



WACONIAH

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

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

Vol. 39 No. 2 The Director's Theme "Looking In and Reaching Out"



Debbie Hinchey
2011 – 2013 Pacific Region Director

2012 Pacific Region Convention **"Experience Alaska"**

The Pacific Region Convention, "Experience Alaska," will be held **July 26 – 28, 2012** at the Clarion Suites Downtown in Anchorage, Alaska.

Remember when you're making your travel arrangements to Alaska for the Convention, whether you're flying into Fairbanks and out of Anchorage to enjoy the pre-convention tour, or just flying into and out of Anchorage for the Convention, you will get your best pricing by making your arrangements early. No time is too early!

Make your hotel reservations early with the Clarion Suites Downtown, 907-929-6461.

Use group name Pacific Region Garden Clubs to get the \$180 group rate.

Director's Message

I do not want fall to come, but when it does, I want it to be longer to finish the summer chores. After fall, my "winter life" begins.

It seems that I only have time to think when I am working in a garden, but my hands are too dirty to write down the thoughts. I have so many Thank You cards that have not yet been written to garden club members that helped me when I traveled to the Oregon and Idaho Conventions.

One of the enjoyable and informative conversations was with Nancy Fraser. She had been the Pacific Region Life Membership Chairman for many years and now kept a scrapbook page with a picture for every Oregon Life Member and sent certificates. It was a heartwarming dedication to each person.

There were so many garden club topics that we only touched upon that I wanted to ask Nancy more about during my "winter life" mode. But I waited too long. Nancy passed away in August.

Nancy knew that people flourish with recognition (and keeping good records.) I want to be better at acknowledgements. Talk to the new people (instead of handling club business) at meetings. Every time I have stopped to chat they have joined. Now I need to nurture them to become active. The club business, like the weeds, can probably wait.

Debbie

Theme: "Conservation Gardening Creativity Inspiration
Explore the Possibilities..."



It has been a full-time flurry of teamwork this summer with the planning and preparations needed for CGCI's Fall Board meeting held in Stockton in September. The NGC video, *Growing our World, Greening our Communities* premiered followed by round table discussions with dialogue questions moderated by Robin Pokorski. The video was shown again at the

joint session of Chairmen and District Directors. Twenty of the DVD's were ordered to be available for sale and all twenty were sold.

Promotion of the African violet named 'California Victory' has begun. It was featured in the summer issue of *Golden Gardens*, is posted on CGCI's website and a color flyer/order form was given to all District Directors at Fall Board. In addition, this president is ordering several for each of CGCI's board meetings and conventions to give as special recognition to those individuals who dedicate more than 100% of their efforts to their chairmanship. The ones given away in Stockton generated excitement from the seven individuals who received one for their endeavors.

The San Francisco Flower & Garden Show introduced their 2012 Garden Club Fundraising Opportunity when Weston and Christine Cook as well as Katrina Agamau attended as CGCI's special guests at Fall Board. For every advance discounted ticket sold by a garden club, the club will earn \$2 with an additional \$1 being donated to the CGCI President's Project to raise money for permanent educational signage for Sonoma State University's Native Plant Garden. This is a "win-win" for CGCI, garden clubs or districts who plan field trips to the event and the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show! In addition, there will be a Standard Flower Show sponsored by Founders Council of Judges that will be held March 21-25, 2012 in Redwood Hall in conjunction with the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show in San Mateo. CGCI is fortunate to have this support from the owners and appreciates all they do for CGCI.

Project Mission Blue (see the August 2011 *WACONIAH*) is getting lots of attention. A special pin has been designed to give for each donation of \$100. Nancy McDougal, Bay Ocean District Director and

President of Garden Study Club of the Peninsula, received 15 pins for the \$1,500 their club donated to the project. Price Sheppy, the liaison with Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy for this five-year state project attended Fall Board as CGCI's guest with a special presentation and update on the lupine propagation that has begun.

The CGCI Board of Directors approved a donation to support the NGC 2013 Convention in Seattle where Linda Nelson, NGC First Vice-President, will be installed as President of National Garden Clubs, Inc. The donation was presented to Linda and Jeanette Pruin, NGC 2013 Convention Chairman, in St. Louis at NGC's Fall Board. CGCI is proud to be a part of this event and be in a position to support Linda in her future endeavors with NGC.

