

# WACONIAH

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

Vol. 48 No. 2 Director's Theme: **"Reconnect to YOUR Pacific Region"**



**2019 – 2021  
Pacific Region  
Director  
Robin Pokorski**

Photo Phundraiser  
& Puzzle Mania  
Results in this  
issue

### **Director's Message**

**Don't be surprised to see me** if you send me the link to your meeting. I am likely to zoom in to your Zoom meeting! I may get to visit more clubs than ever, but I need to get the info on my calendar!

The Photo Phundraiser was an immense success. I had hoped for 75 entries, would have been satisfied with 50 entries, and we received over 400 entries! **You are AWESOME!!!!** Thank you for your support! The pictures are all available via the Flickr link on our region website.

I've joined a new garden club – I hope you'll all come along with me - **the first ever region-wide garden club**. Check out the details → It's the club I've been waiting for all my life!

This issue is filled with interesting articles and information. Don't forget **Installation Ideas 2020**, and **Membership Matters!**; the Youth Contest entries booklet, **Hope for the Future; Live, Laugh, Garden in the Pacific Region**, an inspiration book; and **What's Cookin' in the Pacific Region** are **all still available** from me now.

*Robin*



**Joan Craig** is a **GEM** – just because!

~ Robin Pokorski

### **An Invitation to all Pacific Region Members**

The first Pacific Region garden club open to ALL Pacific Region members and their friends and neighbors has been established – **Lil' Moose Garden Club**. We have an interesting mooseletter that will be published periodically and we'll be listing ALL the club members. Here are some of the officers at their first meeting – setting down the bylaws and guidelines.



**The only garden club where all dues and donations go solely toward the Pacific Region Scholarship Fund!** Why? Because moose are big supporters of furthering the education of all calves. Also they have no club expenses due to successful foraging and meetings held in the wilderness, or your yard, campsite, middle of the road.....wherever they want.....whenever they want.

The registration form is attached to this newsletter! I want to be a part of it – don't you???? **Let's make this THE LARGEST garden club!** To date we have 7 members including our NGC President and Pres-Elect.

**Lil' Moose GC members:**

**Gay Austin, NGC PRESIDENT!!!**

**Becky Hassebroek**

**Greg Pokorski**

**Robin Pokorski**

**Martha Smyser**

**Brynn Tavasci!**

**Mary Warshauer, NGC President-Elect**

**Thanks, you are Moosificent!!**

## Blue Star Markers are Coming to Life... Slowly Director's Special Project

By Diane Franchini, Director's Special Project Chairman



After seven plus months of dormancy it appears that life is slowly emerging with **Blue Star Markers**. Just to recap – the PR Director issued a challenge for each state to purchase, install, and dedicate TWO **Blue Star Markers** during each year of her term (FIVE for California, and restorations also count). States, districts, and clubs have more than stepped up to the plate for this challenge. I am tracking 77 marker projects ranging from research phase to dedication. Nine have made it to dedication. Then COVID sent us all inside our homes to wait it out.

Slowly we are seeing or hearing some stirring of activity. Robin is shaking the dust off her **red**, white, and **blue** outfits and is getting ready to venture out of her home to attend some dedications this fall. Be sure to contact her with an invitation to attend!!!

In addition to issuing a challenge, a PR **Blue Star Marker** Grant was established to provide some financial help for purchasing or restoring **Blue Star Markers**. Of the \$2100 set aside for the grant, \$1350 has been given out. **It's not too late to apply for a grant** if you have a project that is getting under way.

Have questions?? Or need a copy of the Grant Application?? Contact Diane Franchini at [franchinisd@gmail.com](mailto:franchinisd@gmail.com) or phone 253.653.0827. We want to ensure "**Blue Stars Shine in the Pacific Region**" in spite of COVID!

## Membership Matters... Ideas for Growth!!



**"Membership Matters... Ideas for Growth!"** Our new spiral-bound book is ready to go to press. This colorful 100+ page book is

filled with great ideas from our Region states plus a few ideas from our friends on the East Coast. You'll want a copy so you can explore the many ideas to inspire and energize your current members, while also building your club membership. **The book will be available free-of-charge on the region website** (a benefit of membership).

For a printed copy, **send your pre-order, including shipping information, to Gaye Stewart, PRGC Membership Chair, 761 SE Lynchet Lane, Dallas, OR 97338** (email: [RosesRemembered@aol.com](mailto:RosesRemembered@aol.com); phone or text: 503.510.4370) and **make your check payable to Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.** Printed copies are \$10 (plus \$5 for shipping). Bulk orders of 10 or more receive a 10% discount (\$9 each). Pre-orders must be received by December 1.

## Gold Star Marker Dedication



Director Robin attended and brought greetings at a Gold Star Memorial Marker dedication in Henderson, Nevada in September. The marker is placed in the demonstration gardens of Acacia Park. Several veterans' groups were involved in the preparation and installation of the marker. The hour-long dedication was intensely moving and included naming each honored veteran, their rank and field of service. The dedication ended with an unbelievable rendition of Taps that brought tears to everyone's eyes.



## Life Memberships

By Marlene Kinney, Life Membership Chairman



**TOGETHER  
WE CAN DO IT**

**Thank you, Nevada,** for the purchase of a new Life Membership. What a fabulous way to show your appreciation and support of Pacific Region Garden Clubs' scholarship program.

As we all continue to stay connected, now more than ever we need to come together and support each other and our communities. Our lives can change instantly without any warning. The best way to do this is by surprising our fellow gardeners with a PRGC Life Membership and support the scholarship program at the same time.

## Photo Phundraiser – An Awesome Success

By Robin Pokorski, Director



**WOW!!!!** Did you ever embrace the Photo Phundraiser event! The pictures are superb!! And you all can see them on Flickr through a link on our region website.

Ribbons and checks have been sent to the winners. **Congratulations** to **Hermosa Garden Club**, California, winner of the Most Entries \$100 award and to **Fairbanks Garden Club**, Alaska, winner of the Most Entries per Capita \$100 award.

The photos were judged by a professional photographer during a hurricane – he lives in Florida.

More than \$1800 was raised thanks to your participation and the generous donations of many.



**Karen & Paul Ramsey** are **GEMs** because their efforts & flexibility led to the very successful first Pacific Region Photo Phundraiser.

~ Alexis Slafer

## Chrysanthemums



Chrysanthemums were first cultivated in China as a flowering herb as far back as the 15<sup>th</sup> century BC. In Chinese culture, the bamboo, orchid, plum blossom and chrysanthemum are collectively referred to as the Four Noble Ones. The flower was brought to Japan in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, and the Emperor adopted the flower as his official seal. In 1688, chrysanthemums were imported to Holland but perished. In England, a few varieties arrived from China in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Linnaeus named it from the Greek word χρυσός chrysous, "golden" (the color of the original flowers), and ἄνθεμον - anthemion, meaning flower. In 1846, the National Chrysanthemum Society was founded in Stoke Newington, England. Chrysanthemums were enthusiastically embraced in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century in the United States.

## A Zoom with a View

By Brynn Tavasci, Historian



Education takes many forms and sometimes sneaks up on you, pointing out a nice little spot in your brain that needs an update or at least a new coat of paint. For me, that coat of paint was the color of Zoom. For some, Zoom is a four-letter word and, yes there have been times when its mere utterance has made me cringe or feel a bit nauseous. Mostly it has made me realize that I can learn new things, conquer a few fears, and add a few new tools to my tool belt.

