

WACONIAH

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

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



2019 – 2021 Pacific Region Director
Robin Pokorski

THE Re-CALL to the PRGC Convention is in this issue.

Director's Message

You continue to amaze and delight me. You wrote great articles, you responded to requests for information (see our message board on page 23-25) and I was "moosed" yet again. I've got the time to catch up on all the projects sitting on my desk. Now we have a Youth Contest Entries booklet; *Live, Laugh, Garden in the Pacific Region*, an inspiration book; and *What's Cookin' in the Pacific Region*. It's exciting even if we're at home for a month or so. I hope to see YOU at the convention in August.

Robin

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

Re-CALL to Convention

All members of the Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Board of Directors and delegates are called to the PRGC Convention in Silverton, Oregon, rescheduled for **August 17–20** to be held at The Oregon Garden. All officers and chairmen are expected to present an oral report. State Presidents, you are expected to present a video report (no more than 10 minutes, please). Board members should advise the Director if you will not be attending.



Diane Franchini is a **GEM** because she is so successful and efficient in reaching our Director's Project goals of having more **"Blue Stars Shine in the Pacific Region."** ~ Alexis Slafer

77th Annual Convention

By Gaye Stewart, Convention Chairman

Pacific Region Garden Clubs' Convention in Oregon

77th Annual Convention – August 17-20, 2020

Post-Convention Tour – August 20-22, 2020

"Connecting in a Kaleidoscope of Colors"

Silverton, Oregon at The Oregon Garden Resort Activities, Meetings and Workshops

The Pacific Region Convention has been re-scheduled for August 17-20, with the Post-Convention Tour immediately following on August 20-22. It will be the same convention plan as before at The Oregon Garden. The tour will include a visit to the Evergreen Aviation Museum followed by lunch hosted by the McMinnville Garden Club and many other surprises. Registration is still open, so plan to join us. The weather will be perfect and the sights delightful!

Your support is greatly appreciated as the Convention Planning Committee continues planning the Convention and Post-Convention Tour for guests from the eight states comprising the Pacific Region. No one knew how greatly our lives and plans would be affected by the coronavirus, so please stay safe and we'll ride this out together.

Tour space is limited.

JOIN US FOR THE FUN!!

Cost: \$225 per person - due July 31, 2020.



What's Cookin' in the Pacific Region

By Robin Pokorski, Cookbook Chairman Cohort

Our Region cookbook **"What's Cookin' in the Pacific Region"** will be available at the 2020 Pacific Region Convention. However, if you want a preview copy, let me know and I will be happy to send you one or set one aside for you to pick up at convention.

The books will be available at the Sales and Treasures Table at Convention.

Photo Phundraiser – Special Event

By Karen & Paul Ramsey, Contest Chairmen

There have been some changes to the entry deadlines due to the Pacific Region convention being moved to August 17-20. **The new deadlines are August 1 for my receipt of photos, entry forms and checks to be delivered to convention. August 10 will be the deadline** for receipt of e-mails of photos you wish to have printed and matted for delivery to convention.

The Photo Phundraiser Contest is in full swing with 16 photos already e-mailed to me to print and mat to be entered in the competition. The **\$25 prize money for 1st place, \$100 for Best in Show** and the **\$100 for the club with most entries** plus the **\$100 for the club with most entries per capita** has been a fantastic incentive. I've received a lot of calls for information and am looking forward to seeing the entries. The interest has been phenomenal and it's turning out to be a really fun event.



Don't forget that if you can't come or send your photos to the convention with a friend, you can mail your photos, entry form and check to me and I'll take them for you. I'm also willing to print and mat any of your 8x10

photos e-mailed to me but I have to charge an additional \$5 each for the materials i.e. paper, ink and mat.

As a reminder, the five categories are: Landscape/Gardens, Animals, Insects & Birds, Single Bloom, and Director's Choice – **Moose (for those of you with a no moose state, think outside the box, it doesn't specify live moose, hint hint)**. All categories have both a color and black and white division. Mat 8x10s to no larger than 11x14. No enhancing the photo but you can change it from color to black and white. No framed photos. We will provide the display stands; you just provide the photo. If you win **first place** you will need to provide a digital file and a release to publish so your photo can be published in *WACONIAH* and no, you do not relinquish any of your rights to your photo, just the right to publish it and perhaps use it in a Pacific Region calendar. The rules and entry form are available on the PRGC website at www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org. The entry fees are \$5 for one photo and \$20 for 5 photos.

With that said, here's looking forward to a fun-filled event where everyone can enjoy the great photography from the entire Pacific Region.

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

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

Blue Star Refurbishing Update

By Shirley Lipa, Blue Star Memorial Co-Chairman

As everyone probably knows, Director Robin's challenge was for each state to install or refurbish at least two **Blue Star Markers** each year during her two-year term of office (five markers each year in California). Tom Stelling, a professional restorer, was coming from Florida to help make our **Blue Stars** shine. We had lined up over 30 Highway and By-Way Markers in California alone, and everything seemed all set for Tom's visit out West. Then the unbelievable happened. Our country was in the midst of a world-wide pandemic, with the COVID-19 virus spreading rampantly. States were issuing "Shelter in Place" orders to help stem the spread of the virus. In early March, Tom sent a message saying he felt it was prudent that he and his wife postpone their trip to do our restorations. I totally agreed! So, we are now in a waiting mode to see when it will be safe for them to head west. I will let everyone know when I hear that Tom has rescheduled his trip to help make our **Blue Stars** shine.



Shirley Lipa is a **GEM** because she is so enthusiastic and effective as our Blue Star Chairman.

~ Alexis Slafer

Membership Matters - Ideas for Growth

By Gaye Stewart, Membership Chairman

The Pacific Region is pleased to announce that **Membership Matters – Ideas for Growth** will be available soon – it is 100+ pages of ideas collected from our Region's states.



Gaye Stewart is a **GEM** because she put together a valuable resource for Pacific Region: *Membership Matters – Ideas for Growth!*

~ Robin Pokorski

State Presidents' Reports

This term, the state presidents are writing their reports based on a common assignment. This issue's assignment was ***How is getting clubs to work together accomplished in your state? What projects/activities are happening that involve more than one club?***

If your state isn't featured it's because nothing was submitted!

Odorless perfumes are non-scents!

By Cheryl Habriel, Poet Laureate

A garden is a thing of joy
Creative talents to employ

Carefully I till and sow
Then watch and wait for things to grow
Daily I check my nurtured soil
For evidence of all my toil

Ah! Tiny sprouts I do perceive
Darn! It's just another weed!
But finally tiny leaves do appear
I don my gloves and grab my gear.

Trellises for lots of tomatoes
Wire rings to cage potatoes
String to climb for verdant beans
Never ending toil it seems!

Then scorching heat in high degrees
Please – I pray for some relief
As I struggle to keep alive
The last of my limp green chives

But fall brings with it cooling times
As summer starts to unwind
My squash and cukes are safely canned
Not quite abundantly as planned

Winter nears — catalogues arrive
And once again I will contrive
To plan a garden full of hope
Maybe with a lesser scope

For a garden is a thing of joy
A chance my talents to re-employ!

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



First, I would like to let you all know our thoughts and prayers are with our Pacific Region fellow garden club friends. We hope you and your family are staying safe and well. These are difficult times.

We'll miss seeing everyone in April at the Pacific Region Convention in The Oregon Garden but look forward to the new date in August. Please stay in touch with your garden club friends and support each other.

"Getting your clubs to work together"

It is so wonderful when different garden clubs come together with a common goal! Usually we are all involved in our own club and activities - general garden clubs with a variety of programs like Boulder City GC, Desert Gardeners, Seedlings, Rose GC and Sunset GC; Plant Societies with a specific interest such as roses, cactus & succulents, bonsai, iris, and African violets; and guilds like Las Vegas Flower Arrangers'.

We recently held a rose pruning in the Garden of Pioneer Women which is next to our Nevada Garden Club Center and located in Lorenzi Park, a part of the City of Las Vegas Parks and Recreation. We have a partnership with the City to take care of the roses, including their food and care. The City gardeners provide and maintain the watering system, place the food and take care of the weeds. During the first couple months of the year, it is time for a major pruning! Nancy Lee and Art Loesch are our chairs to coordinate the care of the Rose Garden.

Rose GC (Vicki Yuen, President) and Seedlings (Bonnie Graney, President) hosted our pruning event in January. They provided a wonderful lunch of homemade soup, pulled-pork sandwiches, drinks and dessert – **thanks, Kristie Livreri, Suzanne Henson and all.** Could that have been the incentive some of our members needed??

All of our clubs were "invited" to participate in pruning the **185** rose bushes! We had such a great response which included members from Rose GC, Seedlings, Desert Gardeners, Iris Society, LV Flower Arrangers' Guild, Sunset GC, Cactus Society and friends. Unfortunately, our main experts from the LV Valley Rose Society were doing a previously planned rose pruning demonstration for the public at the Springs Preserve as a Community Service. Many of our members know about and have roses, as they grow so beautifully here in the



Marcie Brown is a **GEM** because of her excellent organization and presentation of Flower Show School.

~ Gail Vanderhorst



Jean Engelmann is a **GEM** because of her thoroughness as registrar of Flower Show School.

~ Gail Vanderhorst

By Aleta MacFarlane, Youth Gardens Chairman

desert all year. What a joy to be part of such a special shared garden club event. For the first time, we finished in **one** day!

A week before several of our clubs got together to sponsor, with Desert Gardeners as host, a "Seed Swap" for an online group – Las Vegas Gardening Community. This group has more than 3000 members who communicate on Facebook to share ideas, questions, answers, photos, etc. This was a great chance to show off our Nevada Garden Club Center and make the Community aware of what Nevada Garden Clubs and National Garden Clubs are all about. Our clubs had information tables set up to invite participants to join us. It was an exciting afternoon as most of their members, who had only met online before, greeted each other in person like long-lost friends. They had a huge variety of seeds and plants that were given away with advice from growers. No one went home empty-handed. The group arranged for music and a speaker and even a food truck. While we didn't get a big number of new members, we added several to our mailing list and were encouraged that they would participate in our upcoming Flower Show. **Thanks to Karen Elliott and Aleta MacFarlane** for introducing this group to us.

As a small state, we often need help from other clubs to put on Flower Shows. We had to cancel our Las Vegas Flower Arrangers' Guild Show scheduled March 28-29, due to the coronavirus. We had chairs and volunteers from other clubs to help with staging, set-up and entries of horticulture, designs, educational exhibits and botanical arts. Sunset GC also had to cancel their Show in April. The Flower Arrangers' Guild always helps to fill up their design division. It is so rewarding to have a successful event with cooperation from our garden clubs.