Still Missing Washington & Hawaii on Flickr

By Robin Pokorski, NGC Flickr Chair



So far we have six of our eight Pacific Region states on Flickr. Please share pictures of your garden club events, projects and activities.

Be sure to identify the club, district or state and the location. We are particularly looking for pictures of Blue Star Memorial Marker plantings.

Send pictures to Robin Pokorski at RobinP@juno.com. Then visit the site (www.Flickr.com/NationalGardenClubs) and find ideas for your club.

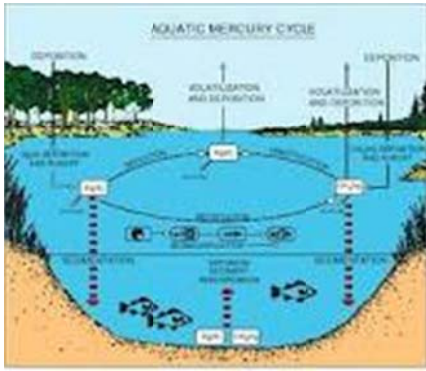
NGC Membership Brochures

By Lana Finegold

National Garden Clubs, Inc. produces a beautiful quad-fold membership brochure in full-color. These can be personalized with your state, club or district contact information. Anyone can order the free brochures through NGC Member Services. They are packaged in bundles of 50 and postage is charged. Use this tool to grow your state, club and District. New this year is a Membership DVD priced at \$5. This may have been viewed at your state's convention. For these items and more, contact Member Services: orders only, 1-800-550-6007.

Board of Directors Roster

A complete, up-to-date roster of the Pacific Region Board of Directors can be found on the Pacific Region website: PacificRegionGardenClubs.org. Contact Debbie Hinchey or Carol Norquist for instructions to log in to the Board Login section of the website. Check the roster for accuracy and report any corrections to Carol Norquist.



In 2009, the U.S. Global Change Research Program produced a research report that focuses on the current and future impacts of climate change on the

United States. The report concludes, among other findings, that climate changes in the United States are occurring now and are projected to grow in the future. These changes will likely place stress on the nation's water supply and crop productivity, as well as increase risks to human health.

The following are key impacts identified for Pacific Region:

ALASKA:

- Longer summers and higher temperatures are causing drier conditions, even in the absence of strong trends in precipitation.
- Insect outbreaks and wildfires are increasing with warming.
- Lakes are declining in area.
- Coastal storms increase risks to villages and fishing fleets.
- Displacement of marine species will affect key fisheries.
- Thawing permafrost damages roads, runways, water and sewer systems, and other infrastructure.

COASTS:

- Significant sea-level rise and storm surge will adversely affect coastal cities and ecosystems around the nation; low-lying and subsiding areas are most vulnerable.
- More spring runoff and warmer coastal waters will increase the seasonal reduction in oxygen resulting from excess nitrogen from agriculture.
- Higher water temperatures and ocean acidification due to increasing atmospheric carbon dioxide will present major additional stresses to coral reefs, resulting in significant die-offs and limited recovery.
- Changing ocean currents will affect coastal ecosystems

For more information: globalchange.gov/usimpacts

Theme: "Our Beloved Arizona - Conserve, Cherish and Celebrate"



October is the ideal time for gardening in the Sonoran Desert. The average temperature is 77 making soil conditions perfect for seed germination. If you add into the mix our bimodal rain pattern, you get the perfect combination for a splendid

show of spring wildflowers.

Mother Nature is not the only one planting seeds in October. Although some Arizona clubs meet throughout the year, most start back up by October. Our beloved snowbirds are beginning to return home after a summer elsewhere in cooler weather. Gardening season has officially begun.

Arizona has planted the seeds for a much anticipated Flower Show School come spring. Our state past President, Sharron Luoma is the head horticulturist on this project.

October is a busy month for all our clubs. Our Orchid Society is having their annual Orchid Show. Our state is getting together to have their District Meetings. Our Desert Botanical Garden and our Boyce Thompson Arboretum offer their Fall Plant Sale.

The highlight of October will be Tempe Garden Club's 75th Anniversary celebration. But, the highlight of my first visit to National Garden Clubs Headquarters was opening the sacred Book of Honors and seeing our beloved **Mary Cochran's** new page. Mary is a past Arizona President and NGC Historian from 1993-2005.

