into new products.



For a **greener** earth, large companies should convert their fleets to biodiesel. All of us could lower our energy consumption with insulation. You can purchase appliances that use less energy at shopping centers. We could think of using more solar and wind energy. Solar energy is the technology of obtaining usable energy from the light of the sun. Even in subarctic Fairbanks, Alaska in the land of the midnight sun, solar energy is being used by saving it

during the summer in batteries or **heat** sinks for future use in our long cold winters.

Spring is the perfect time to think **green**. For some it's spurred by the coming of **Earth** Day on April 22, 2014, others the renewed **greening** of our lawns. And many are motivated by the desire to save a little **green** in their wallets with a fresh new season of home repairs.

If you're one of these people, you can help save some **green** for the planet, as well as your hard-earned cash, by making energy efficient upgrades throughout your home.

Helping the world stay **green** gained traction with the first **Earth** Day held March 22, 1970, as declared by Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin. As a nation, much has been accomplished with the environmental movement, yet there are also easy things you can do at home to "go **green**" and save money at the same time. Here are some tips for home energy efficiency upgrades indoors and out.

 Cool efficiently: When it comes to home energy bills, **heating** and cooling accounts for as much as half of the average home's utility costs, according to www.energy.gov.



 Get ready for the hottest days of summer by tuning up your **heating**, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) system so it's operating efficiently. Change your HVAC filters regularly. In addition, if your cooling system is more than 10 years old, consider replacing it with one that has a Seasonal Efficiency Ratio (SEER) of 20.00 for better savings. Trane's XL20i, for example, can mean a savings of up to 60 percent on your annual cooling costs – that's **cool** cash in your pocket.

 Programmable temperature controls: A programmable HVAC control can reduce energy consumption by up to 15 percent compared to traditional nonprogrammable thermostats. Today's HVAC control systems, like the Trane ComfortLink II Control, now monitor indoor and outdoor temperatures, plus home energy use over time, to help you manage energy and comfort even further.

 Conserve **water**: Remember, **water** isn't free. Indoors, lower **water** bills by installing low-flow **water** fixtures including toilets, showerheads and faucets. Outdoors, add a **water**-saving spigot for the garden hose. To avoid **water** evaporation, **water** your plants early or late in the day, and when your **green** lawn starts to grow, don't mow too low. If you have lawn sprinklers, double check that they are set to **water** grass and shrubbery instead of the driveway or sidewalk. Rather than hose down your deck to clean it, save **water** by sweeping instead.

Lighting: About 10 percent of the energy your home uses goes to lighting costs, according to www.energy.gov – in fact, by just replacing five of your home's most frequently used lights with energy efficient ENERGY STAR bulbs, you could save \$75 a year in energy costs. Compared with traditional incandescent bulbs, compact fluorescents can yield as much as 75 percent energy savings and last six times longer. You can save even more energy and wasted **heat** by switching to LEDs. Outdoor lights using CFLs or LEDs save energy, too, so look for ENERGY STAR qualified fixtures designed for outdoor use.



By taking these steps, you can help make the world a little **greener**, keep your home a little **greener**, and save even more **green** where it really hits home – in your wallet.

Why Organic Gardening?

By Karen Brown, Organic Gardening Chairman

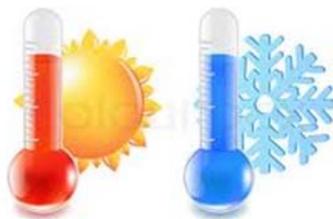


landscapes beautiful.

Organic gardening has become almost a fad in recent years, a good fad. We have become much more aware of the dangerous products and practices used in raising food and keeping our

When we were in chemistry class, we learned that "organic" means containing carbon. Organic gardening has a much broader definition, however. We use the term to mean gardening without using man-made fertilizers, pesticides, weed killers and other chemicals. We should also include gardening without using more than our share of water, without polluting the air we breathe, and without introducing plant varieties that will damage our ecosystem.

One does not have to be 100% organic to benefit the earth. Most of us, even if we consider ourselves organic gardeners, once in a while find some problem that requires a little different approach. The most important thing is to garden in ways that work in our own areas without resorting to heroic and damaging efforts.



Our region varies from extreme dry desert to extreme winter cold, from drought to wetlands, from scorching heat to zero degrees. It is hard to make suggestions for ways to make your gardening habits more organic

that would apply to everyone. There are some basics, however.

You can choose a garden style that takes advantage of the plants that thrive where you live. This will minimize your use of water and fertilizer, at the same time as making your gardening more successful and thus more fun. Adopt watering styles that prevent runoff and use mulches to conserve the water in the soil. Choose the least harmful and most organic products when it is necessary to buy fertilizer, potting soil or bug or weed killers.