Remember to Make a Difference whenever, wherever and however you can - in your Community, in your Garden Club and in yourself.



Rosalind Cline is a **GEM** because of her reliability as co-editor (and "email reminders") of the *Silver State Gardener* newsletter. She is timely in her communications with Nevada Garden Clubs' contributors and distributors of the newsletter.

~ Michele Noe

What did the man say to the bartender?
I'll have a corona, hold the virus.



How does one get started working with kids?

I'm in my 70s and my child is in her 50s and I really don't like kids, except for the two

boys who knocked on my door and asked if I would be their grandma. I have watched them grow up, graduate and get full scholarships to college.

I noticed that kids were playing in the street every afternoon before dinner just like I did as a kid. One evening I saw one almost get hit by another neighbor backing out of the driveway. My inner voice said "Be a good neighbor, do something." My backyard was in full bloom with the iris I grow. I had something!

I knocked on the door and asked about the kids. Grandma and grandpa were helping to raise them and had become foster parents. I invited them to come over with the grandkids and see my garden. You would never know by the front yard that I gardened at all.

They were all amazed at my tall bearded iris and delighted to see butterflies but were leery of bees. I found some aloe vera pups for them to pot and grow. We put a raised bed by my driveway that now belongs to them. I filled water containers and bought seeds and we planted veggies and they could check on them and water them instead of being in the street.

When summer came they went back to their parents, but whenever they are visiting the grandparents they come over to say "Hi!"

Word got around the garden club, and the incoming president asked me to be the Youth Chair. Terrified, I declined, but she insisted. Since then, I have had many projects and different kids and love it. The rest is history!

Please try something. I would suggest start with something small and go with the flow. Things change at the last minute, so don't worry about being an expert or having a perfect presentation. Kids just want to know that you are interested in them. Have fun, keep it simple.

I would love to hear from others who have come up with ways to help interest kids in gardening, recycling, conservation, etc. National Garden Clubs offers a lot of contests.



Aleta MacFarlane is a **GEM** because she made a youth contest entries booklet a reality!

~ Robin Pokorski

Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Tanja Swanson, President

Theme: "Kids, Community, and Creativity"



In Oregon, like in other states, we have the common goals of promoting the love of gardening, of floral design and of civic and environmental responsibility. When I visit the 14 Districts in my state I feel welcomed by friends everywhere! I see that they are all unique, so I sent out a survey to learn about how they are all different. I have been receiving answers back to the survey. It was enlightening to find out about the clubs' and districts' many wonderful projects, fun ideas and warm relationships.

Not too many clubs work together in their district, though! Of course, most clubs take turns organizing the spring and fall meetings, but even then they do not work together. However, there are two districts where many of the clubs work together taking care of the Gardens of Enchantment at Hull Park in Sandy, Oregon. Each club takes care of a certain area in the garden.

There is also a district that's being revitalized, and it is high on their list for the clubs to work together. In some districts, clubs invite the other clubs to their garden tours or work together on fairs or on **Blue Star Marker** projects. Mostly, though, distance from other clubs is an obstacle.

I guess I was spoiled... I come from a very small district and we do street fairs, kids' events, the county fair and a plant sale together. So how do you get other districts to do that...?

We tried the big event of the Fall Garden Festival so all Districts could participate, but not as many participated as was hoped. Perhaps giving out an award for working together would encourage and recognize districts that plan an event together (not counting the semi-annual meetings) at least once a year?

I think clubs in districts should work together. This will strengthen the district and it is fun getting to know other gardeners in your part of the state. You can never learn enough from other gardeners! I am looking forward to seeing what other states do to make this happen.



Robin Pokorski is a **GEM** because of her unflinching encouragement and positive attitude in helping me get the **Blue Star Memorial** restoration work coordinated and organized.

~ Shirley Lipa

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

By Diane Franchini, Director's Special Project Chairman



I've never really been a fan of roller coasters. Their basic foundation structures look a bit shaky and I've never been fond of gaining incredible highs just to be plunged into devastating lows. I try to function on a more even keel. That's just who I am.

However, we are finding ourselves in an unusual place right now. We're facing how to maintain social distancing; special hours to do our grocery shopping; closures of our favorite restaurants, bars, and casinos; canceled meetings and exercise groups; and so much more. The bottom line is safety and exercising caution in every aspect of our lives.

The **Blue Star Marker** Project has definitely put me on something much closer to the roller coaster than the kiddy boat rides. In the beginning of March at our Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs meeting (that got in just before gatherings of more than 50 and then 10 were canceled) I reported on the incredible high numbers of markers being tracked – 55 at that time with one more added since then. We were scheduled to have 11 dedications completed before the April Convention (now moved to August). There were eight dedications scheduled between May and November and 18 Restoration projects scheduled to begin by now.

Today we find ourselves at the top of that steep roller coaster climb ready to take that "stomach-in-my-throat" plunge – right at that point where we collectively hold our breath in uncertain anticipation of what's to come next.

The biggest change right now is that we have heard from Tom Stelling that he is postponing his trip through the Pacific Region to restore the many **Blue Star Markers** on the list. He has indicated that he is anxious to restart this trip since he has ordered lots of supplies needed to restore the markers. We hope that Tom and his wife have remained healthy and safe from the virus and look forward to when we can begin rescheduling his trip. Shirley Lipa is the point person for the restorations of **Blue Star Markers**. In addition, a few Dedications are being rescheduled as well.



By Gaye Stewart, Membership Chairman

I've added a photo that I received of a destroyed **Blue Star Marker** located on Donner Pass. Plans are being made to replace this once beautiful memorial – a positive sign of good things to come in our future.

Today, I'm trying to find a balance between panic and embracing the chance to slow my pace. I allow myself only a short period of time each day to check in on the latest news sweeping our country – and then I turn it off. More importantly is the time I'm spending doing things that I've put off for too long. I can leisurely clean one cupboard or area a day or every other day, as opposed to the rapid speed cleaning I've mastered. I can take time out of my day to sit and read without feeling guilty. I have handwritten notes of thanks, appreciation, and thinking of you today – that actually got sent out. I walk my yard each day – this morning it was 26 degrees and frosty but the sun is breaking through now. I talk to my chickens more. I'm trying new recipes. I'm "playing" in my studio with a quilting project as well as painting and deep cleaning and organizing as I "play." I'm checking in on my neighbors daily to see if there's anything they need. And I am trying to maintain a little bit of my normal routine – cup of tea in the morning, get dressed, do my hair and makeup (even if I'm just going out in my yard), and eat a good breakfast.

Hopefully all of you are also finding ways to take a deep breath and slow down – just a little – before the roller coaster begins another climb to the top.

All hope is not lost, we will get past this and then just watch as we make **"Blue Stars Shine in the Pacific Region."**

*Peppers with three bumps on the bottom are sweeter and better for eating.
Peppers with four bumps on the bottom are firmer and better for cooking.*

Do You Know...?

... what alkiphobia is the fear of? How about anatidaephobia? Then there's always planophobia.



Answers on page 13 and 18.



Beverly Noyer is a **GEM** because she is truly dedicated to serving Nevada Garden Clubs, especially the Desert Gardeners. She willingly performs any task in a timely manner, doing more than she was asked to do.

~ Karen Elliott

Greetings to you, dear Garden Club friends. We are now in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, unlike anything we've ever experienced before! It has changed our lives dramatically, but we are all committed to helping curb the spread by "staying home." To help you consider some practical and rewarding activities in the comfort and safety of your own home, here are some categories and suggestions to consider:

Reaching Out

- Send "thinking of you" cards to 5 people – emails work, too (do weekly).
- Call neighbors to check on them.
- Tell your kids you love them.
- Write a poem and share it with friends or family.
- Use your phone's "FaceTime" app to call family members and friends.
- Have your Club's Executive Committee divide club membership into groups and each officer take a group and call the members in their group to check on them and share some "care."
- Set up phone group communication using this system at FreeConferenceCall.com. It is free and available for up to 6 hours of talk per use. One person registers your group and sends the user information to the others. Set a time for the conference call and follow the instructions. This truly works great, as we used it recently for a Garden Club Executive Committee conference call. In one hour, we held a productive "meeting" in the comfort of our own homes.

Personal

- Gather your seed and plant catalogs together and review them, looking for unique plants to add to your vegetable garden or flower beds.
- Maybe this is the year you create a theme garden such as a "Moonlight Garden" comprised of all white flowers. My favorite color-themed garden is all green blooming flowers, such as Hellebores, "Explosion" dianthus, zinnias, glads, coleus, Bells of Ireland, chartreuse Japanese Forest Grass, and Hostas "Fire Island" or "Dancing Queen." The cool greens are stunning!
- Check the last few pages of your gardening magazines for addresses of new sources to explore. In the Spring issue of *Country Gardens*, I discovered Primrose (Primulas) sources, i.e., The American Primrose Society Seed Exchange: americanprimrosesociety.org. You'll be delighted with the reference information you'll discover.

Club Membership Development

- Make a list of people to contact/invite to your next Club meeting and then Do it! Your personal invitation will net positive results.

- Look at your Club organization. Do you have a chairman for your Facebook page? A Communication Coordinator who produces updated membership lists, the Club newsletter, posters and flyers for events? Do you have a friendly Greeter to welcome people as they come into your meetings? Well, you see where I'm going with this suggestion. This is a good time to plan and recruit to strengthen your Club's effectiveness.
- Do you have a pamphlet describing your Club's mission, projects, meeting times, locations, the Fun, Fieldtrips, Food, Fellowship and more? Write up what you want included and give it to your new Communications Coordinator to draft. Add a logo to begin your "branding" for your Club. Marketing is critical!
- Consider strategies to publicly acknowledge the Club members for their significant work. It could be a roll of "Lifesavers," a "Payday" candy bar, a computer-generated "Thank You" certificate, a small plant with a "Thank you" plant stake, or a painted rock with the words "You Rock." Try to acknowledge 2 or 3 people each meeting.

All of the above can be planned/prepared as you stay home. It's not often we have the time to reassess what we're doing and how we can "grow!" **Now is that time.**

If you would like to share, brainstorm, or ask questions, please call me. We're all in this together!