It is an honor to be part of National Garden Clubs. But it is a BLAST to be part of Pacific Region. The best part of any garden club is the people and Pacific Region has some great people. It was a joy spending time with all of you in St. Louis.

See you in the garden.

Pacific Region Websites

www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org

Washington: WAGardenClubs.com

Arizona: AZGardenClubs.com

California: CaliforniaGardenClubs.org

Oregon: OregonGardenClubs.org

Nevada: NevadaGardenClubs.org

Idaho: IDGCI.com

Alaska: AlaskaGardenClubs.org

NGC: GardenClub.org

By Vicki Yuen, Nevada President

I love palm trees. They are so different from other trees. If you have seen a stump of a palm, you know it is not the same as other trees. Instead of tree rings, showing age, they have "vascular bundles" which run from the roots to the fronds. When a new one grows, it seems to sit there for several years before shooting up all of a sudden - this is because palms grow their girth first, before their height.

This article is about the main kinds of palm trees we find in Southern Nevada (and other dry areas, so you will see these in Arizona and Southern California as well). Many of these are hardy enough that you find them in other, cooler parts of the Western US, also.

There are two basic types of palm fronds. Palms are essentially divided between the two types:

Palmate fronds are shaped like a fan (palm of your hand). Many of these palm trees have the name "Fan" in them.

Pinnate fronds are shaped like a feather. The date palms are in this group.

PALMATE

California Fan Palm (*Washingtonia filifera*) - This, and the **Mexican Fan Palm** (*Washingtonia robusta*), are some of the most common types of palms in Las Vegas. They are the only two members of their genus, and are similar except in height and thickness of trunk. The California Fan Palm has the thicker



trunk and can grow to 50 feet tall, but this is only about half the height of the Mexican Fan Palm. They can both get cottony threads on their fronds. The Mexican Fan Palm is the one you see towering over everything, up to 100' in height. See picture.

European Fan Palm (also called Mediterranean Fan Palm) (*Chaemerops humilis*) - This palm is usually a multi-trunk palm that makes a nice mound, up to ten feet tall. It is often seen in gardens as an accent plant. The fronds are much more delicate (in appearance, not in tenderness!) than the California and Mexican Fan Palms.

Blue Hesper Palm (*Brahea armata*) has large stiff blue-green leaves. The petioles (stems) on the fronds have very large, sharp teeth. The term "armata" is a reminder of this! The Blue Hesper can grow to 30 feet high. See picture.



Chinese Windmill Palm (*Trachycarpus fortunei*) is a



slender, smallish palm with matted fibers on the trunk. The Chinese used the fibers for mats, and raincoats (so they say). You sometimes see the fibers as a cushion inside doubled-up flower pots. The Windmill Palm fronds are small, similar to the European Fan Palm. It is usually a single-trunk palm. See picture.

PINNATE

Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) is a large, formal palm which is often trimmed to have a "pineapple" top protecting the meristem (the palm heart, where growth occurs). It has long spines on its petioles, and very long fronds. These palms are often used to line entry roads to hotels, etc.

Blue Date Palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*) is often grown for its edible dates. The trunk is taller and thinner than the Canary Island Date Palm, and usually looks bumpier.

Queen Palm (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*) is a tall, thin palm with somewhat wispy fronds. It does not grow well in the heat of Southern Nevada, but does quite well in cooler areas.

Pindo Palm (*Butia capitata*) is a smaller palm with graceful arching fronds. See picture.



Theme: "Just Imagine"

You might also be looking for information on the **Sago Palm** (*Cycas revoluta*). This is not a true palm - it is a cycad. It may yellow and die back in our heat, but with some shade it can grow fairly well here. The fronds are much stiffer and sharper than most true palms.

I hope now that you know more about palms, you will begin to enjoy them as much as I do.

NGC's Program Idea for YOU

At NGC's Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, board members were treated to a fun, interactive and creative floral design program. Nine designers were asked to create an arrangement representing one of nine classic movies.



movie on our list.

Upon entering the room, attendees were given a sheet of paper listing the nine movie classics and a pencil. The designs were already complete and spaced around the room. Nearly 300 of us strolled around the room and matched the design (numbered) to the

The master of ceremonies called on each designer to describe their inspiration and design. It was fun – some designs were quite literal others merely suggestive of the title or the look or feel of the movie.



Pictured: The Pink Panther, Jailhouse Rock and Zorro.