Sometimes you can use a barrier rather than an insect killer. I grow lots of vegetables, and the white cabbage



butterflies do appreciate me. Does it matter to me if they get on my cabbage? No, because I can peel or cut away their damage. How about the broccoli, though, where they love to get inside that luscious mass of little buds? No, I can't tolerate that. Do I want to spray something toxic on the part I'm going to eat? No to that as well. So I bought some nylon netting at the fabric store, the kind you might use to make a tutu, with tiny holes, and I sewed up some pillowcase-like bags to slip over the broccoli plants when they begin to grow up. Works like a charm, keeps the butterflies from laying eggs on my food. Just make sure to bury the edges in the soil so the little guys can't crawl under.

Barriers work well for weed control too. You can buy fabrics made for that use, or use layers of newspaper or old carpet. Or simply put down a nice layer of mulch where you don't want the weeds to grow. Weeds need light and moisture the same as ornamentals, so if you rob them of that, they can't thrive.



You can buy commercial fertilizers that are made from naturally occurring materials, often rock that contains

phosphorous, calcium, or potassium, such as limestone, rock phosphate, or greensand. Composted manures and plant materials can provide nitrogen. Look for the term "organic" on the labels. These are dry and as easy to apply as anything in a bag or box on the shelf. Established plants that are well suited to where they are planted and are growing well don't need great quantities of nutrients added anyway. Save your "feeding" for the annuals and vegetables.

If you have some suggestions for organic gardeners, share them with me and next time I write I'll pass them along. Make your gardening as natural as you can, and have fun doing it!

The Buzz about Bees

By Josie Goodenow, Bees Chairman



Do you feel that this winter has been an especially challenging one? Well, spring is finally arriving and will surely be greeted with open arms!

This winter and spring continue the drought

conditions which many of us have been experiencing the past three years. As gardeners we are eager to plan and prepare our annual vegetable gardens as well as the flowerbeds in our yards but this year we must also consider the lack of water in many neighboring areas.

The drought has left many bees without their normal supply of wildflowers to feed on. Some beekeepers and gardeners have tried to supplement the bees' diet but many man-made nectars lack some of the nutrition needed to keep bees healthy. The best supplemental feeds available do not match the nutrients that are in a good blend of pollen, so at this time many of our bees are malnourished. Beekeepers are abuzz with concern over the drought. Pesticides used to be the main problem they faced. Now, a lack of plant life adds greatly to the worry.

Bees are in trouble. Around much of California, my home state, hillsides normally covered with wildflowers this time of year are bare. Almond trees are currently in bloom and many bees are getting their food now but when the almonds are through there will be practically nothing for many pollinators to eat. The lack of rain means there's less naturally-growing plants available for these bees to pollinate. With less food, it's hard for them to flourish.

Reservoirs are in need of water as the pressure of the drought continues. Many public utility districts are implementing water rationing in an attempt to ensure water is available through the summer months and into fall when, hopefully, our rains return. As it turns out, bees are thirsty too, and this water rationing will have an effect on farmers and gardeners throughout our Pacific Region. You need flowers for the bees to collect pollen and nectar and unless you have the rain or irrigation, you aren't going to have flowers.

What can we as gardeners do to help? One is to plan a portion of your garden around drought hardy plants that are attractive to pollinators. The options are numerous, greater than most of us realize. By combining different textures, forms and colors you can create a beautiful landscape that is visually stunning and attractive to pollinators without consuming more than your water allotment.

Succulents, herbs, and wildflowers provide great options for gardeners wanting to attract bees to dry areas.

Succulents, such as sedums are great drought resistant plants. They are able to store water in their fleshy leaves and stems. Their compact heads ooze nectar during the late summer, and are loved by bees and other pollinating insects.

Herbs can tolerate dry conditions. Lavender, marjoram, oregano, sage, thyme and rosemary are all drought tolerant, provide food for bees, and spices for your kitchen as well!



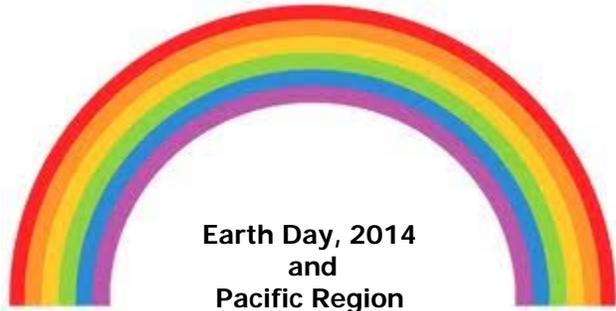
Wildflowers are well adapted to tolerate dry conditions. Excellent drought plants that attract bees and other pollinators include: poppies, bird's foot trefoil, cornflower, candytuft, thistles, bugle (*Ajuga*), deadnettle, selfheal, *achillea*, sea holly, rock rose, *ceanothus*, and teasels.