It started out innocently enough with an invitation from my daughter who lives in Arizona. She asked if we would like to have a family game night on Zoom. We picked our devices and loaded Zoom. We spent a hilarious evening with my daughters Alexa and Jacquie, Jacquie's wife Jess, and Trevor their "adopted" son. Families also take many forms. Happy faces, laughter, and family members adapting to a situation that created necessary isolation by learning a new way to be together. A bridge to when we can gather together again. We have spent many uproarious evenings playing games and visiting, each time learning a new trick or two about how to Zoom through this strange new world.

Being the NGC Gardening School Accrediting Chairman for the Central and South Atlantic Regions and Washington State Gardening School Chairman positioned me for some intense Zoom meetings, education, meetings, re-education, and did I say meetings? The three beta Zoom Gardening Schools that I was involved with were, yes, a lot of work but ultimately successful and fun. It was great to meet garden clubbers from across the states and develop friendships along the way. Learning and laughing together translates to enrichment on many levels and includes healing. What started as a stop-gap process to continue the Gardening School's momentum also provided a way to fill a void created by the isolation of the quarantine. Imperfect and limited as the interaction Zoom provides, it still produces a few minutes or hours of conversation about a topic we can all appreciate. Just like garden club, you get out of it what you put into it.

Our district and club meetings have been beneficial as we visit and figure out how to keep projects going and inspire each other to try new things. Groups can still share ideas and motivate each other as we adapt and re-adapt and re-re-adapt to this unexpected world we are experiencing. Trying out new ways to interact has been a surprising revelation. It doesn't replace hugs and meals shared, but it does provide a way to see each other's smiles and hear each other's laughter - well worth attempting a new Zoom point of view.

## State Presidents' Reports

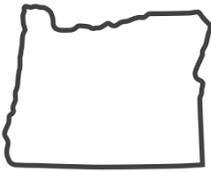
This term, the state presidents are writing their reports based on a common assignment. This issue's assignment was: ***What have you learned from the pandemic? or alternatively, If you've been having video/Zoom meetings, how are they going?***

If your state isn't featured it's because nothing was submitted! We are missing several of our states.

**State Presidents:** you are meant to be submitting a report on the assigned topic for EACH issue of this newsletter.

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

*Theme: "Kids, Community, and Creativity"*



Our State is adapting and learning how to carry out meetings by email, mail and ZOOM.

I have tried to have ZOOM meetings with my District Directors but, even after explaining how it works and reminding everyone several times only three of the fourteen Directors participated.

It works better with my Executive Board. We find it easier than sending hundreds of emails back and forth. We are planning a full board ZOOM meeting on October 5. We'll see how many will participate.

Some of our clubs have been really active with socially distanced meetings, garden tours, and nursery visits with **everyone in their own car!**

One club has made short YouTube videos from the beautiful gardens of their members. We have been sharing them on the state Facebook page. Do check them out - they are wonderful!

One of our tiny Clubs had a remote plant sale and made \$900.00!

I try to keep in contact with all our members through a weekly email: "Tuesday Thoughts." There is always something to write about (besides COVID). Members send me pictures of their flowers, which I include.

Everyone is trying to be creative and flexible to adjust to these new circumstances.

### ***Gardener's Tip***



Cardboard egg cartons can be recycled into perfect seed-starting flats. When it's time to plant, separate the sections with a sharp knife and tuck each one into the soil - the cardboard will decompose as the seedlings grow.

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

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



I still can't believe our lives have been so changed with this continuing Coronavirus and all its limitations. Our thoughts and prayers are still with our Pacific Region fellow garden club friends. May you and your family stay safe and well. We will look forward to seeing everyone next

August 2021 at the Pacific Region Convention in The Oregon Garden and, of course, here in Las Vegas in 2022!

"How to Keep Going during the Pandemic"

We realized that with all the restrictions and severity of the pandemic, we had to cancel our Spring Annual meeting scheduled for May 30. Since we needed to elect four Trustees to complete our Board that takes care of our building - Nevada Garden Club Center - we held a "Virtual Meeting". Using email and calls, we elected the Trustees. The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the Minutes, Treasurer's year-end Report and future year Budget to complete the requirements of our Spring Annual meeting. When faced with this dilemma, we had to get creative and work together at a distance. We're so thankful for the cooperation and input from so many clubs.

In September, some of our clubs started meeting at the Nevada Garden Club Center again. We asked them to be responsible by using disinfecting wipes and spray to clean up after their meetings. This included wiping down tables, door handles, switches and things they had touched during their meeting. Also, per our Governor's orders and our own common sense, everyone was to wear a mask and practice social distancing. I was recently privileged to install the new officers for the Seedlings Garden Club. It is difficult to stay at a distance when it is such a joy to see our fellow members after all these months. Some of our clubs have been using Zoom and internet programs to hold general and planning meetings to keep going before getting to in-person meetings. Depending on the member configuration, unfortunately some have decided to put meetings on hold until the situation improves. Sunset Garden Club, which normally meets at a city library, had to find an alternate location due to city closures of meeting rooms. Where there's a will, there's a way!

On October 3, we held a scaled-down Fall Conference. Instead of an all-day event with a program and catered luncheon, we had a morning-only meeting. We started with a continental breakfast provided by the Las Vegas Flower Arrangers' Guild. Members with gloves and masks served the drinks, and individually packaged food items made it safer. Luckily, we have a large meeting room which made social distancing easier. The election of officers for 2021-2023 was the main event, and I was

## So You Wanna Recycle?

By Gail Vanderhorst, NGC Recycling Chairman



Finally, here is the last part of the recycling project that we started a few months ago. You will need 30 of the small clips pictured and 10 ornaments, any color or mix the colors if you like.

Start with the bottom and begin to clip the painted cans together as shown in the picture, folding the clip ends flat against the can.

Continue making a pyramid shape clipping the cans together as you go.

At the center of each can, place a clip and fold the clip ends flat against the can. That is where you will attach the ornament and it will dangle from the clip. Just ease the ornament hanger onto the clip and let it dangle. Easy, wasn't it?



You can make a base for the tree or just set it on a surface the way it is. Make one for your friend or neighbor or, better yet, make it **with** your friend or neighbor. Be safe and Merry Christmas.



excited to present the Nevada Garden Clubs State Awards as well as the Pacific Region Awards. I'm so proud of our clubs and their members' tireless work in their clubs and in the community!

There are still plans for meetings and outings this fall for our garden club members. I was so honored to attend and participate in the Dedication of a Gold Star Memorial at Acacia Park in Henderson on September 30. The Sunset Garden Club coordinated with the Blue Star Mothers, Veterans Action group, City of Henderson, BSA and the young man who was responsible for this service project, Alex Ngo. Thank you to Nancy Bovill, President of Sunset Garden Club; Marcia Brown, Sunset Garden Club Gold Star Marker Chairman; and especially Robin Pokorski, Director, Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. for contributing to this important dedication to honor Gold Star Families whose loved ones paid the ultimate price defending the United States of America. This was a very emotional service. Garden Club members do care!