Virtual Flower Show – Black Hills District

By JoAnne Sandell, Black Hills District, Washington

Surrounded with disturbing news of Covid-19, living under a 'stay at home' order, and disappointed by the need to cancel their spring horticulture show, members of Black Hills District in Washington State have reorganized to produce a Virtual Horticulture Flower Show. Black Hills already had an active web site (www.blackhillsdistrict.com), a web-mistress idling at home, and a myriad of slightly bored gardeners already tantalized by a few warm sunny days. Combine all of those and you have a perfect recipe for the first online flower show in the area (or the region, or country?).

Using the existing flower show schedule and instructions for taking and entering photos, the district newsletter editor disseminated that information to all district garden club members the very day after the idea sprang to life. They've even added a class for 'can't bear to cut it' specimens to accept photos of entire plants or large sections of them. Members had until April 6 to enter their exhibits, then the webmaster will put them all together and "make our show happen."

Vowing to not catch anything from each other except enthusiasm and knowledge, the gardeners will still get some practice correctly identifying and classifying their photo specimens as they enter them from home. We'll all miss the camaraderie and excitement of our Spring District General Meeting and Flower Show, but we're

determined to stay healthy and continue to share the miracles of spring gardening.

Be sure to check out our show on our website after April 10!

Director's Note: Hey, Black Hills District! I hope all those pictures of blossoms are going in to the Photo Phundraiser – your District might sweep the PRIZE \$\$\$\$\$.

Focus: Oregon Water Issues

By Cheryl Drumheller, Water Issues Chairman



Oregon's Water Quality 2019 – The Top **water** Problems in Major Cities

Oregon has several **water** sources to supply plenty of **water**. The underground **water** supply and the scenic lakes and rivers help supply the residents and businesses with their drinking **water**. Even with an abundant **water** supply, drought is common in Oregon, depending on the weather pattern.

For Portland, The Bull Run Watershed is the primary drinking **water** supply and serves the residents in the Portland metropolitan region. Salem sources its **water** from The North Santiam River, and Eugene and the surrounding area receive their **water** from the McKenzie River.

There are several sources of contaminants in the **water** supplies that influence **water** quality. These include agricultural and industrial pollutants and older public pipeline systems.

The top **water** problems in these major cities are hard **water** and chlorine and ammonia treatment (added to disinfect the water and remove harmful bacteria per the Environmental Protection Agency's standards).

Hard **water** is caused by naturally occurring minerals and earth metals dissolving into **water** sources. Some treatment methods can also cause hard **water**, which is safe to consume and use but can cause issues around the home or business. Hard **water** left untreated can cause itchy skin, soap scum, slow-running taps, and even issues with appliances if limescale is able to build up. The chlorine and ammonia treatment can leave a poor taste or smell.

With many **water** sources, the state of Oregon has common **water** problems. These can be resolved by the municipalities' **water** treatment plants that remove contaminants and using a **water** softener or conditioning system to improve **water** quality.

This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog.... we laughed a lot.

What Can Pacific Region Do for Your Garden Club ?

By Greg Pokorski, Southern California Garden Club President

Every Region Director has a special project during her two-year term. Participation in these projects can provide meaningful activities to individual garden clubs. Let me tell you about one of my club's activities.

Lisa Stephens from Arizona was Pacific Region Director from 1999 to 2001. Her project was *Showing Off Your Signature Plants (WACONIAH, August 1999)*. This project encouraged the participation of all clubs in the eight states of the region to study plants that may be grown where your garden club meets and to perhaps extend that study to involvement in programs of conservation and environmental concerns. This study could include themes for programs, workshops and flower shows.

Our club presented information about this project in the May, 2000 issue of our newsletter, and then at our club meeting that month agreed to participate with the study of geraniums. This activity proved successful enough and popular enough that it was continued beyond the 1999-2001 term. In fact, we have now done this for 20 years, studying a different plant each year – alphabetically from African violets to tomatoes.

Each spring members select our signature plant for the upcoming garden club season. Articles are written about that plant for each issue of the newsletter. One or more programs and workshops each year are devoted to the signature plant and members are encouraged to bring specimens for display and discussion. As we wrap up this year's study of salvia, we have just selected berries as our 2020-2021 signature plant(s). We are excited about the variety of subjects this choice presents for articles and programs and intend to provide recipes using the berry of the month in the newsletter and for tasting at club meetings.

So, **thanks to Pacific Region** for this gift that keeps on giving (and we have a waiting list for future plant selection). Information about garden club activities in our eight region states that is shared in *WACONIAH* and at region conventions can provide your club new opportunities. Just look for them!



To All Who Were Able and therefore are GEMs – Thank you for your contributions to past and current (and hopefully future, too!) editions of the *Silver State Gardener (SSG)* newsletter. Because of you the *SSG* newsletter of Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc exists.

~ Michele Noe

~ Michele Noe

California Garden Clubs, Inc. Shane Looper, President

Theme: "Plant America – Plant Parks"



What does a state that has over 19,000 members and over 300 clubs do to educate and work together? They join forces and host a State Convention. Two districts in 2009 combined their efforts to host a state convention. The chairman was a member of a club in each district. Each club supplied a raffle gift

and committed to handle some responsibility at the Convention. One small club handled the registration desk during the Convention even though the registrar was from the other district. Floral table designs for the meals were split between the two districts' clubs. Club members from each district signed up for either sharing a job responsibility or at least attending the convention for at least one day to assist their clubs members with the convention. Many club members within each district were available to help with the programs, workshops and speakers as extra help. That Convention became a fundraiser for each district which assisted the two districts with funds for their meeting for at least a few years.

Many club members became friends. In 2021 the same two districts will willingly hosting the California Garden Clubs Convention in May 2021.

Clerodendrum



The name Clerodendrum (kler-oh-DEN-drum) is an oddity in the botanical world. It is derived from the Greek kleros (chance) and dendron (tree), and logic would dictate it should be

written as Clerodendron to follow the standard rules of botanical nomenclature. Some sources spell it as such, but the accepted name is Clerodendrum.

The genus contains about 400 species, most of them native to Asia and Africa. They are generally tender perennials, and only a handful of them are widely cultivated.

Among the most common species are the bleeding heart vine with its trademark white and red flowers. *Clerodendrum thomsoniae* was discovered in Nigeria in 1860 and named for the wife of Reverend W.C. Thomson.

Wildlife at Home

By Kathy Itomura, Wildlife Chairman

I first decided to renovate my front yard landscape (about 30 years ago now) because I wanted to bring to it some of the character of the chaparral canyons and hillsides where I enjoyed hiking. I wasn't thinking about wild creatures, but more about the fragrances and textures and colors that I found when I walked in their wilderness homes.

Visits to native plant nurseries showed me what was available to recreate the special smell and feel of the places I so enjoy, and I selected my plants accordingly. In this photo are Catalina Silverlace, native Verbena, and in the background a purple Sage. On the step, you can see an urn on which I've placed a dish of water for the birds. Placing your water dishes on a path you use every day is a great reminder to refresh and clean it.



This garden is now about 25 years old and the plants are so dense that weeds are uncommon. There is plenty of food and shelter for birds and lizards. When I sit at my office computer I look out at the bird bath and watch numerous species come and go: to drink, to bathe, and to socialize. When I look out my front window in the warm seasons, I see several butterfly species coming through to bask and gather nectar (painted ladies, California dogface, mourning cloak, western tiger swallowtail, fiery skippers, southern whites, and monarchs all visit in their time).

The plants, insects, birds, lizards, and even the snails (we have three different species of snails that help break down decaying matter and none of them are numerous enough to become pests) are all living together in a system bound by a living soil. Because it is a *system*, this landscape requires little maintenance from me: occasional watering if winter rains don't come or aren't sufficient, pruning to keep the walks clear, and once a month watering in the warm months to keep the plants from going dormant. As mentioned, there is little weeding required, since the mature native plants crowd out most weeds. No fertilizers are applied and, of course, there are no herbicides or pesticides used here.

While the wildlife loves this garden and makes it their home (or home-away-from-home in the case of migrating butterflies), the people love it just as much.

Both guests and strangers appreciate the smell of wild sage that permeates the air throughout. The garden is doing what I had hoped, making my home a cousin to those wilderness hikes I used to take when I was more fit 30 years ago.

What aspect of a wilderness landscape calls to you? In the next *WACONIAH*, I will write about the design process to help get you there. In the meantime, take a spring hike!

We Are All in This Together

By Marva Lee Peterschick, Flower Show Schools Chairman



I just checked the NGC website Flower Show School listings and, sad to say, there are very few listings for the Pacific Region. Course 4 is listed for Nevada, and Alaska has a series going also. These two states are to be commended for offering courses that will bring in new National Garden Clubs judges. I can only hope other states are planning flower show school courses for the future.

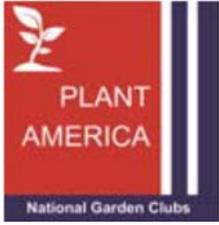
How can we strengthen and improve our organization? Let's start with planning a series of Flower Show Schools. If we set goals that call for our full participation, it means we will be active, involved, and busy. Garden club members are noted for keeping vital and fulfilled with garden-related activities.

We are all in this together certainly will apply when providing judges for our flower shows. We need schools to replace judges that are going emeritus. We owe it to the student judges who might need to pick up a course to finish up their schools as they become ready to take the Reading Exam and become Accredited Judges. If a club or district cannot sponsor a school because of the costs, the state federation needs to step up and offer to help. Working together, we can get this done.

Stay positive and motivatedfor the future of our organization that includes flower show schools.



By Adele Kelly, Plant America Chairman



Congratulations to the following Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. 2020 PLANT AMERICA Community Project Award Winners:

Alaska Garden Clubs

- Fairbanks Garden Club
- Wildflower Garden Club

California Garden Clubs

- Organic Gardening Club of Sacramento County
- Tuolumne County Garden Club
- Vallejo Garden Club

Garden Clubs of Idaho

- Treasure Valley Arrangers Guild

Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs

- Maupin Dig and Hoe Garden Club

Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

- Edmonds Floretum Garden Club

The PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants Program is sponsored by National Garden Clubs, Inc. for new or existing projects in their respective communities. Projects may be a joint venture with another organization/s. The scope of these projects may include:

- Beautification and/or restoration
- Community gardens
- School gardens/classrooms
- Habitat for Humanity landscaping
- Blue Star Memorial landscaping
- Implementation of environmental practices
- A horticulture or environmental educational event for the public

Up to \$1,000 is available to be used for direct expenses of projects. Individual clubs that are members of National Garden Clubs, Inc. may apply. For more information visit gardenclub.org.

Congratulations!!!
Pacific Region PLANT AMERICA Community Project Winners!

What types of jokes are allowed during quarantine? Inside jokes!