One of the easiest ways to deal with a lawn in drought conditions is to allow clover to flourish. It will keep your lawn looking green, and bees love it! Later, after mowing, the clover makes excellent, nutritious compost for other plants.

People wouldn't necessarily die without bees, but losing them would affect much more than most people seem to realize. Dairy indirectly relies on bees. Clovers need pollination and cattle depend on clovers.

Roughly a third of all our food, including plums, apples and squash, depend on some kind of bee pollination.

As gardeners, we need to consider the impact of our gardening practices not only on our local area but also on the Pacific Region.



"Expand Horizons – A Conservation Rainbow"
Educate - Communicate
Educate Yourself, Your Garden Club, Your Community

The 2013-2015 Pacific Region Director's Project is: **"It's Our World! It's Our Responsibility! Plant Seeds of Knowledge and Stewardship."** The officers of the Pacific Region, along with the state presidents and their officers, are asked to promote education through workshops, speakers, and seminars to educate their members, and the public, in making responsible choices that will protect and conserve our natural resources...**Air**, **Water**, **Forest**, **Land**, **Plants** and **Wildlife**.

When the annual **Earth Day** celebration takes place on **April 22**, millions of people around the world will have set aside time to plant a tree, clean up a waterway or better educate themselves about any number of environmental topics...**what an excellent time for you and your garden club to be involved to better educate ourselves, and to make a major commitment to our Pacific Region Project!**

Forty-four years after it first began, Earth Day continues to make an impact. The first celebration, held in 1970, put a sharp focus on environmental issues that were of growing concern, especially among young people. The day was a spark for far-reaching legislation on **clean air**, **clean water**, **land** and **forest** protection, **endangered species** and even the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency. A lot of those "young people" 44 years ago are now us...garden club members who can still make an impact. This month events will take place in nearly 200 countries, as well as nearly every city in America.

It isn't too early to start planning next year's Earth Day, but don't feel you have to do something only on that day. **Use the Earth Day theme as a catalyst for your garden club members to promote education through workshops or other activities.** Design a way to help educate and engage your members to join in protecting the environment. Earth Day gives us the opportunity to mobilize our

members...here are a few ideas you might consider to begin your discussions:

- Plan a day of tree planting
- Lead a recycling drive to collect as much plastic, metal and glass as possible
- Organize a project at a local school, such as planting a garden...set an example and involve young people
- Find an expert (such as a local college professor) to educate your members, and public, about climate change
- In the May, 2013 issue of *WACONIAH* is an article outlining your Pacific Region Project with more ideas, and website suggestions.

To help share the stories of our efforts with all the great things we are doing to protect and conserve our natural resources, we need your help! **If you organized an event or activity as part of our Region's Project, please send me an email or note so we can share it with all our members.** My email address is: sandraford@cableone.net

Remember, we all live downstream!

New Floral Design Group Open to ALL

By Jill Coleman, OFAD Membership Chairman



OFAD, Organization of Floral Arts Designers, was formed last year by a group from California. Most are long-time members of California Garden Clubs, Inc., but there are also founding members who are from other areas of the floral design community, notably, Steve Brown who is the floristry chair at the City College of San Francisco and also members from Floral Artists of the Bay Area, Furyu Floral Designers, Bay Area Arrangers and others. OFAD is a member of California Garden Clubs, Inc., National Garden Clubs, Inc. and holds Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(3) (non-profit) status.

The purpose of the organization is to bring together a diverse group of people who are interested in creative floral design. There will be an annual seminar, held in August of each year for this purpose. **The dates for 2014 are August 22-24.** The seminar will always be held in San Francisco at a hotel with easy access to the San Francisco Airport. **This year it will be held at the Embassy Suites in South San Francisco. The room rate for OFAD members is \$139 per night, double or king room.**

By Sheila Parcel, Schools Chairman

Top designers will be featured, hands-on workshops will be offered, and vendors will be available to sell floral-design related treasures including weathered wood from "Orangeman" in Chico, glass and metal containers from Laurie Lee, handmade pottery from both Bruno Kark and Gordon Ward, metal sculptures from Ken Schwartz, ribbons and other fabric accessories from Ron Brown, and acrylic sculpture, creative lighting and mechanics from Joy4Design (Joy Parker). There will be a "design mechanics display" from the San Francisco Flower Market and a "boutique" with gently used donated containers, dried flora, antlers, and items too numerous to mention. In addition to the seminar, "The Gallery" will consist of over fifty innovative designs created by OFAD members and staged throughout the hotel.