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

## Baskets Bolster & Boost Spirits

By Mary Lou Goodwin, Arbor Day Chairman Photo credit: Mary Lou Goodwin

Eureka Sequoia Garden Club planted the Old Town Gazebo hanging baskets for the eleventh year. Shafer's Hardware Garden Center hosted the event. Eureka Main Street coordinated the project and ordered the materials consisting of Wave Petunias, Lobelia and Alyssum.



The City of Eureka Maintenance Department transported the baskets to the city greenhouse in Sequoia Park Gardens where they were grown until they were hung in the Gazebo around Memorial Day weekend. The Mission provided workers to water the plants every day until they were taken down in October.

These baskets added a boost to our spirits this summer.

## Awards

By Sandra Ford, Awards Chairman

There were 111 award applications received this past spring to be judged and 88 of them received award certificates. **Congratulations!**

What do we do this year with all the cancellations of conventions and garden club meetings? Region Director Robin Pokorski and I discussed possibilities. We still encourage all states to apply for awards. There are still no cash awards, but everyone deserves credit for even the smallest accomplishments.

Yearbooks were probably printed even with no meetings to enjoy. So many members wrote great articles for the state and/or region newsletters. There are awards to apply just for that.

Gardens were kept up, while our wildlife went on as usual, except for detours because of weather or fire conditions. Nature does not stop, nor do gardeners. Did clubs go online for their plant sales, auctions, and online craft ideas for adults as well as children? Someone must have kept up the Blue Star flower beds, memorial gardens, butterfly and children's gardens - endless opportunities.

Now may be a good time to start thinking about a Healing Garden for next year, as well. We sure do need them!

A few new classes will be added this year which will be on the website shortly. Check with your state awards chairman. The state and region judges will be as lenient as possible in our judging. We encourage our members not to give up. We will survive this world-wide crisis. Our gardens did.



**Sandy Ford** is a **GEM** because she worked soooo hard on the PRGC Awards and I thank her!

~ Robin Pokorski

## Puzzle Mania

By Robin Pokorski, Puzzle Mania Master

**Congratulations** to **Shirley Lipa**, Puzzle Mania contest winner. 2<sup>nd</sup> Place honors go to **Susan Nash**, and **Alexis Slafer** came in 3<sup>rd</sup> Place.

Thank you to all those who played along with me - I had such fun making up the puzzles for you.

**Shirley**, your prize will be awarded at the next convention.

## Gardening Friends Help Friends in Alaska

By Susie Crevensten, Fairbanks GC



The Fairbanks Garden Club completed their Plant America Grant project in September. We took on the very weedy sandy soil of the Anna Creamer's Historical Vegetable Garden at the Creamer's Field Wildlife and Migratory Bird Refuge in Fairbanks. We mulched, manured, composted and planted a garden crop based on the historical plants in the garden. And, while we had our "Creamer's Team" working together, we also mulched, pruned and planted new flowers in the Anna Creamer Historical Flower Garden. The flower bed around the Visitor Center was started with a grant from the Principal Life Insurance Company in 2004 and has been maintained for many years.

The Anna Creamer's Vegetable Garden produced six weeks of boxes of squash varieties and Swiss chard that were donated to Stone Soup and the Rescue Mission. We also delivered a healthy crop of potatoes and beets to Stone Soup, who had their potato garden vandalized. And, we helped feed the needy. We were amazed at the results!

During the Covid-19 lockdown, this garden was a heavenly place to be socially distanced wearing masks and talking with fellow garden friends. One of our team members made us masks! We gathered every Wednesday for 15 weeks come rain, fog, 45 ° or 70° to tend the garden.

We are looking forward to more rewarding days during the 2021 summer---without masks!



**Strange but True Around the Region:** Thanks to **Alaska's** summer sun (delivering sunlight as much as 20 hours a day), produce here can grow to be *huge*. Recent years have seen the state produce a 138-pound cabbage, a 65-pound cantaloupe, and a 35-pound broccoli.

## What's Happening in Washington

By Lana Finegold, ELWD Co-Director, Washington



I am co-director of East Lake Washington District, a district of 10 clubs. We have a ZOOM account available to each of the clubs as well as a ZOOM team to assist our clubs when they elect to have a ZOOM event. ELWD is doing everything via ZOOM, and the response has been positive. We had an Executive Committee Meeting and a Board Meeting in August and a General Membership Meeting in late September. Because of COVID, we do not see any way to meet in person, so ZOOM is our chance to keep things going. Some clubs are sharing member messages, and design groups are sharing designs. Garden tours can be set up for individuals. It is all about staying safe and healthy as we travel this new path.

## Parliamentary Tidbits

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian



The newly published twelfth edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* (RONR) supersedes all previous editions and is intended automatically to become the parliamentary authority for organizations whose bylaws prescribe *Robert's Rules of Order*, *Robert's Rules of Order Revised*, *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* or "the current edition of" any of these titles. If the bylaws specifically identify one of the eleven previous editions of the work as parliamentary authority, the bylaws should be amended to prescribe "the current edition..." (RONR 56:66).

To adopt *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* as an organization's parliamentary authority, the organization should insert the following into its bylaws at the appropriate place:

Article #

Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern (name of organization or this organization) in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order (name of organization or this organization) may adopt.

RONR, which contains 714 pages, is the rule book with the complete rules of parliamentary procedure. The same authorship team has written *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief* (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition) which is a short (213 pages) and user-friendly book that highlights some of the most important rules and is an essential entry-level handbook of meeting rules. It contains sample dialogues for the meeting presider and words to use as a member at a meeting.

## Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs Dorrie Carr, President

Theme: "Investing in Future Gardeners"



Washington State, like everyone else, has had to think outside the box on many events and activities.

Zoom is being used by districts and clubs in Washington for not only meetings, but also for horticulture and design presentations. Black

Hills District held a virtual horticulture show in April. And because the show was virtual, they added a class 'Can't Bear to Cut it' for photos of entire plants or large sections of a plant. We believe this virtual show was the very first in NGC. They also hosted a virtual garden tour in July to replace the county fair flower show. Hill and Dale District has held two virtual flower shows - one for the district and one to replace the county fair flower show. Both were well received by the members of the district, and participation was high. The East Lake Washington District Judges Council held a Pop-Up Flower Show in August. It was staged in a driveway and back patio of a member's home and provided the judges a chance to keep up their judging skills. They discovered that if they do this again, because of space limitations, all designs should be petite or reduced in size. Many garden clubs still held their plant sales, practicing social distancing and other safety protocols. Some clubs held online plant sales which were a huge success.

As the new garden club year begins, our districts and clubs are navigating through meeting in person (small groups or outside), Zoom or something in-between. Clubs are also trying to keep in touch with their members via email newsletters. Edmonds Floretum GC (at-large) sends out a newsletter to all members on a weekly basis and includes pictures of a member's garden. Co-Presidents of a club in the Greater Seattle District set up a drive around to visit with their members, and other clubs were erecting tents outside to hold meetings. Chinook District hosted a Zoom meeting in September with a speaker. Kelso GC (at-large) members were treated to an ice cream social making sure they followed local health standards. They drove to a specific location where they were treated to either an ice cream sandwich or bar. The Central District Director hosted members at her house in September for a socially distant, safe event. It just goes to show you how creative our districts and clubs can be when the need arises!