By Robyn McCarthy, Arboreta Chairman



Atlas Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*)
Peavy Arboretum

It's no wonder that there are six Arboretums to be found throughout the state of beautiful and horticulturally diverse Oregon. At the time of this article the hours and services of many may differ due to COVID-19. With it being several months before the Pacific Region Convention in Silverton, Oregon, opportunities may present themselves for you to visit some of these tree abundant gardens. Visit each Arboretum's website for up to date information.

HOYT ARBORETUM encompasses 190 acres and is located atop a ridge in the west hills of Portland. This tree museum of 2,300 trees has well-marked trails and one can learn about different species of trees from six continents. www.hoytarboretum.org

DELBERT HUNTER ARBORETUM is located just west of Salem. A home to a living museum of native northwest trees, it is located along a flowing creek creating a rich riparian biome complementing many species of trees. www.delberthunterarboretum.org

MOUNT PISGAH ARBORETUM is a 209-acre riverside tree museum located just south of the Eugene-Springfield area. It offers an immense variety of programs in August - Tree Walks to Bird Walks to Arboretum Family Walks. www.mountpisgaharboretum.org

OREGON TRAIL ARBORETUM located in Echo, boasts about being Oregon's smallest Tree City USA. The Red Horse chestnut was designated as the city's official tree in 2009. Most of the trees have aluminum markers, and the arboretum continues along a city street and lines the football field. www.echo-oregon.com/arboretum.html

PEAVY ARBORETUM in Corvallis has served as Oregon State University's research in forestry and, for generations, as an outdoor teaching lab for children and adults. In 1964 the Oregon State School of Forestry gained full control of the arboretum and currently

By Sandra Ford, Roses Chairman

manages it. The Arboretum is a great resource for information on 30 native coniferous species and 37 native species of broadleaf trees that grow throughout the state. www.cf.forestry.oregonstate.edu

COLUMBIA CHILDREN'S ARBORETUM is a Portland City Park. In 1964 Portland schools began to develop the area for the planting of a 50 state trees project. The middle school that was built there was closed in 1983, and the park deteriorated. In 1999 Portland Parks purchased the acreage from the public schools and began a rehabilitation effort with the help of local volunteers. Many of the state trees have been replanted with new signage posted. www.oregonhikers.org

Garlic - Allium

By Sally Thompson, Herbs Chairman



Garlic is a species form of *Allium*, one of the most popular and widely used herbs. The plant consists of a clustered bulb made up of bulblets called

cloves. It has long thin leaves which have a mild onion flavor. The leaves are often used in Asian cuisine. The bulblets are a major ingredient in cooking worldwide. The flowers range in color from white thru purple.

For best growth, plant in light, moist soil and with a sunny location. Plants need cold to trigger growth, so in Northern states plant garlic in October to November before the ground freezes. In the Southern states plant garlic in December or January. Plant cloves 2 inches deep and 6 inches apart. When stems start to die back, withhold water, then dig up the plants. Dry plants in a warm, dark, airy location for several days. They will keep for many weeks.

Long-time gardeners plant garlic around fruit and nut trees, as it is said to repel moles. It also has been known to repel aphids from rose bushes and many other perennials.

Nicholas Culpeper's book, *Complete Herbal*, states, " *Its heat is very vehement; and all vehement hot things send up but ill-savored vapors to the brain...it will...send up strong fancies, and as many strange visions to the head; therefore, let it be taken inwardly with great moderation.*"



Roses are incredibly tough plants, and it is possible to grow them in soil that is less than ideal. Of course, they will do much better and survive with a little tender loving care. Roses require six hours of sunlight, air circulation, good drainage, and prefer a 6.5 pH.

The biggest question this time of year is how to prune and when. If buying an older home with an established landscape, it is the hardest challenge for anyone new to rose growing to decide what to do first. Spring bulbs are popping up out of the ground. What are they? Can I plant other plants in-between, such as a new rose?

The rose bushes look like no one has maintained them, and they are everywhere. What kind are they, and are they supposed to be this tall? This first year, you may have to sacrifice a few and cut them back to 3' or less to start. If they were old garden roses, you just cut off this year's bloom. Now you can see the ground, the weeds, spring blooming plants and a place to work the soil.

I prefer to sit on my cart and look inside the plant for canes that are brown and dead, black from freezing, or a large old woody cane that should be cut off with a hand saw to encourage new growth.

Is it a grafted rose? A grafted rose has a swelling where a cane has been grafted in a root stock close to the ground. Did that long cane come from under the soil from the root stock? If it did, that cane is a sucker and will take over the grafted rose and usually blooms dark red roses. Don't just cut off the cane at ground level or you will grow two new canes of the wild rose. It has to be removed from the root stock itself.

Roses need air circulation, so try to remove some of the inner canes to form a vase shaped plant. Cut any canes that crisscross and rub on each other. Any cane that is larger than a pencil should be sealed with wood glue or even nail polish to keep the cane borer from entering into the soft cane before it dries and heals itself.

Buying new roses should be done after you choose the right location and prep the soil with 30% to 50% organic material. Organic material helps hold moisture longer and provides nutrition. Organic material can be your homemade or purchased compost, soil conditioner, peat moss, or aged manure. Fresh manure can easily burn tender roots of a new rose. Roses love water but hate wet feet, so drainage is very important. The soil needs to contain microorganisms that keep the soil healthy.

Bare-root roses should be placed in deep water overnight before planting, covering the roots and stems. You can add 1 cup of household bleach to 5 gallons of water if the package contains mold from being packaged for long periods of time. Rehydrating the plant including the canes helps reduce unwanted microbes that may have been transported with the plant.

By Ann Kronenwetter, Birds Chairman



Birding is a fantastic hobby. What are you doing to attract birds to your garden?

Have you planted native shrubs, flowers and trees? Native plants require less maintenance and no watering. Many provide berries, seeds or fruit, and also nesting sites for birds. Do you have a water feature to attract birds? Bird baths, fountains or water falls are essential in attracting birds.

Do you have bird feeders? There are many styles and sizes of feeders to choose. Black oil sunflower seeds attract a large variety of birds. Smaller birds like thistle seeds. Several Hummingbird feeders placed in your garden will offer the Hummingbirds necessary food.

Are you keeping your feeders and water features clean? One part clorox to 9 parts water is a good cleaning agent. Be sure to rinse well and dry. Have you put up bird houses?

Are you being too tidy of a gardener? Leaving vegetables and flowers to go to seed helps feed the birds in your garden. Brush piles can offer protection and nesting sites.

Millions of birds migrate each year, and living along the Pacific Flyway path gives gardeners an opportunity to help our feathered friends.

Happy Birding!

I used to spin that toilet paper roll like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.

Give Native Plants a Chance – In Paradise

By Jennifer Culp, Native Plants Chairman

This Old House

In advance, we were asked to write about a particular topic this month. After watching the PBS series on "This

After planting, keep moist and cover the crown up to several inches for a few weeks to give the rose a head start (don't forget to uncover the crown after those two weeks). Our weather can change too fast for the rose to adjust to its new home. Most roses will start blooming within a month or so after they are planted, so sit back and enjoy their fragrance.

Pacific Region Takes 6 of 20 Slots

By Lana Finegold, Correspondent

This spring, *Garden Design* magazine listed its picks for the top 20 public gardens in the USA. A number of gardens in Pacific Region made that list.

Personally, I was thrilled for Bellevue Botanical Garden in Washington State. Bellevue views itself as a city in a park. This is a perfect fit for a person who loves plants like I do. And I have been volunteering at work parties for over 20 years at this garden. The Top 20 list includes the Portland Japanese Garden in Oregon. *WACONIAH* included pictures of the Japanese Garden in one of its 2019 issues.

Also listed is the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, Arizona, and several gardens in California including: Filoli, San Francisco Botanical Gardens, The Huntington Botanical Gardens and Descanso Gardens, which was a garden tour highlight during our last Pacific Region Convention in April 2019.

Finally, outside Pacific Region: NGC Headquarters is located in St. Louis adjacent to the Missouri Botanical Garden which is also on the top 20 list. Many in Pacific Region have visited this top public garden. And you can go online for pictures of any of these gardens.



By Marlene Kinney, Life Membership Chairman

Old House," which covered the Paradise Valley devastating and horrific wildfire experienced by them in 2018, and viewing the ongoing recovery, I just feel the need to comment.

At convention last year, I had the pleasure of meeting very nice people in our group who lived in Paradise and suffered the loss of their home and town. I also met people from the surrounding towns, also affected by the fire and circumstances surrounding it. I still think about them and their comments and their circumstances and wonder how they're progressing. I thought I would be catching up with them soon at the next convention to hear about the town's recovery.

"TOH" filmed from Paradise and followed the recovery of a few of the families who lost their homes. They have covered the clean-up, designs, permits, difficulties in bringing in supplies and qualified workers, the amount of time required, etc. They even discussed the question of "should they rebuild in this remote location." The town's people set aside an area to recognize and honor the event for the future. **Hint: this would be a perfect location for a Blue Star Memorial.**

The full range of emotions rose up in me, from tears to laughter to pride. I watched "TOH," week after week, as these amazing people who have decided to stay in Paradise, and rebuild their homes and town, went through the ups and downs, and mostly ups at this stage, of getting their lives back on track to their "new normal." This really takes strength of character.

I am particularly interested in the changes they're making this time around. I'm learning about building and roofing materials to retard or resist fire; which native plants, from trees to bushes to flowers, are best to have near a building and which can actually help prevent fire as opposed to oil based plants which go up like a match; the distance recommended between the house and plantings, other materials and decorations that would be best to not have next to a house or building if they catch fire, likely the house will catch fire; and vents to the house that actually open and close to resist any random embers floating through the air on fire.

So many learning opportunities and new ideas for prevention have come from this difficult experience, and we hope they will benefit people in the future.

As I write this, we are all in the middle of an unprecedented pandemic, Coronavirus 19. We could not have imagined this event, nor do we know when it will pass, but remember you are not alone! **This will pass!**

We will now have all of our strength of character tested as we face ongoing difficulties and uncertainties during this time. Now is a great time to go out to your garden, even for short intervals, relax, enjoy your favorite plants, including native plants, and enjoy the fresh air and birds. Pray, meditate, do whatever you enjoy!

Be safe, calm, and practice "social distancing."

Attention all Pacific Region State Presidents:



**TOGETHER
WE CAN DO IT**

You know it's going to be a good day when you open your shutters and you see the Wild Turkeys and the California Quail looking at you. Couldn't think of better social distancing than that.