The program could be presented with more or fewer designs depending on the time and the number of designers available.



Our Oregon Fall Board Meeting was held in Eugene in October. Preceding the board meeting was a fundraiser luncheon for Linda Nelson's NGC Presidential Installation to be held at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel in May 2013. Oregon will be responsible for the Installation Banquet table decorations, music, and staging.

Our Handbook Directory was distributed during Fall Board Meeting. Convention 2012 plans are well underway for June in Wilsonville. We are looking forward to President Shirley Nicolai visiting with us.

I attended my first NGC Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis. We were provided with many wonderful round-table workshops, speakers, videos, and good food. The highlight was a day spent at Headquarters and a walking tour of the grounds. A section of the grounds has been reserved for the Past Presidents' newly planted trees. My cup runneth over with new ideas and enthusiasm to share with Oregon garden club members.

Beginning soon will be our many upcoming district meetings. I am hoping to attend as many as my schedule permits, but 15 meetings is not possible this fall. Spring will come and we will meet others.

If the snows come, there may have to be cancellations. I am not a skier - that was for younger days!

I look forward to working with everyone around the region and keeping in touch.

World Flower Show

The World Flower Show in Boston was an unqualified success. If you didn't get the chance to visit the Show in person – we have a deal for YOU! You can see it all at home - complete and unabridged – over 600 stunning designs!

Judges Council of Southern California has produced a fundraiser DVD (for computer or TV upon request) featuring every fabulous design at the World Flower Show. Proceeds will support a Flower Show School.

Cost: \$10 (+ \$2 shipping) Make checks payable to Judges Council of Southern California and mail to: Jill Coleman, 5512 Malvern Way, Riverside, CA 92506-3548 or BCnJill@hotmail.com

Theme: "Water Wise – Garden Beautiful"



Summer is a slow time for Southern Nevada Garden Clubs. The weather is generally too hot for much outdoor gardening. Many of our clubs do not meet during the summer. However, some do continue. The Cactus and Succulent Society had a successful show and sale in conjunction with Moon-Sun Cactus and Koi Gardens in April, and has another one scheduled for October.

Executive Committee work continues as well during the summer. The lease for the NGCI building has been re-negotiated; most Committee chairs have been filled, Some new chairs have been looking carefully at what was done before, and restructuring the processes as desired.

Clubs have found alternate meeting places during the time our NGCI building is closed. However, the City of Las Vegas has not managed to start the renovation of the surrounding landscaping in Lorenzi Park, and tells us that it will likely be early 2012 before the work can begin. The building will be unavailable to us for about a year after the work starts, so clubs are looking at a longer period of displacement.

Life goes on!

Natural Disasters USA Grant Fund

By Mary-Jo Noth, NGC Natural Disasters Committee

NGC continues to offer grants to clubs, groups of clubs, and states that have committed to actively participate in the restoration of public areas damaged by natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, ice storms, tornadoes, and wildfires. Applicants may request up to \$5000 per project, but may not receive more than \$5000 per disaster within the NGC fiscal year. An application form is available on the NGC website www.gardenclub.org under the Special Projects, Natural Disasters USA link. A book of evidence is not required, only the completion of the required information.

For further information about the Grant Fund or the application process, please contact Adrienne Langan, NGC Natural Disasters USA Chairman at LanganA@aol.com.

Theme: "Nurture Natives — and Each Other"



The Washington Symposium held in September at the Silverdale Beach Hotel in Silverdale hosted 99 participants. NGC instructors David Robson (hydrangeas, hosta, Handbook Game) and Jo Krallman (Table Vision, Capsule Tables, Exhibition Tables, Design Toolbox 101) kept us

learning both days. Landscape Design I educated 55 students at Normandy Park in August; II was held in October.

Our WSFGC Holiday Show " 'Tis the Season" will be held at Holiday Inn, Everett on Nov. 2-3. This is a Specialized-Advanced Standard Flower Show. Many members from around the state collaborate to present this event.

My theme is "Nurture Native Plants — and Each Other," an extension of Past President Carolyn Erickson's theme of "Dig In and Grow." As "works in progress," we all nurture each other in many ways, including sharing our knowledge, and we all grow at our own rates, just like the plants we nourish. My project is "Xeriscape with natives" to provide habitat in our homes, city parks and communities for our birds, bees, butterflies, insects, and water life on our estuaries and streams. Chuckanut District's Tulip Valley Gardeners is working on a project involving restoration of Friday Creek in Mount Vernon.