WSFGC was one of the participants in a test run of virtual schools. NGC approved three different Zoom beta gardening schools in a process to develop Zoom School Guidelines. If the Zoom school guidelines are approved, the benefits would be: no expenses for travel or lodging, see a wider variety of speakers and instructors, continue your education at home, and be able to attend a wider offering of schools than your state offers.

Theme: "Plant America – Plant Parks"



CGCI members are learning something different during their stay at home during Covid-19. "Virtual Conferencing" is a new term to many members. How to have a meeting by social distancing has been very challenging for our members. Here are a few things I have learned about

what clubs have been doing for the last six months. They are using virtual conferencing either by using Zoom, Go to Meeting, or Google Docs. Many club members do not have a camera connected to their computer, so they call in and it allows them to be part of the meeting even though they cannot see the individuals.

\*In one district, the district director is having practice sessions with clubs to assist them in using Zoom so that they have someone within their club to be the technical support during their virtual meetings. This has been very successful, and all the clubs in this district use Zoom for meetings or events.

\* Three clubs zoomed a meeting together so they shared a program and expenses. And the next month, one of the three clubs was able to have a member give a program for all three clubs.

\* Some smaller clubs are able to have their meetings in public parks using social distancing while wearing masks.

\* Another club decided to award the members with the most creative masks while zooming. They were told to guess who the members were. Lots of laughs for all. Other clubs are making masks for their club members. Quite a few clubs are making masks for seniors.

\* There are clubs having plant sales either online or by showing the plants online, and the members deliver the plants. Another club has had two months of a Saturday plant sale so that they sell their plants at their club house which just happens to be downtown in their city. They have been able to increase their membership from the public just walking by their plants.

\* Another club has rented an Amphitheatre for six months to invite the public and members to join in their monthly meetings, plus they have added a plant sale to the meetings.

\* A very small club is using Zoom for the first time (they had 6 attend), so in their next newsletter they included a picture of everyone that attended and the newsletter included pictures of the floral design program. They continue to keep their membership included whether by virtual conferencing or an e-newsletter.

WSFGC has approximately 15 at-large garden clubs in varying parts of the state. It has been a challenge to figure out how to keep these clubs involved and informed. It finally hit us that the best way to do that would be with Zoom! Our first meeting was on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September and was a huge success. All the presidents were so appreciative of the state taking the time to ensure their voices were heard. It also gave them the opportunity to hear about the other clubs and what they are doing. The 2<sup>nd</sup> VP will act as the liaison between the state and the clubs-at-large (CALs). Once the state begins having regular meetings again, we are hoping to have quarterly meetings with the CALs to keep them up to date on state activities.

When the State Awards Chairman sent the WSFGC/PR/NGC awards to all districts and at-large clubs, she included an article listing the 2020 awards and their deadlines. With so many community activities and flower shows being canceled the last six months, we thought it would be a good idea to remind the districts and clubs what other awards are available.

### **A Facet of GEM History**

By Michele Noe, GEMs Chairman

The Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. GEM fundraising program was initiated by Robin Pokorski a few years ago. In her words, "*The point is to honor or memorialize someone in WACONIAH. To participate, name someone you consider a GEM in the Pacific Region.*"



Since early 2019 I have been the program chair. The acronym for GEM was created as a way to define a person who is:

**G** – Generous   **E** – Exceptional   **M** – Mindful

Now it's easier than ever to "honor" that someone who is a **GEM** with a **GEM**. A link to the order form is now available on the Home page of PRGC. Click on the tab 2020 PR GEM FORM to download the form. Check it out!

100% of the proceeds from the **GEM** fundraiser support various programs/projects of PRGC.

Any questions please contact me at prgcgems@gmail.com.



*Michele Noe* is a **GEM** because she has enhanced this fundraising program and encouraged us to recognize and honor our members as GEMs.

~ Alexis Slafer

CGCI is pleased that many of our clubs can still meet and continue the business of their clubs!!

And there are many other clubs that have increased the size of their monthly newsletter to include more photos. They are having contests for who grew the biggest pumpkin or tomato. They are showing lots of floral designs they have made for their homes. And, they are leaving extra potted plants on neighbors' porches with invites to the garden club. It amazes this President that our clubs are so very productive even though we cannot meet. They are active and productive in their communities by promoting the CGCI garden club world.

**Chivvy Up to Chives**

By Sally Thompson, Herbs Chairman



Chives are a hardy perennial and have a mild onion flavor. The leaves are hollow and look like grass. They have been cultivated in China and used throughout Asian countries for many years, before spreading to Western countries. Chives are easy to grow from seed in a sunny garden or container location.

Dill is also a hardy herb, but it is an annual that likes full sun and plenty of water. To gather seeds easily, place a paper or plastic bag over an end of feathery branches and shake. The seeds drop into the bag and are ready to use or for storage.

Parsley is a hardy biennial and slow to germinate. Keep moist while growing. Parsley has two varieties, French and Curly. The French parsley has more flavor and is used in everyday cooking. The Curly parsley is used as a pretty garnish on party platters.

**Herb Sauce**

Mix 2/3 cup mayonnaise and 2/3 cup unflavored yogurt until smooth.

Mash 2 hardboiled egg yolks with 1 tsp. Dijon mustard and stir into the mayonnaise yogurt mixture.

Add salt & pepper to taste.

Stir in 1 Tbsp. each chopped dill, chopped chives and chopped parsley. Serve with veggies or salads.

All creatures need shelter from the elements and from predators. Gardeners wanting to attract birds will often buy or construct little houses for them which may or may not be occupied by the intended resident. Even more often they may go vacant entirely. I have also seen constructed "insect hotels" to attract solitary bees and other insects. These too might be used or might remain empty. We host a bat house that has remained empty for years, though we know there are bats in our neighborhood. But are manufactured houses really necessary to attract birds and insects to our gardens? They can be useful when placed where a bird or insects want to nest and if they are constructed for the type of creatures who actually visit. But wild creatures are also wild engineers and builders themselves.

It is the same with food, everyone needs to eat. Do we need to invest in sacks of seed and gallons of nectar? No, we don't, especially if you have selected native plants that provide the food wild creatures seek: nectar plants and flowering plants that produce seeds, berries, or nuts. Here is our California coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica*) that provides nectar for bees in the spring and fruits in the fall. Between times, it is home to insects that attract the many birds who feed on them. Some of the birds also use this tall shrub in which to shelter.



The infallible design for sheltering and feeding a variety of creatures in your yard is to plant and grow continuous layers of trees, shrubs, and ground covers. Each wild species has its preferred spaces to sleep, look for food and water, bathe, mate, and hang out. If the native plants also provide a variety of foods to eat in each season, then you will always have wild creatures living in your yard. An obvious place to begin providing this continuous sheltering space is at the perimeters of your property, along fence lines and transition spaces between you and your neighbors, and between utility areas and structures and your outdoor living areas.

From your observations at botanic gardens and walks in wilderness areas, you will have noticed that most wild creatures do not spend a lot of time on lawns, crows and

squirrels being exceptions, and even they don't shelter there. Consider removing some of your lawn areas to convert to native plants. These same plants that provide the nectar, berries, nuts, seeds, and fruits for your wild guests also create the shelter wild creatures need to make your garden their home. Keep in mind that wild creatures live and raise their young at different elevations in the garden. Give them plenty of choices. Leave plant litter on the ground where it falls – this is habitat for the insects and lizards your birds will hunt for.