We are all doing our part to make our world a better place to live in. There is no better time than now to **Reconnect** with our Pacific Region. Let's take this time to look at your fellow gardeners in your state, district, clubs, and everything in between to see who you can appreciate and thank for all of their hard working efforts with a PRGC Life Membership. Everyone likes to be acknowledged and there is no better way to do it and support Pacific Region Garden Clubs Scholarships.

Together we can do this and make our Region strong again.

Be Safe and, most of all be healthy.



**You can tune a piano but you can't tuna fish.
And besides, pianophobia is the
fear of pianos.**



Mrs. Joseph J. Gallagher (Ethel) was elected Director of Pacific Region at the National Convention held in St. Louis, Missouri, May 10-14, 1959. Her theme was "A Member For a Member."

The 16th Region Convention was held in Portland, June 15, 1959. The National President, Mrs. Jamie Johnson, was present and participated in the program.

The 17th Region Convention was held in Seattle, June 13, 1960, hosted by Washington Federation. The theme was "Seattle, City of Flowers, With Many Faces and Interesting Places."

The 18th Region Convention, and Mrs. Gallagher's third annual meeting, was hosted by the Arizona Federation in Tucson, May 8, 1961, at the Pioneer Hotel with a reception and banquet at the Lodge in the Desert.

Officers:

Director	Mrs. Joseph J. Gallagher
Recording Secretary	Carol Coleman
Treasurer	Mrs. Davidson

State Presidents:

Washington	Mrs. A. Victor Johnson
Arizona	Mrs. Howard Davidson
California	Mrs. Harry F. Hunter
	Mrs. Charles P. Scott
Oregon	Mrs. Verne I. Brader
Idaho	Mrs. Orval Johnson
Alaska	Mrs. George Sharrock

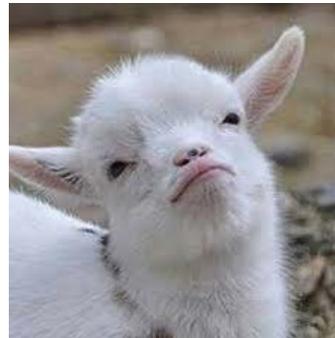
Win the War on Weeds

From 1,001 Gardening Secrets



Spray individual weeds without catching your favorite plants in the crossfire. Cut off the bottom of a plastic 2-liter soda bottle. Set the bottle over the trouble-making weed, stick the sprayer nozzle in the mouth of the soda bottle, and spray that bad boy. Leave the soda bottle over the weed for several seconds.

Open the bottom of a cardboard box and stand it around your weeds and spray away.



In 1999, President Bill Clinton signed an executive order on weeds. The executive order contained various statements including "This is an all-out battle" and "serious threat," "major economic and environmental damage," "the cost is high," "this is

an on-going fight," "28.8 million in funding to combat invasive weeds." "This is war". We are going to declare war on weeds. If we are to protect the natives, we have to kill all the aliens. Managing invasive plants is expensive and labor-intensive. When using chemicals to kill invasive species you are doing only one step, and you're causing about a billion dollars' per acre worth of damage that might take 50 or 100 years to correct.

The high cost of conventional tactics like mowing and herbicide application has led managers to look to less traditional methods of control, including the use of browsing goats. We all remember the children's book *Gregory, The Terrible Eater* by Mitchell Sharmat. It tells the story of a cute billy goat who gets a tummy ache from eating too much junkyard trash.

The book reinforces the common misconception that goats eat everything. In reality, goats don't eat trash; but they can eat a quarter of their weight daily of unwanted vegetation, overbearing brush and invasive plants. Goats are great land managers that can clear crop and pasture land of invasive species. Goats can go places machinery can't such as wooded property, vine-filled fencerows, hills, hollows and creek banks. Unlike mowers that cut weeds and allow seeds to lie, goats consume most of the seeds along with the weeds, thereby preventing unwanted reseeding.

Goats are superior land managers to other ruminants and pigs because they are natural browsers. They eat plants at their eye level. They have special gut enzymes that enable them to digest plants that are toxic to other animals, and they prefer a mouthful of Knapp weed to grass. Goats avoid eating toxic plants, but love poison ivy and oak. Goats are recycling everything they eat into fertilizer as a natural soil enricher. As they browse, their hooves work the earth as they go, promoting healthy soil, erosion control and they're self-propelled. Goats are used to create firebreaks. They can reach up to 9 feet, stripping everything to help with fire fuel mitigation. A herd of 200 goats can clear an acre of land a day.

Goats do it all. They are healing the eco-system. Goats are being used in all the Pacific Region states. Let's hope we see many herds of goats clearing away invasive species and promoting fire mitigation this spring and summer.

Dwarf Purple Monkey Flower

By Lavon Ostrick, Wildflowers Chairman

Photo by Lavon Ostrick



Dwarf Purple Monkey Flower, member of the Figwort family, *Scrophulariaceae*

Spring has sprung. It is a perfect time to enjoy being outdoors and all the colors that nature has to offer. Pictured here is the Dwarf Purple Monkey Flower which was taken in June at a location between Klamath Falls and Lakeview, Oregon. The Monkey Flower sits low to the ground and is about 1 to 4 inches tall. As pictured in the photo, the flower grows in dry open spaces. In order to take the picture, it was necessary to get down to the ground. To My Fellow Garden Club members, grab a book on wildflowers, take a hike, and bend down to take your photos. Reap the benefits of exercise and identifying wildflowers.

Parliamentary Impact of Coronavirus

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian



I have received questions related to the suspension of garden club activities due to the many restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic. Who is empowered to cancel meetings? How do we make decisions that need to be made in the short term? How do we hold elections without a meeting? What happens if we cannot install new officers?

Many answers depend on what your bylaws say. Questions are often asked in the context of "what does *Robert's Rules* say?" *Robert's* is irrelevant if the situation is addressed in your bylaws, or if *Robert's* is not the organization's parliamentary authority. **Always start with your bylaws.** Try to follow them as closely as possible. However, many bylaws do not address emergency situations that have occurred. Identify these issues in order to work on future amendments that will address such situations. Federal, state and local law supersedes bylaws. Bylaws supersede *Robert's Rules*.

"Except as authorized *in the bylaws*, the business of an organization or board can be validly transacted only at a regular or properly called *meeting*." Some organizations provide for electronic meeting options, but be aware that laws may prohibit such actions. Ideally all participants in a meeting should be able to hear and see each other.

We are currently in an unprecedented situation, reacting to circumstances not of our making and out of our control. In order to keep our organizations functioning, some actions may need to be taken that are not in strict compliance with bylaws. I share the input of a professional parliamentarian that the fundamental concerns in any organization with respect to parliamentary issues are: 1) does everyone know what's going on?, and 2) are anyone's rights being violated? If everyone knows what is going on and nobody's rights are being violated, then it may not matter that all the I's are not dotted and all the T's are not crossed.

If organizations need to take emergency actions that are not provided for in their bylaws or are contrary to bylaws, be sure to be transparent and communicate fully to the board and/or membership, and document everything you do, with a record of any such actions going into the minutes for the next meeting. This is not the time for the "correctness police" to bring activity to a halt or drive members away. Consider the general attitude of the organization – is it contentious or harmonious? Prioritize which items of business are urgent and which can wait. If it can wait, let it wait.

For those clubs that have to deal with elections, can you postpone until the resumption of meetings (possibly in June)? Do you have a nominating committee? Has it made its report of candidates and is there only one candidate for each office? Are you required to then seek nominations from the floor? Has that already been done? If so, and if there were no additional nominees, the president could, at a meeting, declare the candidates elected without any formal vote. See *Robert's*, page 443 lines 7-16. If these conditions are met and you cannot have the meeting at which time the election is to take place, the president might declare the nominees elected (given the current crisis).

If you are required to ask for nominations from the floor and that has not yet been done, you probably want to ask for nominations by newsletter or email. Hopefully there are none and you get to the situation in the above paragraph. If there are any additional nominations, you may need to have a ballot vote.

If you work your way through elections, don't worry about installations. *Robert's* says if formal installation is prescribed, failure to have it does not affect the time at which the new officers assume office. Your bylaws should indicate when officers-elect take office. I don't want to discourage installations, but since they are ceremonial they may be conducted at a later time or dispensed with entirely this year.

Rusty Patched Bumble Bee – *Bombus affinis*

By Georgia Zahar, Endangered Species Chairman



The Rusty Patched Bumble Bee has been listed as endangered since 2017.

Why are these bees important? Native bees are important pollinators of wildflowers and food crops. The numbers have dwindled due to factors like disease, habitat loss and insecticide use.

These bees are relatively large bumble bees and can be identified by their black heads, yellow abdomens and black rear sections. What is unique about these bees is a rust colored patch on the back of their abdomens.

This bee thrives in open tall grass areas such as prairies where they can have access to many flowering plants and safe places to grow their colonies. Most of the grassy prairies of North America are now tilled for agriculture.

The colonies live in abandoned rodent burrows and other ground cavities.

This bee recently became the official bee of the state of Minnesota.

Before There Were Urban Gardens, There Were Victory Gardens

By Nancy Compton, Urban Gardens Chairman



Though today's proliferation of urban gardens seems to have sprung from the "Back to the Earth" movement, their roots may be traced to the Victory Gardens so prevalent during World Wars I and II.

Victory Gardens were promoted by the Department of Agriculture as a patriotic endeavor to reduce the strain on the public food supply, as a

huge proportion of U.S. food provisions were going to feed the troops. Suddenly, Victory Gardens were seen in back yards, empty lots, and even city roof tops. Window boxes formerly used to grow flowers quickly became small Victory Gardens growing small-scale vegetables.

Civilian gardeners grew an abundance of fruits and vegetables, primarily tomatoes, a wide variety of beans, lettuce, beets, peas, strawberries, onions and carrots. During this time, Swiss chard and kohlrabi were introduced to the American menu, mainly because they were so easy to grow.

My memories of my grandmother's Victory Garden included the child-size garden tools I was given to use and the small patch of land she allowed me to have to grow carrots and radishes, neither of which I liked. Adjacent to my little mini-garden was a row of parsnips, an odd carrot-like vegetable with a strange taste. Whenever parsnips were on the family menu, I became quite skilled at surreptitiously squirreling them into my napkin, then making sure the napkin ended up directly in the garbage before anyone was the wiser.

Our little family was proud to be a part of the Victory Garden movement which served to unite the Home Front and make civilians feel that they were part of the war effort. Local communities hosted festivals and competitions to showcase the produce civilians grew. Eleanor Roosevelt even planted a Victory Garden on the White House lawn to show support for the cause. The USDA estimated that 20 million Victory Gardens were planted during World War II, resulting in an estimated 9-10 million tons of food per year.