Our gardens have been put to bed (hopefully!), catalogs are arriving for dreaming and planning, and we enjoy the holidays. January is for recuperating for the busy spring months ahead.

Gardeners nurture!

Issue Deadlines

February 2012	deadline 12-25-2011
May 2012	deadline 3-25-2012
August 2012	deadline 6-25-2012
November 2012	deadline 9-25-2012
February 2013	deadline 12-25-2012

Moose sightings and information may be obtained from your editor.



Do You Wish to Serve NGC?

By Marva Lee Peterschick, NGC Nominating Committee

Lee Pearn and I attended the NGC Nominating Committee meeting at St. Louis representing Pacific Region.

If any Pacific Region member wishes to apply to be a NGC officer, they must complete the Official Endorsement Form along with the Resume of Nominee for an Elected NGC Office and mail it to the NGC Nominating Committee Chairman Dale W. DeFeo, 1070 S. Collier Blvd. #401 Marco Island, FL 34145-8431 **by MARCH 15, 2012**. The form is available on the NGC website or they can contact either Lee or myself.

Tally-HO

By Gail Ballinger, Director's Project Chairman



As part of our Director's theme of 'Looking in and Reaching Out', the Tally Project will start 1/1/12 and continue through 12/31/12. This will be our very best effort to record all volunteer hours and donations

given to our communities and educational institutions.

You will soon receive a Tally Sheet to assist you in recording. Some ideas for inclusion would be plant sale and the time to prepare, maintaining public spaces and Blue Star Markers, Arbor Day, preparing and assisting in planting school gardens, Habitat for Humanity, backyard gardens, scholarship monies, etc. The list is endless.

The district directors will distribute the form to the club presidents who can then record on a monthly or quarterly basis. By Convention 2013, the final total will be reported. The form is interactive so you can record online or print a hard copy. Please report your club's volunteer efforts either to your state president or directly to me, gale5904@aol.com, on either a monthly or quarterly basis.

The number, if we conscientiously record and report, has the potential to be truly a tremendous number. As Debbie says, 'this will not only give us pride, but it will give the garden club clout.'

2012 Pacific Region Convention

Attention Chairmen: If you wish exhibit space at the 2012 Convention in Anchorage, please contact Carol Norquist at Norquist@alaska.net or 907-248-9563. Space will be limited!

Parliamentary Tidbits

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian

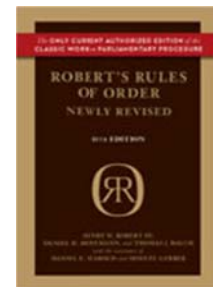


The new **Robert's Rules** is here. The current edition, entitled *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 11th Edition*, was released in September. It supersedes all previous

editions and is intended automatically to become the parliamentary authority in organizations whose bylaws prescribe *Robert's Rules of Order, Robert's Rules of Order Revised*, or *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*.

NGC's bylaws (from which Pacific Region receives its authority) state (Article XIX), "The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the proceedings of NGC in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and Standing Rules." NGC does not need to amend its bylaws to begin using the new *Robert's* as its parliamentary authority. If your state federation, club or district has a similar provision it does not need an amendment to begin using the new *Robert's*. Since most bylaws do allow for this automatic switch to reliance upon the most current publication and since *Robert's* itself states that the new edition supersedes all previous editions, then it is important for all such organizations to quickly obtain and become familiar with the new edition. It is important for all members of an organization to use a single parliamentary guide. Older editions of *Robert's* have significant differences in their guidelines and page and section references, which can exacerbate disagreements instead of helping to settle them.

The 11th Edition, the first revision since 2000, is significantly re-edited with expanded and updated treatment of many topics. Its Preface lists 17 significant changes and an additional 103 changes. Some key changes include: modified parliamentary rules in small boards and committees; electronic meetings and electronic communication; definition of a member "in good standing;" recognition of "Is there any debate?" as a less formal alternative to "Are you ready for the question?;" clarification of what rights members have to inspect records; and clarification of the relation between acts of an executive board and its parent assembly.



Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief (for a simple and concise introductory guide) has also been published in a 2011 edition.

Pre-Convention Tour

By Becky Hassebroek & Robin Pokorski, Tour Coordinators

Join us! It's gonna be great!!! Our Pre-Convention Tour is a special just for Pacific Region. Reserve your place today!