Just as you will not need to buy and set out food for wild creatures, so, too, you will not need to build bird houses to attract nesting birds. A well-planted native plant garden actually can provide all the water, food, shelter, and nesting places your wild creatures need. Refrain from dead-heading your flowers so they may develop seed heads. These seeds, coming at the end of summer, provide the protein and fat your wild friends will need to successfully over-winter. The picture shown here contains the seed heads of native buckwheat. The various native salvias are also prolific seed producers.



Start small. Add a tree or a few trees at your perimeter, perhaps at a corner of your lot, or extend a shrub border deeper into existing lawn area. Your plants should step down from tree to tall and medium sized shrubs, further down to the grasses, flowering perennials, and to leafy

ground covers. Select a combination of plants which together will provide a variety of food over the course of the entire year. Preference selection of plants native to your own region. Over the last twenty years, native plant nurseries have begun to be available in most areas, and their staff can be helpful to you in making your choices.

Often, the perimeter spaces are those where you can allow leaf litter to accumulate and attract the many insects and smaller creatures. Their ground level activities help break down organic matter, turning leaf litter into food for soil organisms. This is a happy hunting ground for birds on the hunt for insect protein in their diets. Birds will also use these spaces to take dust baths. Some bird species even nest on the ground. Others will make their living mostly within three to four feet above ground, and still others need a tall shrub or tree to nest in or take shelter in. Provide diverse layers of spaces for your wild creatures.



Lawn and paving should be kept to the specific areas where you want to have human circulation and activity. Each year, increase your multi-layered plantings for wildlife and connect them as much as possible. Tempt your wildlife with water features placed at the edges of your native plantings so that the birds and insects can feel safe while you observe them. Consider where the wildlife planting areas are in relation to your windows. There is much pleasure to be had by observing wildlife from your kitchen window, your office desk, or from a comfortable chair near any window.

Imagine it, start small, create it. Once you see how these layered spaces of native plant materials work to make habitat for wild creatures, then make more of them, add a dash of water, and start connecting them. Corner by corner, yard by yard, home gardeners can begin to repair the world for wildlife.

### ***Do You Know...?***

... where was the first certified botanic garden located? Answers on page 15.



By Jean Engelmann, Judges Councils Chairman

Due to the pandemic of 2020, flower shows and judges council meetings have been canceled. It has been months since many of us have opened the *Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 Edition*. Before the next flower show season, we could use some brushing up.

Judges Councils serve as CONTINUING EDUCATION for judges. The *Handbook* is the main reference used to keep judges up-to-date and familiar with expectations and requirements. It is not necessary to memorize the *Handbook*, but all judges need to know WHERE in the *Handbook* to look to find answers for specific questions.

How to start your "brush-up": Choose a Section of the *Handbook* to study at a Council meeting. One suggestion is Judging Procedure followed by Judges. After all, we all are judges. You would be surprised at all that is included under Judging Procedure. These could take two separate meetings for studying in depth.

Make up a quiz for members to take and use for discussion purposes — a pre-test. Take a surprise open-book test near the end of the meeting to not only find what you have learned, but also how quickly you can find the information.

You can study other sections the same way. Study first those sections that pertain to your most frequent flower shows. Consult the glossary to verify correct interpretation of terms. Refer to the index to find specific information. Study the various scales of points both for familiarity with the criteria on each as well as suggestions for comments under each criteria.

Everyone needs to keep his *Handbook* up to date. Clarifications and changes are published in *The National Gardener*.

Go to the NGC website ([www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)) to familiarize yourself with the information provided under the tab Flower Show Schools. Dates of upcoming Symposiums are also located here. They are no longer published in *The National Gardener*.

Navigation through the revised website is more confusing. One has to go through more layers to find Flower Show School and Symposium Forms, School and Symposium dates and even *The National Gardener*. Don't give up. They are there. Under Flower Show School Forms and Information is a sheet that you can copy and add to your *Handbook*. It is titled "2017 Handbook for Flower Shows Changes by Chapter 1-5 5/26/20." Use this to check whether all the changes have been made through Chapter Five in your *Handbook*.

I really don't mind getting older,  
but my body is taking it badly.

By Robyn McCarthy, Arboreta Chairman



Located just seven miles west of downtown Portland, Oregon, the city of Beaverton with about 90,000 residents hosts a small Wonderland Arboretum on a once weed and grass vacant lot in a residential neighborhood.

This project was established in celebration of Arbor Day, April 2013. The purpose of the project was to transform a vacant piece of land into a native plant arboretum and positive community gathering space. The project was accomplished in partnership with Friends of Trees and Clean Water Services, the City's Arborist, Cities landscape crew members, a grant from the Mayor's office, the Beaverton Urban Forestry department, and city staff and citizen volunteers. Trees and plants were all put in place on Arbor Day 2013.

The intent is to afford an opportunity to learn about native plants and be inspired to integrate them into the residents' own landscapes. Native trees and plants occur historically in the area and need little or no fertilizer or care once established. They also provide wildlife habitat, capture rain, improve air quality, and reduce erosion.

Forty native trees including fifteen different species and thirty-three native plants including eleven species with informative signs are thriving along a pleasant walkway. Permeable pavers and gravel that make up the path's materials reduce the amount of stormwater runoff by allowing water to soak into the ground. Since stormwater runoff may carry pollutants to waterways and may degrade streams and cause unnatural flooding, use of porous surfaces can reduce the impacts associated with stormwater runoff.

The path's border is made from recycled plastic which increases the market for recycling plastics.

*By Ann Kronenwetter, Birds Chairman*

This community project is such an inspiration for use of a vacant lot. It supports continuing public education in the importance of trees, plants, and wildlife, and is an enhancement to the neighborhood.



**NEVER BUY A NOISY CACTUS**

A true story: In the second such incident in the Southwest, a San Diego woman purchased a large cactus during the redecoration of her home. The huge cactus was a fitting centerpiece for her new Southwest look, and she was quite happy with her \$3,000 purchase – for awhile.

A few days later, she noticed that the big cactus seemed to be swaying...and humming. Bewildered and not knowing where else to turn, she called 9-1-1 and, fortunately for her, got an operator who knew what this un-cactus-like behavior meant. She was told to clear out of the house immediately, like right now, and wait for an emergency team.



The responding five-man team had just enough time to move the huge cactus into the back yard before it burst wide-open, scattering about a thousand tarantulas in all directions.

The nursery where she had purchased the cactus refunded her \$3,000 and paid for exterminator service for the entire block.

When asked later how her plants were, the lady replied, "Plastic and silk, thank you!"

The fashion of using cacti for home decoration is fairly new, but tarantulas have been using them for mass breeding farms for a long, long time.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Strange but True Around the Region:** Burying the dead has been illegal in San Francisco, **California** since 1901. Because space was limited and real estate at a premium even then, the city outlawed burials and moved all cemeteries to neighboring Colma. Currently, the dead in that city outnumber the living by a ratio of 1,000 to 1.