Throughout both World Wars, the Victory Garden campaign served as a successful means of boosting morale, expressing patriotism, safeguarding against food shortages, and easing the burden on commercial farmers working tirelessly to feed troops overseas.

Though today's urban gardens focus more on healthy food grown organically, their roots may be traced to a time when our population came together in the name of patriotism and a desire to support our troops who were so far from home.



Art Loesch is a **GEM** because of how hard he works to keep our Nevada Garden Club building in good repair.

~ Vicki Yuen

The grocery stores in France look like tornadoes hit them. All that's left is de brie.

Pacific Region States' Websites

PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

- Washington: WAGardenClubs.com
- Arizona: AZGardenClubs.com
- California: CaliforniaGardenClubs.com
- Oregon: OregonGardenClubs.org
- Nevada: NevadaGardenClubs.org
- Idaho: GCII.org
- Alaska: AlaskaGardenClubs.org
- Hawaii: [None](#)

A Creative Adventure

By Dorrie Carr, President, Washington (WSFGC)

In March, WSFGC held a unique flower show entitled "A Creative Adventure." Linda Maida was the chairman of the flower show and the state Judges Council members provided the designs. The flower show featured one of each design from the NGC Handbook, including the Botanical Arts Division.

In addition to the flower show, eight workshops were held that attendees signed up for: Using textiles on backgrounds, Creative corsages for today, Fresh flower headbands, Braiding Midollino, Calligraphy, Mask making, Leaf manipulation and Collages and Plaques. The workshops were offered for \$10 to attend three. When the workshops were sold out, Linda made it possible for members to audit the workshops they were interested in for \$5 for each workshop. And if that wasn't enough, Linda also provided a discussion on putting together a flower show at the club level. Discussion included: helpful hints for a successful club level show, writing a schedule for a small standard show, information on a horticulture only show, and how to prepare a Book of Evidence and different state awards that are offered. This session was open to all garden club members. All events were well attended and enjoyed by everyone!

A slide show will be prepared using the pictures of all designs/botanical arts and will be offered as an educational tool to districts and clubs.

So many district and garden club meetings have been canceled because of the Covid-19 virus. The Black Hills District meeting and flower show (horticulture only) was one of those casualties. But they didn't let that stop them; they are producing a Virtual Horticulture Flower Show. Black Hills has an active website, a web-mistress idling at home, and a myriad of slightly bored gardeners already tantalized by a few warm sunny days. When you combine all of those you have a perfect recipe for the first on-line flower show in the area. If members want to see what has been entered all they have to do is go to the website and click on "virtual flower show" under the events heading. Using the existing flower show schedule and instructions for taking and entering photos, the information was disseminated to all district garden club members the same day the idea sprang to life. The committee even added a class for 'can't bear to cut it' specimens to accept photos of entire plants or large sections of them. Vowing to not catch anything from each other except enthusiasm and knowledge, the gardeners will still get some practice correctly identifying and classifying their photo specimens as they enter them from home.

The New Century Design Club, Hill and Dale District, also went virtual. When their meeting was canceled, they decided that each member would prepare their design, take a picture and email it to all club members for comments/critique.

So You Wanna Recycle?

By Gail Vanderhorst, NGC Recycling Chairman



Here is something you can do while we are all staying at home.

Start saving those 7 oz. Kirkland tuna cans; you will need 10 cans. Take the paper off the sides and remove both top and bottom tin lids (be very careful you don't cut yourself), wash and dry them, and put them in a box to save until I give you the next directions. I will tell you in the next *WACONIAH* what we will do with them. You will love the finished product. Be safe and recycle.

Botanic Gardens in Your Neck of the Woods

By Harriet Vallens, Botanic Gardens Chairman



While visiting in Arizona several years ago, a friend introduced me to the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix. We spent a magnificent day there learning about the many beautiful plants of the desert.

In the 1930s, a small group of Phoenix residents were concerned about conserving the fragile desert environment. One of these residents was Gustav Starck, a Swedish botanist. Mr. Starck put up a sign near his home saying "Save the Desert." Other like-minded people joined together, and in 1936 the Arizona Cactus and Native Flora Society was formed. Their purpose was to sponsor a botanical garden to promote the uniqueness of the local Sonoran Desert and other desert areas. Gertrude Webster joined the Society. She offered financial support and encouragement to establish the Garden in Papago Park. Another supporter, Margaret Bell Douglas, donated 1,500 specimens to the herbarium. The Webster Auditorium, which is still in use, was built in the compound of the Desert Botanical Garden in 1939. In June of 1990, the National Park Service certified the Webster Auditorium as a national historic site.

The Desert Botanical Garden covers 140 acres. It now contains over 4,000 taxa, one third of which are plants native to the area. This includes 379 species that are rare, threatened, or endangered. The Garden is

By Greg Pokorski, Southern California Garden Club President

especially noted for its collection of agave, 4,026 plants in 248 taxa, and cacti, 13,972 plants in 1,320 taxa.



There are plants from less extreme climate conditions that are protected in shade-houses. Included are collections from Baja California, Australia, and South America. The focus here is to see how these plants adapt to desert conditions.

In addition to the splendid selection of living desert plants, there is a wonderful display of glass cacti and other plants created by the world famous artist Dale Chihuly. If I remember correctly, it is close to the well-stocked Book and Gift Shop. When you need a rest, there are a number of shaded areas where you can eat a snack, lunch, or have a beverage. When we were visiting, there was quiet, live music near the eating area.



If I may suggest, while you are in the Phoenix area, and if you appreciate Southwestern and Native American Art, please spend time in the Heard Museum.

What's "TAXA"

"Taxa" is the plural form of taxon. Taxon is a taxonomic group of any rank, such as a species, family, or class.

Answer to "Do You Know"

Alkiphobia is the fear of moose. Anatidaephobia is the fear of somewhere, somehow a duck is watching you. You never know, a duck could be watching you right now. The chances of getting killed by a duck are low... but never zero. Pentheraphobia is the fear of your mother-in-law.

As a member of the NGC Plant America with Trees Committee, and as president of Southern California Garden Club, I wanted our club to participate in the Plant America with Trees initiative. We have a long history of supporting tree plantings through our annual Arbor Day events and frequent donations to the Penny Pines program. But I hoped the club could do something special and something extra in response to NGC's encouragement that each one (member) plant one (native tree). This program has been featured in the November-December 2019 issue of *Keeping in Touch* and the Winter and Spring 2020 issues of *The National Gardener*.

I did not think it was feasible for each of our members to personally plant a tree or to provide the physical labor to engage in a tree planting activity. Suggestions were sought and finally we decided that the club would contribute to the Tree Dedication program of TreePeople, a Los Angeles nonprofit founded in 1973 and dedicated to improving urban ecosystems. Our club was an early supporter of this organization. So we made a significant donation on behalf of each of our 134 members and have received acknowledgement that "A grove of one hundred and thirty-four trees has been dedicated to honor Southern California Garden Club members." I am proud that our club helped plant trees to help offset the loss caused by natural disasters and intentional deforestation and that our action contributes to NGC's commitment to preserve natural areas in our communities and world. **We challenge all NGC clubs to participate.** What a difference we can make if we all do something!

Issue Deadlines and Issue Focus

The deadline for the August 2020 issue is 6-30-20. The issue focus is: ***What does your state offer to entice a club to join your state organization?***

Basil – Part 3

By Monica Lewis, Edible Gardening Chairman – See Feb '20 for Part 2



You can also preserve Basil by freezing it in ice cubes. This method is my favorite, because it has the nearest to fresh taste when added to cooked foods. Put fresh leaves in vinegar or

oil (for salad dressing), or blend leaves with oil, cheese, and pine nuts (or walnuts or sunflower seeds) to make pesto.

Pesto freezes well for six months. Be sure to "seal" your pesto with a layer of olive oil. Bottled pesto can be bought during the months when it is too cold for basil to grow, which is certainly better than having no basil at all. Italian cooks, however, preserve their prolific basil crops by filling a jar with the leaves, lightly salting them, topping up the jar with olive oil, closing it tightly, and storing it in the refrigerator. Dark opal basil makes a beautiful, tangy purple vinegar. Putting herbs in vinegar captures their flavor for the months when fresh herbs are not available.

Basil can be used in the herb garden, flower garden, as border plants, in containers, raised beds, and in hanging baskets.

Each variety of basil can add an accent to a garden: dark opal offers stunning purple foliage and mauve flowers; the miniature or bush basil is especially attractive for borders; the ruffled varieties offer unique textures, *Ocimum basilicum* 'Purple Ruffles' and 'Green Ruffles'.

Bring the wonderful fragrance of basil indoors by incorporating them in potpourris, sachets, and dried winter bouquets. The heavily scented opal basil and the sweet scented Thai's floral basil are particularly good.

The best flavor is found in fresh leaves, but frozen and dried leaves are worth the effort also. The leaves can be used cooked or raw. Crush, clip or mince the leaves and add to recipes, or add whole leaves to salads. Sprigs of basil make a wonderfully aromatic garnish. The flowers are beautiful, edible, and also make a unique garnish.

Basil is traditional in Italian, Mediterranean and Thai cookery. It is superb with veal, lamb, fish, poultry, white beans, pasta, rice, tomatoes, cheese and eggs. It blends well with garlic, thyme and lemon.

Basil adds zip to mild vegetables like zucchini, summer squash, eggplant, potatoes, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, parsnips, spinach and to the soups, stews and sauces in which these vegetables appear. To add to its versatility, basil is also one of the ingredients in the liqueur Chartreuse.

The most commonly used Mediterranean Basil cultivators are "Genovese", "Purple Ruffles", "Mammoth", "Cinnamon", "Lemon", "Globe", and "African Blue". In Taiwan, people add fresh Basil leaves to thick soups. They also eat fried chicken with deep-fried basil leaves. Basil (most commonly Thai Basil) is commonly steeped in cream or milk to create an interesting flavor in ice cream or chocolates (such as truffles).



Grow chives with roses to discourage insects and diseases. Most any kind of mint works well planted next to cabbage or tomatoes to ward off white cabbage moths, aphids and flea beetles. Plant thyme next to tomatoes where its flowers will attract bees for pollination.

The next time you boil or steam vegetables, don't pour the water down the drain, use it to water potted patio plants, and you'll be amazed at how the plants respond to the "vegetable soup."