7/21 Fly into Fairbanks on your own and transfer to the River's Edge Resort cabins on the Chena River. **Welcome Wiener Roast with Smores** in the evening. And, there'll be time for shopping if you arrive early enough in the day.

7/22 Experience the "hottest" and "coolest" attraction in Alaska. Start with a 60-mile drive to Chena Hot Springs Resort. Along the way learn about this recreational area and history of the 103 year old resort. Be

on the lookout for wildlife as this is moose country. Tour the Farthest North Greenhouse in the United States where the Resort grows most of their vegetables hydroponically year-round and enjoy a most interesting Geo-Thermal Renewable Energy Tour – the Resort is world-renowned and has earned multiple awards and grants for their strides in geothermal power production. After dinner on your own put on your warm coat or borrow one at the



Aurora Ice Museum for a tour of the largest year-round ice environment in the world made from over 1,000 tons of ice and snow. Relax on caribou covered ice stools at the ice bar and enjoy an "appletini" alcoholic beverage in your very own ice carved martini glass, your souvenir to take with you. The incredible ice sculptures are breathtaking to



behold along with the beautiful ice chandeliers above which change color every six seconds to mimic the aurora borealis. After your "cool" tour heat up with a "hot" dip in the natural hot springs outdoor

rock lake or the indoor pool – you will enjoy unlimited hot spring swim passes. Bring a warm coat and swim suit. Overnight at the Resort.

7/23 Breakfast on your own. Enjoy a relaxing return trip to Fairbanks and the River's Edge Resort Cabin on the Chena River. After lunch on your own, enjoy a three hour cruise into the heart of Alaska and the heart of a family who has made the rivers of Alaska a way of life for four



generations. You will see a bush floatplane taking off alongside a "bush" style runway, visit the home and kennels of the late four-time Iditarod winner Susan Butcher, and gain insight into the ancient Athabascan Indian culture. Alaskan Native guides who have worked and lived in Alaska will take you on a personalized tour of the Chena Indian Village. You can experience 40 below zero if you'd like and you'll have time for some shopping in an extremely nice gift store. Of course, no visit to Alaska is complete without

viewing the Aurora Borealis – the only problem is that you need nighttime to enjoy the Aurora and you're going to be enjoying 24 hours of daylight in Fairbanks. After dinner on your own, you will visit the historic Lacey



Street Theater where you will view life-sized ice sculptures (Fairbanks is the home of the World Ice Art Championships held each February), an ice carving demonstration by an ice artist, and you will see Leroy Zimmerman's Aurora Experience Photosymphony "The Crown of Light" – a widescreen panoramic visual masterpiece that is the most beautiful and realistic Aurora show that can be seen anywhere.

7/24 Board the McKinley Explorer domed double-decker railcar for an incredible journey you won't soon forget! Pass by the University of Alaska and the gold mining town of Ester before crossing the Mears



Memorial Bridge to the town of Nenana, site of the famed Nenana Ice Classic. Also on the route are coal fields and the beautiful Nenana River Canyon. By early afternoon you arrive at Denali National Park where you'll transfer to your comfortable accommodations at the McKinley Chalet Resort, a rustic elegant resort just one mile from the Denali Park entrance and overlooking the Nenana River. After a quick lunch on your own, you'll enjoy a 5 hour natural history tour of Denali National Park to the Mt. McKinley viewpoint at Primrose Ridge. On the way, you'll hopefully



view some wonderful wildlife and be able to view the can-be elusive Mount McKinley (or Mount Denali as it is now called by locals). Then, back at the Chalet, you'll enjoy a late bounteous BBQ feast and rollicking entertainment at the Cabin Night Dinner Theater – the perfect finish to the day.



7/25 After a relaxing morning at McKinley Village where you'll enjoy breakfast and lunch on your own, you'll re-board the domed railcar and journey between the mountains of the spectacular Alaska

and Talkeetna ranges on an incomparable sightseeing experience. Take in the forests, mountains, rivers and valleys and cross the amazing engineering feat that appears at Hurricane Gulch where the train slows to 5 miles per hour to cross the trestle built over the creek 296 feet below – it's a special thrill from out on the open-air viewing platform! You can enjoy a delicious meal on your own in the lower dining room while you travel. Arrive in Anchorage at approximately 8:30 p.m. and transfer to the downtown hotel which will be the site of the Pacific Region Convention. You will enjoy the special hotel rates arranged for you by the Convention Committee.