When we are able to assemble at our club, district and state meetings, we should consider planning and applying for the NGC Bird and Conservation awards. All these NGC Awards could be applied for by doing worthwhile projects for birds.

**Conservation Environment**

**#42 Bird Protection**

The Nanine C. Wallis Award, and a \$25 donation by the Garden Club of Kentucky, may be awarded for conducting the most comprehensive and effective project for bird protection and welfare, e.g. sanctuaries, providing food, houses and promoting law enforcement relative to bird welfare.

- A. Single member garden club
  - i small club; ii medium club; iii large club
- B. Group of member clubs
- C. State Garden Club
  - i small state; ii medium state; iii large state

**#6 Conservation**

A certificate of Merit in honor of Lucile Droege Mauntel may be awarded for conservation activities, e.g. wildlife refuge, education or legislative activity, overall excellence and well-balanced year's conservation activities.

- A. Single member garden club
  - i small club; ii medium club; iii large club
- B. Group of member clubs
- C. Individual garden club member
- D. State Garden Club
  - i small state; ii medium state; iii large state

**#7 Special Achievement**

A certificate of Merit may be awarded for outstanding work furthering NGC objectives and projects throughout the club year or a special project not provided for in another NGC Award.

- A. Single member garden club
  - i small club; ii medium club; iii large club
- B. Group of member clubs
- C. Individual garden club member
- D. State Garden Club
  - i small state; ii medium state; iii large state

**#1 Civic Achievement**

The Kellogg Civic Achievement Award, donated by Mrs. Frederick R. Kellogg, may be awarded for distinguished civic or conservation work making permanent improvement for public benefit, e.g. establishing sanctuaries, municipal gardens.

- A. Single member garden club
  - i small club; ii medium club; iii large club
- B. Group of member clubs

## #54 Environmental Education for Youth

The Jesse M. Connor Award and a \$100 donation by the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. may be awarded for the most comprehensive program in the field of environmental education involving youth.

- A. Single member garden club
  - i small club; ii medium club; iii large club
- B. Group of member clubs
- C. State Garden Club
  - i small state; ii medium state; iii large state

### ***Buckwheat – Eriogonum umbellatum***

By Lavon Ostrick, Wildflowers Chairman Photo by Lavon Ostrick



Sulphur buckwheat *Eriogonum umbellatum* is a member of the polygonaceae (Knotweed Family). This photograph was taken in an open rocky site situated between Klamath Falls and Lakeview, Oregon. Notice the bright yellow flowers which are appealing to pollinators and have rounded heads about one inch wide. It is interesting that the buckwheat is in the same family as rhubarb.

Sulphur buckwheat is one of the most common types of buckwheat. There are many different buckwheat plants such as Cushion buckwheat, Alpine buckwheat, Coast buckwheat, Tiehm's buckwheat and the list goes on.

Tiehm's buckwheat is mentioned here because recently our local paper printed an article entitled "Desert Decision: Rare wildflower could jeopardize lithium mine". *Herald and News, 5 August 2020, NATION section p. 2 col. 2-5.* The company and researchers in Nevada are working together to protect Tiehm's buckwheat which is only known to grow in Nevada. The picture of the Tiehm's buckwheat printed in the article looks much like Sulphur buckwheat; however, the flowers on the Tiehm's buckwheat appear much more golden. The leaves appear similar, as do the stems.

It is heartening to learn that organizations are working together as our garden club pledge states: "I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forests, land and wildlife."

## ***Digital Region History - Region Project***

By Brynn Tavasci, Historian and Project Chairman



**Della Colver Barry**  
**Alaska**  
**1997-1999**

**Theme:**  
**"Treasures of Our Land  
and Peoples"**

**Unified Project:**  
**"Young People, Our  
Greatest Treasures"**

Della Colver Barry, 1991-1993 president of the Alaska State Federation of Garden Clubs, was accepted as Pacific Region Director April 12, 1997 in Phoenix, Arizona. Her theme was "Treasures of Our Land and Peoples." The Unified Project encouraged clubs to organize youth garden clubs, work with established clubs, promote NCSGC youth contests and raise money for scholarships.

The 54<sup>th</sup> Pacific Region convention was held June 25-27, 1998 at The Grove Hotel in Boise, Idaho. NCSGC President Barbara Barnette was the honored guest. A Snake River "Birds of Prey" trip was a highlight. California Garden Clubs, Inc. hosted the 55<sup>th</sup> annual convention April 15-17, 1999 at the Sacramento Hilton Inn. The theme was "Gold Country Enchantment." With partial funding from a Shell Oil PETALS grant, many environmental programs were presented. A design program by the Sacramento Arrangers Guild and a bus tour to the waste management facility at UC Davis were convention highlights.

Achievements of Della's term included the awarding of two \$1000 scholarships, Pacific Region Speech and Essay contest winners receiving \$50 each, and \$20 WACONIAH Boosters were instituted. Ruth McCombs from Idaho was the 1998 Award of Honor Winner.

### **Officers:**

Director	Della Colver Barry
Alternate Director	Roberta Rice
Recording Secretary	Betty Hedtke
Treasurer	Jeanette Pruin
Corresponding Sec	Elizabeth Morfitt
Historian	Roberta Lothian
Parliamentarian	Floyd Vandervelden
Advisor	Carol Klingberg

### **State Presidents:**

Washington	Shirley Monger
Arizona	Val Lee
California	Beverly Brune
Oregon	Jan Iseli
Nevada	Evalee Pearn
Idaho	Sandra Ford
Alaska	Debbie Hinchey
Hawaii	Elizabeth Russe

## Focus: Washington's Water Issues

By Cheryl Drumheller, Water Issues Chairman



The state of Washington, population 7.6 million, covers 71,000 square miles. Its **water** comes from rivers, lakes, streams, reservoirs, and wells which pull from underground sources. Seattle's major **water** source is from the Cedar River and Tolt River; Spokane is the Spokane Valley – Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer; Tacoma is the Green River; and Vancouver is the

Orchards Aquifer, Troutdale Aquifer and Sand-and-Gravel Aquifer.

The common **water** problems in these cities is hard **water** caused by naturally occurring minerals and earth metals dissolving into **water** sources. It is safe to consume and not considered unhealthy. Yet problems evolving from hard **water** can cause dry and itchy scalp. Additional costs may be incurred through increased soap usage, frequent appliance replacement, damage caused by limescale buildup in showers, tubs, and sinks, and damage to pipe and **water** heating units. There are remedies to hard **water**: it can be treated with a **water** softener or conditioning system to improve **water** quality in homes and businesses.

## Smokey Bear Needs a Vacation

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

Woodsy Owl celebrates his 50th anniversary in 2021 and the poster contest will feature ONLY Woodsy.

All posters submitted to the poster contest this year need to be of Woodsy with his motto "Lend a Hand; Care for the Land."

**We will not accept or judge any Smokey Bear posters this year.**

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your poster chairman. Full details on the NGC website.

### Cartoonist's take



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davagranelund.com

DAVE GRANLUND - CAGLECARTOONS.COM

## Everglades Snail Kite - *Rostrhamus sociabilis*

By Georgia Zahar, Endangered Species Chairman



The Snail Kite is a bird of prey within the family Accipitridae, which includes eagles, hawks and Old World vultures. These handsome gray and black raptors have a delicate, strongly curved bill that fits inside the snail shells to pull out the juicy prey. Unlike most other raptors, Snail Kites nest in colonies and roost communally among other waterbirds such as herons.