There are three levels of membership and it is necessary to become a member in order to attend the seminar. The levels: *General Membership*: \$35.00
Sponsor: \$100.00 *Benefactor*: \$101.00+

Sponsors and Benefactors will be given priority seating at seminar demonstrations. Those who hold General Memberships will be seated according to when their registrations for the seminar are received.

If you have questions or would like to receive a membership application and/or seminar registration form, please contact the OFAD Membership Chairman listed below **OR you can download the membership form and the seminar registration form from the website <http://californiagardenclubs.com/OFAD>**

Jill Coleman, 5512 Malvern Way, Riverside, CA 92506
Telephone: 951-684-2635 Email: bcnjill@hotmail.com

Calendar of Events

- Apr 25 Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, and National Arbor Days
- April 30 – 2014 NGC Convention, Norman,
May 3 Oklahoma
- May 19 Alaska Arbor Day
- June 1-7 National Garden Week
- Jun 27-30 PR Pre-Convention Fundraiser
Tour – Northern Idaho & Glacier Nat'l Park
- July 1-3 2014 Pacific Region Convention,
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho**
- Apr 20-22 2015 PR Convention, Eugene, OR**

Your first job is to prepare the soil. The best tool for this is your neighbor's motorized garden tiller. If your neighbor does not own a garden tiller, suggest that he buy one.

- Dave Barry

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS

July 9-11, Course III, Livermore, CA
Contact: Victoria Lucido, (925) 838-9922,
vlucido@comcast.net

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

FLOWER SHOW SYMPOSIA

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

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

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

May 3, Refresher, Colfax Garden Club
Contact: Ingrid Elsel

TRI-REFRESHER

June 6 & 9, CGCI Convention, Glendale, CA
Contact: Julie West, (707) 829-9342
JulieAWest@aol.com

Director's Travel Schedule

2014

- April 30 – NGC 85th Convention – Norman, OK
May 4
- May 4 – 17 Travel to Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin
- June 1 – 4 WSFGC 81st Convention – Tukwilla, WA
- June 23 – 25 OSFGC Convention – Wilsonville, OR
- June 27 – 30 **Pacific Region Pre-Convention
Fundraiser Tour – Glacier Nat'l
Park & Northern Idaho**
- June 30 – **Pacific Region 70th Convention –**
July 3 Coeur d'Alene, ID
- Sept 24 -28 NGC Fall Board Meeting – Des Moines,
IA
- Sept 30 – Oct 10
Civil War Tour to Pennsylvania,
Washington DC, Maryland & Virginia

2015

- Jan 26 – 28 NGC Winter Executive Committee
Meeting – Las Vegas, NV
- Jan 29 – 30 NGC FS Symposium – Las Vegas, NV
- Apr 9 -12 AFGC 80th Convention – Yuma, AZ
- Apr 20-22 PACIFIC REGION 71st Convention –
Eugene, OR
- May 12 -18 NGC 86th Convention – Louisville, KY
- June 9 – 12 CGCI 83rd Convention – Reno, NV



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Does your arm hurt? Patting yourself on the back because you take WACONIAH by email and save paper & us \$\$\$\$

Parliamentary Procedure – Convention Season

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian



Get the most out of the organizations you belong to by your active involvement in them and by paying attention to the work that they have done, are doing and need to do. Convention season (NGC, Pacific Region, state) is here again. Board meetings and conventions are held to conduct the business of our organizations on behalf of the membership. All **voting members of the organization** – that's all board members (not just officers) and selected convention delegates (from our state garden clubs for NGC and Pacific Region; from individual clubs, in the case of the state organizations) – **have convention responsibilities: be familiar with bylaws and standing rules that govern the organization** whose convention you are attending (Pacific Region is governed by NGC bylaws and its own Policy and Procedure Guidelines which is posted on the Region website); **know which meetings you are to attend; attend and participate in all business meetings; report on the accomplishments or goals of your office or chairmanship;** be informed about business items expected to come before the convention assembly (bylaws amendments, elections, etc.); **take advantage of educational and informational opportunities offered** (workshops, speakers and tours); prepare an oral or written report for your constituency – in other words, **report back to your state garden club or individual garden club.**

Be part of parliamentary procedure in action. Attend, participate and benefit from your state, regional and national conventions. **Be in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho July 1-3!**

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What is the most popular gardening magazine? Weeder's Digest. Get it? Weeder's Digest!