7/26 The committee meeting times will be announced later and the Board Meeting will be held this evening.

7/27 & 28 Pacific Region Convention

7/29 Annual Garden Tour (tour of home gardens – free and open to the public – sponsored by the Anchorage Garden Club.

7/30 Alaska Garden Clubs annual convention

Cost: **\$1,250 per person** OR arrive for one night at the River's Edge and enjoy the rail experience and overnight at Denali for **\$850 per person**. A non-refundable deposit in the amount of \$100 each will be required by December 1, 2011.

To reserve your place: send your \$100 per person deposit check, payable to Pacific Region, to Robin Pokorski, 512 Newton St, San Fernando, CA 91340-2421 818.361.7873

What probably will NOT be seen:

Editor's Note: **IF** the editor, who is already signed up for this tour, were to actually **SEE** a moose – it will be duly reported in this publication upon her return.



School Days

By Elaine Gunderson, Schools Chairman

FLOWER SHOW SYMPOSIUM

February 12-14, San Diego, California
Contact: Laura Crenshaw, LRock1221@sbcglobal.net

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL

February 9-11, Course I, Cottonwoods Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona. Contact: Sharron Luoma, 480-585-7673 luoma@cox.net

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES SCHOOL

Nov 7-8; Course IV, San Mateo, California
Contact: Shane Looper, SLooper@sbcglobal.net

Calendar of Events

Nov 4	Hawaii's Arbor Day – Plant a Kukui!
June 3-9	National Garden Week
July 21-25	PR Pre-Convention Tour
July 26-28	68 th Pacific Region Convention, Anchorage, Alaska

Northwest Flower & Garden Show

By Ginger Knutsen & Lana Finegold

Plan to attend the Northwest Flower & Garden Show, February 8 - 12, 2012 at the Washington State Convention Center at 7th and Pike in Seattle. Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. The theme this year is "A Floral Symphony - Gardens Take Note." Check out the show's website at gardenshow.com. Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs will again sponsor an educational booth. Our booth location is in the North Hall, #2306. It will be filled with floral designs and horticulture tips. **Lana Finegold** will demonstrate flower arranging on Wednesday February 8, 2012 at 9:30 AM on the DIY Stage for an hour. Her focus will be *Creating Harmony*—Using Outdoor Foliage for Indoor Designs.



We look forward to seeing YOU.

Installations Needed

By Robin Pokorski, Ways & Means Chairman



This is the **last call** for installations for the **fundraiser** booklet. Only one installation has been received. We want every Pacific Region state represented.

We want to have the booklet ready for sale at the Pacific Region Convention in Anchorage. Please share two or three installations (club, district, council or state) with Pacific Region. We have an offer to have the booklet published free-of-charge but we must take advantage of the offer soon. Send to Robin Pokorski, RobinP@juno.com or via snail mail by December 31. Thanks!



Return Address:
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 850 Grandview Rd
 Sebastopol, CA 95472-2930

WACONIAH
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**NGC Award
 Winning Newsletter**



**WACONIAH by email is
 smart! You receive the issue
 early and in color!
 Thank you!**

Floriade 2012

By Bob Gordon, Tour Host



Floriade is a World Horticultural Expo staged once every ten years in the Netherlands. From April until mid-October 2012, the sixth edition of Floriade will be held in Venlo, Holland.

California Garden Clubs is sponsoring a fundraiser river cruise, combining the peak of tulip season with the 2012 Floriade Expo! Our adventure begins April 12, 2012 with a pre-cruise overnight in Amsterdam and a rare visit to the Flower Auction. We then board the AMA Verde riverboat for an 8-day cruise of the Netherlands and Belgium. Shore excursions are included as well as meals and entertainment. See the charming windmills at Kinderdijk, discover St. Baaf's Cathedral in medieval Ghent, explore Antwerp, and learn about Holland's complex flood controls at the fascinating Delta Works. Experience a full-day visit to Floriade. Drink in the colorful blooming beauty of famous Keukenhof Gardens with the world's largest bulb flower park.



The time is ripe, so don't let your opportunity hang on the vine! Call today for more information or reservations: Chris Merkel at Expedia CruiseShipCenters 877-561-7447 or 707-766-7447.

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