The Snail Kite is locally endangered in the Florida Everglades with a population of less than 400 breeding pairs. Research has demonstrated that water level control in the Everglades is depleting the population of the apple snail which is the only snail they eat. Recently, an exotic species apple snail, larger than the local native species, has become established in Florida. The impact of the exotic snail is still uncertain.

Currently the female Snail Kite will lay 2-3 white eggs marked w/brown spots and marbling. Formerly she may have laid up to 5-6. The smaller clutches today may be in response to lowered food supply.

NOTE: Looking at the photo of the Snail Kite, I am amazed at the size of the apple snail. It looks to be a pretty good meal! That is, if you like snails....

## NGC Schools News

By Greg Pokorski, NGC Landscape Design Schools Chairman

Consultants whose Good Standing Dates expire December 31, 2020 should request extensions of time to refresh from their State School Chairmen **before** Consultant status lapses when they have no further opportunity to refresh during the current year. The Consultant may initiate the request form, Form 9-2020 Extension Application, which is submitted to the State Chairman.

Because of the pandemic, some NGC Schools courses are now being offered virtually by Zoom. Check the NGC website or check with your state Schools Chairman for virtual course opportunities. Zoom courses will generally be open initially to residents of the sponsoring state and, after an initial deadline has passed, registration will be open to anyone anywhere, based on space availability.

## Botanic Gardens in Your Neck of the Woods

By Harriet Vallens, Botanic Gardens Chairman



The Conejo Valley Botanic Garden is located in Thousand Oaks, California, at an elevation of up to 900'. It is bordered by the Santa Monica Mountains, the Simi Valley, the San Fernando Valley, and the city of Oxnard.

This area was originally inhabited by Chumash Indians. The first Europeans to visit the area were led by the explorer Gaspar de Portola. In 1770, Portola led a group north up the coast to San Francisco. On his return trip, Portola was looking for a shorter way to return south to San Diego. Portola's group came upon the Conejo Valley from the northwest. Four years later, the explorer Juan Bautista de Anza followed Portola's map while traveling north. This area was desirable for its many watering sources needed for camping.

The site became part of a Spanish Land Grant given to the de la Guerra family. The heirs of the family sold 10,000 acres to John Edwards, who sold the land to the Janss brothers in 1910. The Janss Conejo Ranch was farmed and used for raising thoroughbred horses. By the 1950s many western movies were filmed on the Ranch. In the 1960s this became a popular location for filming television series.

The Conejo Valley Botanic Garden covers 33 acres of unique terrain, offering panoramic views of the Valley. The developed area contains 18 specialty gardens that highlight water-conserving plants from California and other Mediterranean climate areas of the world. The grounds are hilly, but there are 26 benches along the paths, made from recycled plastic. Visitors can sit and rest, if they wish, as they enjoy their walk through the park.

Among the 18 Gardens are the Native Plant and Native Meadow Garden. You will find the world's tallest species, Coast Redwoods (*Sequoia sempervirens*) and the biggest species, Giant Sequoia Redwoods, (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*). Lillian's Meadows has trees, perennials, and shrubs that require minimal water. All species are low maintenance natives.

Many of the 750 worldwide species of salvia, all of which require little water, can be found in the Salvia Garden. You will find a variety of color, shapes, and fragrances. Signage lists ten types of butterflies you might see while visiting the Butterfly Garden. The Herb Garden has an extensive collection of herbs used for medicinal and

kitchen purposes. Also found here are aromatics, tea, and mint herbs.

The Rare Fruit Orchard, installed by the California Rare Fruit Growers, contains 130 trees which includes 40 specimens from 35 countries. The Children's Garden, a lovely site, was developed by the late Maryanne Lucas, a former President of the California Garden Clubs Inc. This Garden is the only part of the facility open only on Sunday.

Located within the Gardens are areas for conservation of birds and other fauna.

A Mediterranean Garden is in the planning stages, to be planted in a large circle with five wedges, each featuring a separate Mediterranean area of the world. This will be near the Plant Nursery.



Several years ago, our San Fernando Valley District Clubs made a donation to honor the late Huell Howser with a plaque near one of the trees on The Trail of Trees.

The land for this botanic garden is leased from the Conejo Valley Department of Parks and Recreation. The Garden is funded by a grant and donations. There is no fee to visit. It is open from dawn to dusk 364 days a year. It closes only on the 4th of July for fire safety reasons, or during heavy rains in Southern California. There is one part-time paid employee. All other regular maintenance is done by volunteers.

Conejo Valley Botanic Gardens, 400 West Gainsborough Road, Thousand Oaks, CA

## Answer to "Do You Know"

The first certified botanic garden was founded by Pope Nicholas III in Vatican City in 1278 AD.



## Meet Paige Anthony

By Kristie Livreri & Martha Smyser, Scholarships Co-Chairmen



Meet Paige Anthony, a student at University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona. Ms. Anthony is the latest recipient of the Pacific Region Garden Clubs Scholarship of \$1,000.00.

She is a graduate student at the University of Arizona in the School of Landscape Architecture and Planning. New to the Arizona desert, she is intrigued by the wide open spaces and the impact water has on sustainable plant life there. She volunteers in the community for projects such as neighborhood tree planting, water harvesting and beautification projects.

The mother of one, she juggles work, motherhood and maintains a 3.9+ G.P.A. Professor Margaret Livingston of the School of Landscape Architecture and Planning stated in her letter of recommendation: "I believe Paige's enthusiasm for plants, professionalism and work produced during her first year in our program make her an excellent candidate for this scholarship."

We wish Paige Anthony the very best as she continues her education with an eye set on a career in Parks and Recreation. Her knowledge of water use and drought tolerant plants will enable her to become the best she can be in the deserts of Arizona.

## Care to Share

**State Presidents:** NGC President-Elect Mary Warshauer's next Care to Share? Zoom meeting is on Tuesday, January 5, 2021. Mark your calendars.

## Pacific Region Scholarships

By Kristie Livreri & Martha Smyser, Scholarships Co-Chairmen



Martha Smyser and I are delighted to report that we received six applications this year. Next spring it is our hope to receive eight, one from each of the states in the Pacific Region. Please remember that an applicant from your state must submit an application through your state's Scholarship Chairman to the Pacific Region. The forms are on the website. **One change to the submittal process is that the application with all attached documents may be submitted electronically by the deadline of March 1, 2021.** This process makes it easier to share the applications received with scholarship committee members. Applications may also be submitted by mail, as in the past, and must be received by March 1, 2021.

There should be no confusion:

- (1) A student may apply for the Pacific Region Scholarship again, whether the student won or did not win the previous year, provided the student meets the criteria.
- (2) A student may also apply during the same calendar year, by separate application, for the National Garden Clubs Scholarship. Separate forms and rules are found on the National Garden Clubs Website.
- (3) All applications must be submitted by the State Scholarship Chairman.
- (4) Only one application from each state may be submitted to the Pacific Region Garden Clubs Scholarship Chairman.
- (5) One Application may be submitted by a State Scholarship Chairman to National Garden Clubs, Scholarship Committee with the exception of California, which may submit two (maybe three) applications.