Civic Beautification in the Pacific Region

By Amanda Ross, Civic Beautification Chairman

Civic Beautification in Washington:

Oak Harbor (large club) maintains 4 parks and containers, purchased story station on library Story Trail and renovated park to native plants. Contact person: Patty Cohick, president pattycohick@comcast.net

Edmonds Floretum (large club) to beautify hanging baskets, corner beds and plaza. Contact person Marty Ronish, president mronish@comcast.net



Looks like the club members enjoyed their planting time together.



Marine Hills (small club) supports gardens at elementary schools and community gardens. Contact person Debbie Angel, president DebbieLAngel@gmail.com



Maria Krenck is a **GEM** because of her care and dedication, and her "can do" attitude in all things for our garden club.

~ Shirley Lipa

May 8 found members of Marine Hills Garden Club in Federal Way (part of Chinook District) at Brookdale Foundation House (retirement center). We included residents in our "potting party" to plant 20 hanging baskets. These baskets were hung around the retirement center for all to enjoy. I hope you enjoy the smiling faces of residents and club members working together.



Thanks Debbie Angel for the information and the pictures.

North End (medium club) is saving hybrid a rose propagated by a member in 1936. Contact person Linda Logan LKLogan1@msn.com

An interesting project from 2018 was:

Enumclaw Garden Club: Enhancing foothills trail with metal elk installation. Contact person Yolanda Nelson, Awards chairman Zinnia2007@yahoo.com

Thanks Mary Dahlgren, WSFGC Civic Development Awards Chairman for the information above.

Civic Beautification in Oregon:

In January more than half of club presidents completed an informational survey. One of the questions was, do you take care of a (historic) garden? Most of the clubs that answered do take care of some public or historic garden. They care for a variety of gardens, from tiny plots downtown, to herb gardens, to rose gardens, to a garden for the blind, to pollinator gardens and often the grounds around **Blue Star Markers**.

Another club has been taking care of a garden at a women's shelter for more than 12 years. In that time the garden went from a bare plot to a colorful garden.

Every May, in one district, the schools have a "Give Back Day" and they help high school students plant all the downtown planters. They have the best job, because they can enjoy their handiwork all summer long! Another thing that District lobbied for was to bring the hanging flower baskets back downtown. They have been back for the last five years, and the District and district clubs give money for them. There are clubs in Oregon that actually take care of their downtown baskets, but we live in such a dry climate that the baskets all have to be watered twice a day. The watering needs to be done by professionals, and that is what makes the baskets so expensive, but well worth it.

There is one club in our state whose whole purpose is flower baskets; that's all they do.

Thanks, Tanja Swanson, OSFGC President for the information above.

Civic Beautification in Alaska:

Last May Fairbanks Garden Club helped plant the many flowers in the Golden Heart Plaza in downtown Fairbanks. Here are some pictures.



The

Greater Eagle River Garden Club has helped the Eagle River community clean up and plant a few of the forgotten gardens and the **Blue Star Marker** Memorial, so Chris Wood, Alaska Garden Clubs President, shared.

We LOVE those Mason Bees!

By Jane Sercombe, Pollinators Chairman

We Love those Mason Bees! They are buzzing about in March and April and looking for empty spaces to lay eggs and close up the entrance with "mud" --- hence their name, Mason Bees. The following is timely information from Crown Bees. A monthly newsletter, Bee-Mail, is available from this gardener-focused website at www.crownbees.com. Join in saving the food supply, one garden at a time.

Bee pollination is critical for many agricultural crops and flowering plants. Our food supply needs more native bee pollinators to supplement the declining honey bee. While scientists work to save the honey bee, together we can increase the solitary bee population. Join in the fun of raising mason bees, and help save the food supply, one garden at a time.

There are more than 130 species of native mason bees in North America. These solitary bees are very efficient,

gathering both pollen and nectar within the same visit. The pollen is dry-gathered and easily falls off wherever the hairy bee goes. This results in about 99.7% pollination of vegetables, fruits, nuts, and flowering plants. These tiny bees may also increase the number of seeds from your annuals for better reproduction next season.

Solitary mason bees provide bountiful yields to your fruit trees. Studies show that spring mason bees pollinating cherries can produce double the fruit than from just honey bees. Summer flowers and gardens benefit from the leafcutter bees. These bees will forage for pollen within 300' of their nests. On average, one foraging female mason bee pollinates an equivalent to one hundred foraging honey bees. (1:100 ratio)

Mason bees are easy to raise and entertaining to watch. An added benefit is their gentle nature. They rarely sting, and you don't need special clothing to observe them. In the rare case you do get stung, the venom is comparable to a mosquito bite.

Spring Blue Orchard Bee: This wonderful bee pollinates spring plums, cherries, apricots, nectarines, apples, peaches, pears, kiwis, blueberries, and most nuts. At first glance, you might mistake the blue orchard for a fly due to its size and similar coloring. It has large eyes, thick furry legs, and a hairy body. When the temperature rises above 53 degrees, it emerges, flies, and then pollinates more hours per day than the honey bee.

The female builds her nest in existing holes which she moves into and "owns" one hole at a time. She gathers about a pea-size mound of pollen, lays an egg in her hole, then seals the "chamber" with nearby clayey-mud. One tube might house 5 to 8 egg chambers. The new eggs will develop into adult bees by end of summer and overwinter as an adult bee in a cocoon.

Summer Alfalfa Leafcutter Bee: This warm weather bee is a perfect pollinator for July and August summer vegetables and just about any flowering plants. About 2/3 the size of a honey bee, the alfalfa leafcutter is black with pale yellow stripes on its abdomen. It flies best when temperatures reach the high 70s.

The leafcutter gets its name from how it collects its nesting material. It cuts a smooth semicircle from a non-fibrous plant leaf about 3/4 inches in diameter from the edge. Gardeners need not be alarmed about this cutting since it is typically not harmful to the plant.

Back at the nest, the cuttings are cemented together with leaf juices and bee saliva to form a cocoon for the eggs. The new eggs become larvae, overwinter as larvae in their cocoons, and then develop into bees in early summer.

Bee-safe and eco-friendly nesting materials: Use natural Easy/Tear Tubes or Reeds, ideal for easy harvesting. Use wood trays: stackable, strong and easy

to clean for reuse next season, which helps increase the number of your bees.

Don't use harmful chemicals or pesticides. Don't use drilled blocks of wood that you cannot clean. These retain harmful mites and other pests.

Environmental Art Exhibition and Juried Show

By Judy Unrine, Environmental Art Chairman

Your Pacific Region Director is excited to announce the first ever Environmental Art Exhibition and Juried Show. All PRGC members are invited to participate.

This fun event will be held during the 2021 Convention. **The requirement is that a repurposed or recycled item be incorporated into the design.**

I recently visited the amazing city of Long Beach, California after the California Winter Board Meeting. My husband and I were looking for murals done by their talented artists. We found the murals and so much more.



When we parked the car to photograph the first mural, we discovered the 3Sisters Shop. The shop is run by a young woman who believes in sustainable art. Chrystal Early opened her shop a year or so ago. She

designs clothing and other items using recycled cloth bags that originally packaged rice and repurposed vintage fabrics.

Fiber Arts will not be the only Division. The artwork you submit will help determine the categories. Your input is important. We want to showcase your talents and interests.

The piece at right, spotted on the exterior of a restaurant, is an example of another



category. Repurposed or leftover tile could be used to create wall art or to construct a new freestanding design.

"Toy Car Pile Up," created by Tom Barter for the Long Beach Transit Improvement Project, represents a collection of cars and trucks artfully assembled in a ceramic column. No matter where you find inspiration you can think creatively.

Not everyone is a professional artist. Garden club members have



By Launa Gould, Schools Chairman

many skills and abilities and enjoy being challenged. We are challenging you, no matter your skill level, to participate in the Environmental Art and Juried Show at the 2021 PRGC Convention.

Consideration will be given to members who cannot transport their entry to the convention location due to size or distance. Look for more information in the next edition of *WACONIAH* or contact me if you have questions and would like to participate.

You can contact me, Judy Unrine, Chairman, at Judysgarden01@gmail.com.

Smokey Bear Poster Contest Results

By Charlotte Tucker, Smokey Bear Poster Contest Chairman

First Grade

1st Place = Evelyn Snyder - Washington - Sent to NGC for judging

2nd Place = Laurel Bruggeman - California

3rd Place = Sadie Syron - Idaho

Second Grade

1st Place = Markie Gill III - Arizona - Sent to NGC for judging

2nd Place = Harinandh Nair - California

3rd Place = Avery Downen - Oregon

Third Grade

1st Place = Joycelyn Hudson - California - Sent to NGC for judging

2nd Place = Aletheir Smith - Oregon

3rd Place = NONE

Fourth Grade

1st Place = Kalia Moiso - California - Sent to NGC for judging

2nd Place = Audrey Puckett - Idaho

3rd Place = Hannah Olson - Washington

Fifth Grade

1st Place = Bella Seranno - California - Sent to NGC for judging

2nd Place = Jayden St. Mary - Washington

3rd Place = Althena Skaggs - Oregon

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL

June 24-26 – Course 4 Las Vegas, NV
Contact: Jean Engelmamm, wjengelmamm@gmail.com

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

Oct 31-Nov 1 – Course 3 Phoenix, AZ
Contact: Judy Tolbert, TolbertJL10@gmail.com

SYMPOSIUM

Sep 3-4, Sacramento, CA
Registrar: Kathy Bramhall, jnkbramhall@gmail.com

Sep 8-9, Boise, ID
Contact: Sandy Ford, SandraFord@cableone.net

Director's Calendar/Travel Events

Jun 8-10 Official Visit - Washington Convention, Ellensburg – fingers crossed



Jun 11 **Blue Star** Dedications (2), Washington

Jun 24-25 Flower Show School, Las Vegas, Nevada



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

Calendar of Events

Jul 15 \$25 refundable deposit for Post-Convention tour due to Becky Hassebroek

Jul 31 \$200 balance for Post-Convention tour due to Becky Hassebroek

Aug 5 Last day to postmark convention registration

Aug 17-20 Pacific Region Convention, Silverton, OR

Aug 20-22 Post-Convention Fundraiser Tour – McMinnville and Corvallis – **JOIN US!**

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As I watched the dog chasing his tail,
I thought, "Dogs are easily amused."
Then I realized I was watching the
dog chase his tail.

What Did You Do During the Pandemic?