Please feel free to call either of us should you have any questions about the process. We look forward to hearing from you with an application from each state.

**SEND YOUR LIL' MOOSE GARDEN CLUB**

**DUES IN TODAY!**

## Issue Deadlines and Issue Focus

The deadline for the February 2021 issue is 12-30-20. The issue focus is: How is your state's Nominating Committee accomplishing its mission?

This report as the Oregon Protocol Chairman may seem to be a bit "off topic." You may even think "not Protocol at all." But I hope I can persuade you that it is pertinent and important to all of us.

I recently was given the opportunity to participate in a Zoom "class." It was actually Course #3 of the NGC Gardening School series. I had already taken Courses 1 and 2 in the traditional "classroom" setting. Those went well, I learned a lot, the instructors were knowledgeable, and I did well on my tests. Then the pandemic hit and things got a little crazy...I'm sure you noticed...especially if you have young children, or if you have young grandchildren, or if you know parents of school-aged children.

The Zoom classroom has become more common. Seems like everyone is taking advantage of the technology. First graders to corporate executives are getting used to learning new things via Zoom. Since I want to finish all four courses of the NGC Gardening School series, I kept watching for Course #3 to be offered. Some Washington friends let me know it would be offered via Zoom and encouraged me to sign up.

It's not that I don't like to try new things. A new flower variety? I'm there!! A new...well, you get the idea. But Zoom? That's "technology." I have fits with updates to my computer! So, I started thinking about Course #3 via Zoom.

What I came up with was my bottom line: if 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders are asked to learn new things via Zoom, after their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades being taught in the "traditional classroom setting," and they are expected to do well, then I should be able (at least try) to learn new things via Zoom, too. So, I registered for the class...and did just fine.

My point: when presented with the opportunity to take a class or attend a meeting via Zoom, please remember how you feel about trying a new flower variety, a new design style, or a new tomato...Zoom is really the same thing. Try it, you might like it!

### **Pacific Region States' Websites**

#### **[PacificRegionGardenClubs.org](http://PacificRegionGardenClubs.org)**

Washington: [WAGardenClubs.com](http://WAGardenClubs.com)  
 Arizona: [AZGardenClubs.com](http://AZGardenClubs.com)  
 California: [CaliforniaGardenClubs.com](http://CaliforniaGardenClubs.com)  
 Oregon: [OregonGardenClubs.org](http://OregonGardenClubs.org)  
 Nevada: [NevadaGardenClubs.org](http://NevadaGardenClubs.org)  
 Idaho: [GCI.org](http://GCI.org)  
 Alaska: [AlaskaGardenClubs.org](http://AlaskaGardenClubs.org)  
 Hawaii: None

Criteria for Exhibition and Competition – to be held at the Pacific Region Convention – August 2021

To continue our goal to protect the environment, all members of Pacific Region are invited to create an eco-friendly art work. The only requirement is that the art work incorporate one or more recycled, repurposed objects into the design. Imagination is the only limit.

Criteria for Submission:

1. All Pacific Region members are eligible to participate.
2. There may be a small entry fee.
3. Notification of intent to participate must be received at least one month prior to exhibition.
4. Include Title or Theme and description of your work. If highlighting an environmental issue, include a short synopsis.
5. Identify the recycled or repurposed items used. Include a list of other materials and techniques.
6. Categories are Fiber, Collage, Sculpture, Assemblage, Jewelry.
7. Submit photos giving three dimensional views of art work
8. Deadline for submission to be announced.
9. Delivery and installation of art work is the responsibility of artist. Art must be removed at end of exhibition.
10. Organization will not be responsible for damage or theft of artworks while on display.
11. Insurance of the item is responsibility of artist.
12. For application contact Chairman

Judy Unrine

[Judysgarden01@gmail.com](mailto:Judysgarden01@gmail.com) 310.378.0227  
 5005 Via el Sereno, Torrance, CA 90505-6247

### **Calendar of Events**

Nov 11 **Blue Star Marker** Dedication, Sacramento, CA

Nov 11 **Blue Star Marker** Dedication, Central District, WA

#### **2021**

Jul 1 \$25 refundable deposit for Post-Convention tour due to Becky Hassebroek

Jul 25 \$200 balance for Post-Convention tour due to Becky Hassebroek

Jul 25 Last day to postmark convention registration

Aug 9-12 Pacific Region Convention, Silverton, OR

Aug 12-14 Post-Convention Fundraiser Tour – McMinnville and Corvallis – **JOIN US!**

Excerpts from Wikipedia

**Cranberries** are a group of evergreen dwarf shrubs or trailing vines in the subgenus *Oxycoccus* of the genus *Vaccinium*. They can be found in acidic bogs throughout the cooler regions of the northern hemisphere.



**Cranberries** are low, creeping shrubs or vines up to 7 feet long and 2 to 8 inches in height; they have slender, wiry stems that are not thickly woody and have small evergreen leaves. The flowers are dark pink, with very distinct *reflexed* petals, leaving the style and stamens fully exposed and pointing forward. They are pollinated by bees. The fruit is a berry that is larger than the leaves of the plant; it is initially white, but turns a deep red when fully ripe.

Since the early 21<sup>st</sup> Century, **cranberries** have been marketed as a "superfruit" due to their nutrient content and antioxidant qualities.

**Cranberry Fun Facts**

- \* The cranberry is one of only a handful of major fruits native to North America. Others include the blueberry and Concord grape.
- \* Native Americans used cranberries to make a survival cake known as pemmican. They also used the fruit in poultices and dyes.
- \* Dennis, Massachusetts was the site of the first recorded cranberry cultivation in 1816.
- \* Pilgrims may have served cranberries at the first Thanksgiving in 1621 in Plymouth, Massachusetts.
- \* The 1996 harvest yielded more than 200 billion cranberries -- about 40 for every man, woman and child on the planet.

**Strange but True Around the Region:** Cutting down the native saguaro in **Arizona**, even on your own property, can result in a substantial fine or even jail time.

**Friends**

By Paige Atkins, 3<sup>rd</sup> grade age 8 Nevada

I like when we play together  
 We act like twins and hold hands  
 It is fun to play tag  
 We are happy when we are pretending  
 That we are flying in an air plane  
 We share lunch  
 And skip together  
 To class

**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

By Dylan Atkins, 1<sup>st</sup> grade age 7 Nevada

Martin Luther King Jr  
 He fought for our civil rights and freedom.  
 He walked and held hands with the people.  
 Martin Luther King Jr tried to bring white boys and girls  
 and black boys and girls together.  
 Rosa Parks did not give up her seat for a white man and  
 was put in jail.

**School Days**

By Launa Gould, Schools Chairman

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL**

Oct 31-Nov 1 – Course 3 Phoenix, AZ via ZOOM  
 Contact: Judy Tolbert, [grmajdy@gmail.com](mailto:grmajdy@gmail.com)

**Roster Change**

Janice Wagner has resigned as Xeriscape Gardening Co-Chairman

**Director's Calendar/Travel Events**

Nov 11 **Blue Star Memorial Marker**  
 Dedication, Sacramento, California



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**Vicki Yuen** is a **GEM** because she does excellent work formatting **WACONIAH**. Thank you, Vicki.

~ Lavon Ostrick