Sandy Ford:

My daughter just helped me lift two jade plants out to the garage to repot them. They have been leaning into the window for 25 years and never repotted. Then came my sansevieria which is 50 years old. I thought I was going to have to break the pot to get it out. Some of the new stems grew over the edge, but my daughter just kept pulling and got it out. What broke off from the edge made a second pot as big as the first one. Some of the leaves are 40 and 46 inches long. Anyone need a houseplant?

Shirley Lipa:

I slept longer in the morning! 😊 I got some needed garden chores done like spraying my fruit trees and pruning out old berry canes. I learned how to use Zoom and now I'm making some face masks. (Of course I worked on the Region puzzles!)

Cynthia Frederick:

Oh what a great time to garden. I was going to do an all flower garden this year, then decided a few veggies might be wise. To do that I have to outfox my naughty husky dog who likes to dig. This has been a great challenge and distraction from our worldly woes.

Cooking, dehydrating food, not making my bed or having to groom up to go anywhere has been a real plus. Family, friends and neighbors have all been great.

I might take up sewing next week. Maybe.

Kathy Itomura:

During the pandemic we baked bread, weeded the garden, learned to Zoom, wrote letters, knit a shawl, harvested peas, radishes, citrus, lettuce, planted parsnips, parsley, cucumbers, sunflowers, and sewed face masks.

Carol Mossholder:

I go to Friends in Deed on Tuesdays, even though it is closed, to send Thank You Letters for donations. Really strange being alone in the building.

I get exercise by playing games, such as tennis, bowling and golf on my Wii.

I made the COVID 19 masks in the picture.



Judy Shelton:

Cleaned my pantry, sorted pictures per family member, worked in the garden, cleaned my house, lots of cooking, went on walks, watched Outlander series.

Diane Franchini:

Lol we did lots of 1000 piece crossword puzzles, cleaned house daily, and I worked in my studio sewing, painting, and cleaning.

Marva Lee Peterschick:

Transplanted tomato & cabbage seedlings, moved dormant plants, pruned apple trees, ripped up Costco sheet (best cotton) to make face masks (sheet had a flaw in it). It might have been under warranty, could take face masks to Costco to show what happened to their sheet!! On 2nd thought "stay home" is stuck in my mind.

Monica Lewis:

We (Stewart and I) worked in the skilled nursing homes throughout San Diego doing our part to help reduce pain and suffering, walked our dog Carson who is now 15, and took extra care of Mom to ensure she stayed home by doing all the grocery shopping.

Feeling pretty blessed we have not contracted the virus. Passed out masks made by my sister-in-law to our fellow health care workers who needed them. She kept us supplied with a new bag each week. The story continues.

Michele Noe:

As co-editor, with Ros Cline, of the Silver State Gardener, the newsletter of the Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc., we have been working on the next issue due out this month.

Bob Gordon:

I continued my involvement on the Session of the Presbyterian Church and the SLO Symphony Both through Zoom meetings and email. Took naps.

Kristi Ayers:

Project: Hospital Masks+ Sewing hospital masks, and isolation gowns and hats filled my days, and some nights too. Bogachiel Garden Club members donated bed



sheets, fabric, and additional supplies needed for the construction of these requested items.

Milly Benson:

Staying home! Sewing masks for friends and family! Tried to educate naysayers that coronavirus is not the flu. It is deadlier and much more contagious. Even had to convince my nurse friend that our situation is dire. We need to pay attention.

I'm also making items to raise funds for CGCI and PRGC, for when things are back to normal and I get to see my wonderful gardener friends again.

Charlotte Tucker:

I read, watched a lot of TV, finished some Poster Contest stuff and CLEANED my desk.

WOW it sure looks better now. Can't remember when I saw this much space on the top of my desk.

Tanja Swanson:

I haven't cleaned any cupboards yet... Been busy figuring things out: how to hold meetings by e-mail and doing the necessary things to approve some important motions and the budget for next year. Hoping to stay in contact with all my members! Made some masks with help of Sylvester the cat...



Nancy & Art Loesch:

Washed our hands over and over and over! Went shopping. Attended online church services every Sunday in Henderson, NV and in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Installed new ceramic tile flooring in the restrooms at our Nevada Garden Club Center building.

Worked in the Garden of the Pioneer Women in Lorenzi Park adjacent to the Nevada Garden Club Center.

Carolyn Olley:

Waiting for it to be OVER!, sleeping-in every morning (no meetings!), enjoying no solicitation/pollster's phone calls!, increasing my typing speed (LOTS of emailing)!, worrying about my husband (Portland Fire & Rescue) and daughter (Amazon delivery driver), staying home!, wearing a face-mask if I do have to go out, appreciating my family, friends, and garden, hoping everyone is staying safe and healthy.

Nichol Sanchez:

I made masks. As of April 7, have made and donated over 500 masks for my local community, going to school workers, senior center, food banks, and individuals. Masks are not as fun to make as quilts, but it makes me feel helpful and that is soothing during this crazy time.

Lana Finegold:

Lana walks at least 5,000 steps daily and she has a Nordic Track at home which she uses three times a week with music tapes she made. And there is a cool down with floor exercises to finish the routine. Lana taught exercise classes 8 years in the 80s.

Made a Passover cake Saturday. Banana Orange, 9 eggs, No Baking powder or baking soda. The egg whites provide the rise. Special Matza cake flour and potato starch. Need to separate my cupboards for the holiday which starts Wednesday night. 8 days. Special foods.

Nancy Compton:

We've had far too much rain, so I've had limited time outside in the garden. However, I have an indoor garden of 75 houseplants which are now trimmed and watered. I've started new cuttings in glass vases, planted nasturtium seeds in little pots, painted a floral design on a little step-stool, and a floral design on a large glass vase.

Myrtle Findley:

I picked peas during the stay home. Cut lettuce and spinach. Got a new planter with wheels and self-watering system. Am getting ready to plant in that soon. I sit a lot, do Robin's puzzles whenever she gets them out. Clean dishes....do some baking...

Roseann Costabile:

Pulled weeds, started tomato seedlings, played record albums, sewed 16 quilt blocks, learned ZOOM, baked bread, attended Mass online, stayed optimistic.

Jamie Cloud:

I walked each day and took photos of the beautiful desert plants that were blooming. Some of the cactus blooms only open for 2 days.

Sue Bennett:

With no meetings in the near future to prepare for, I have time to stop and smell (enjoy) my roses - posting pictures to Facebook of my flowers/roses in my yard for others to enjoy. My husband is working from home, which makes it nice we have more time together as he doesn't leave at 6 a.m. and get home at 6 p.m.

Weeders GC (Arizona):

A couple of Weeders Garden Club members decorated our golf carts and drove by other members' homes. We would park curbside and have them come outside to say hello. We kept our social distance.



Aleta MacFarland:

Staying home today, yesterday and tomorrow

Outdoors I sit in the sunshine, it brings my shadow friend

Colorful cloth to cover my face, just in case...

It's a good time to do what I did not have time for before

Attempting to create, expand my mind, get better at who I am

Looking through pictures, listening to singing birds and barking dogs

Digging out weeds and planting seeds, I WAVE at a passing car

Insomnia is finally gone, guess I will sleep some more

Shopping one day out of ten, staying six feet away or more

Technology keeps us all in touch

Aware that I do this so we can all be safe to be together again

Not too much to ask of me

Can the sky still be so blue when we can go where we want?

Enjoying my time with me.

Harriet Vallens:

Walking in my neighborhood alone, or with my dog, has been a blessing. The thoughtfulness of my young neighbors brightens my days. Cleaning cupboards, pulling weeds, and deadheading roses brings satisfaction. Planting seeds and seedlings brings me hope.

Becky Hassebroek:

I'm not proud of the fact that, on a large table in my office, there are piles of files and papers that need organizing. Other things just seem to take precedence. My goal is to have a clear table that I can use like a normal table and no longer spend valuable time looking for that one item that I know is there somewhere!

Vicki Yuen:

I cleaned out my pantry, found all sorts of things I forgot I had (just made some cherry cobbler from a mix that had been hiding), several opened bags of powdered sugar, expired items that I don't even know WHERE they came from, and an old maple syrup jar that sings when you open it - Patti Page singing about her syrup farm.

Greg Pokorski:

Garden club work. Are we supposed to do anything else? Pandemic parliamentary problems. Writing and proofing articles. NGC website review. Cancelling meetings. Figuring how to accomplish things without meetings.

Gail Vanderhorst:

We went to a different neighborhood and walked around the blocks and looked at houses and gardens.....made tapioca pudding.....when is the last time you made tapioca pudding?.....for me it was years ago.....and I even put the pudding in the old pottery custard cups.....so fun !!!!!

Gay Austin:

I've been GARDENING more than usual. Our perennial beds never looked so well-manicured, and I've planted vegetables - tomatoes, peppers, squash, beans, radishes, and beets. I've made JELLIES - 15 cases so far and have time to PAINT. This "stay home" has been a blessing - it's helped me to realize what blessings are given to me, without getting in a car! Paradise is here in Holmesville.

Alexis Slafer:

We returned from Virginia on March 18...at the beginning of the restrictions. At first we re-scheduled doctor appointments...this task continues. My main occupation was getting ready for the Passover holiday...with lots of cleaning and cooking. And we must not forget taxes, Garden Club paperwork, gardening and walking around the block.

Carol Vallens:

Covid 19 101 Stay Home Day

1. Get up, shower, brush teeth, comb hair. No need to put on makeup or do hair, just comb it to reduce the knots as it gets longer and grayer.
2. Go to kitchen, is there anything for breakfast? Oatmeal again. Wash hands, make oatmeal, clean up kitchen, disinfect counters, wash hands again.
3. Clean out another closet.
4. Wash hands, pb and j for lunch on Matzo.
5. Watch repeats on TV or a movie on Netflix.
6. Dinner time leftovers again yum!!! Clean up, wash hands again.
7. Watch Grace and Frankie on Netflix for the 4th time through the series, picking up on all the details that I missed the first three times through.
8. Bedtime, pajamas, brush teeth, wash face. Wash hands, get into bed, not sleepy, watch more Grace and Frankie till I fall asleep.
9. Another day, repeat above.

Marv Hassebroek:

With a mandate to stay at home, what better time to experiment with gardening? I saved some of the seeds from those Campari tomatoes that you get at Costco. I dried them on a paper towel for a couple of weeks and planted them. They are growing in pots under lights inside, and last evening we had our first home-grown salad of the season – with fresh tomatoes and spinach – and there's still 2 feet of snow on the ground! Can you just imagine how good that tasted?!

Robin Pokorski:

I had time to reflect on how grateful I am for each of you – the joy you bring into my life, the meaning you bring to my life – the **moose** you bring into my life!