

# WACONIAH

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

Vol. 45 No. 2 Director's Theme: "Spreading your Butterfly Wings to Fly; Sharing your Knowledge of Gardening"



**2017 – 2019 Pacific Region  
Director Peggy Olin**

## *Director's Message*

### **Do you know the benefits of planting native plants?**

Native vegetation evolved to live with the local climate and soil types. This long process brings us several gardening advantages.

#### **Save water**

Once established, many native plants need minimal irrigation beyond normal rainfall.

#### **Low Maintenance**

Low maintenance landscaping methods are a natural fit with native plants that are already adapted to local environment. Look forward to using less water, little to no fertilizer, no pesticides, less pruning, and less of your time.

#### **Pesticide Freedom**

Native plants have developed their own defenses against many pests and diseases. Since most pesticides kill indiscriminately, beneficial insects become secondary targets in the fight against pests. Reducing or eliminating pesticide use lets natural pest control take over and keeps garden toxins out of creeks and watersheds.

### **Wildlife Viewing**

Native plants, birds, butterflies, beneficial insects and interesting critters are made for each other. Research shows that native wildlife prefers native plants.

### **Support Local Ecology**

As development replaces natural habitats, planting gardens, parks, churches, and Blue Star Markers with natives can provide a "bridge" to nearby remaining wildlands.

### **Scholarships**

As one of the eight Region Directors, it is a privilege to serve on the Scholarship Committee and help select the 41 winners of the \$4,000 NGC scholarships.

Thanks to the donations to the Pacific Region, we will award one \$1000 scholarship in 2018. Applications for these scholarships are on the NGC and Pacific Region Websites.

### **Pacific Region Convention**

We will be **"Whoopin' It Up At The Hot Springs"** April 6-9, 2018 at the Chena Hot Springs Resort, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Everyone is welcome to attend the convention! You don't want to miss the Ice Museum Tour, Dog Sledding, Sunset Snow Coach Tour, wonderful friendship, wonderful food and lots more!

Check out the Pacific Region website for the registration form and more information.

*Take care, Peggy*



### **Mary Stumpf:**

You are a **GEM** for creating our fresh new WACONIAH masthead! Thank you so much for the time and effort!

~ Robin Pokorski

## Pacific Region Director's Project

By Diane Franchini, Director's Project Chairman

Have you started "Spreading your Wings" yet? If not, then now is the time to begin. As the temperatures turn cooler and the colors of fall blanket the countryside, it is the perfect time to plant many trees and shrubs or to snuggle up in front of the fire to browse through the catalogs and dream of what to plant in the spring. At least that's true for Washington.

For her project, Pacific Region Director Peggy Olin has asked our members to "Keep it Simple" and "Plant America with native and pollinator plants that grow in your own region." The project itself is fairly easy; you need only report WHO planted the plants (State, District, Garden Club, Youth Group), WHAT was planted (flowers, shrubs, trees), and WHERE they were planted (park, church, Blue Star Marker). The deadline is March 1, 2019 and your information is to be sent to Diane Franchini, 153 Greenvale Drive, Ellensburg, WA 98926-9618 or emailed to franchinisd@gmail.com.

Each issue I'll focus on one state, providing a short list of native and pollinator plants that thrive in that state. In Washington we have two very different climates from rain forests on the west side of the mountains to desert on the east side. Here is a sampling of plants native to Washington that vary in Zones from 1-24.

Blanketflower, *Asteraceae Gaillardia*

Flax, *Linaceae Linum*

Golden Currant, *Grossulariaceae Ribes aureum*

Lupine, *Fabaceae Lupinus*

Mexican Orange, *Rutaceae Choisya ternate*

Ninebark, *Rosaceae Physocarpus*

Penstemon, *Scrophulariaceae Beard tongue*

Serviceberry, *Rosaceae Amelanchier*

Sumac, *Anacardiaceae Rhus*

Yarrow, *Asteraceae Achillea*

A word of caution: Some native plants also find themselves on lists of Invasive plants, so always check with your local agricultural extension specialist or county weed specialist to be sure that the plant you want to use can be planted safely in your area.

## Pacific Region States' Websites

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: [GCII.org](http://GCII.org)

Alaska: [AlaskaGardenClubs.org](http://AlaskaGardenClubs.org)

Hawaii: None

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

## Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs Marcella Brooks, President

Theme: "RAISING ARIZONA – Pollinator Plants  
Participation Membership"

Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs has a Blue Star Memorial history that dates back to 1956 when two highway markers were dedicated. One was placed near Nogales which is close to the Mexican border and the other in Fredonia near the Utah Border. In 1958 a Blue Star Memorial highway marker was placed at a highway rest area near Prescott and another near Tucson.

There followed a thirty-seven-year hiatus until 1995 when a Blue Star Memorial was placed at the National Veteran's Cemetery in Phoenix. Ten more years passed before another Blue Star Memorial was dedicated and placed in the rose garden at Mesa Community College in 2005. It was at this Blue Star Memorial that our 2017 AFGC Convention featured a beautiful and moving Memorial Service in commemoration of the passing of those AFGC members since the previous year. To honor the NGC President's Million Pollinator Challenge, live Monarch Butterflies were released after the close of the Service. I was honored that a monarch perched on my hair and rested for a couple of minutes.

From 2005 to the present, eleven Blue Star Memorials have been dedicated. Almost all of these have been placed in areas where people can stroll or sit and enjoy their surroundings such as: the Pinal County Historical Society Museum in Florence, the Armed Forces Park and the National Guard Facility in Yuma, Tempe Town Lakes where lots of activities take place and people congregate, the McCormick Ranch Railroad Park in Scottsdale, Prescott Adult Center, Sun Lakes Country Club and the Heritage Museum in Apache Junction.

This October, Northern District will incorporate the dedication of a Blue Star Memorial Marker into their District Meeting which will be hosted by High Desert Designers. Its location is the Sedona Public Library. I'm delighted to attend. This will bring the total of Blue Star Memorials in our state to seventeen.



**Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc.**  
**Claudia Hambacker, President**

*Theme: "Birds, Bees, Butterflies, Moths and Bats; Create a Living Habitat for Them"*

As a young person raised in West Virginia I saw Blue Star Memorial Markers as I traveled around the state. I did a little research for this assignment and found that my home state now has 83 such markers. As an adult I lived in Maryland for about 30 years, and much of that time my home was located just off



of Maryland route 301. On my daily travels to and from work I saw the markers over and over again. I also lived, worked, and hiked in Virginia, and again there were many Blue Star Memorial Markers. I thought how wonderful that the Department of Highways in West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia had set aside highways as Blue Star Memorial Highways. I saw large wording on each marker indicating it was placed or erected in honor of those who fought or served for our country and the big blue star. When riding along in a car, this is about all that you can see. So it was more than 55 years before I really found out what a Blue Star Memorial Marker actually was.

I had never completely read a marker, nor did I ever hear about the markers being a project of garden clubs, until I moved to Idaho and met Louisa Cone. Louisa is our State Blue Star Memorial Marker Chairman. Idaho is large and we only have about 350 members in 15 clubs across the state. However, Louisa gets the message out! We have 15 highway markers, and Louisa not only works to increase their numbers but she makes sure they are maintained. It was at my first District meeting that I met Louisa, and my education about the history and purpose of Blue Star Memorial Markers began.

How many times have you heard, "What does a garden club do?" There are so many things done by garden clubs that the general public, and even our own members, do not know. The Blue Star Memorial Markers project is just one. If you take them away, would anyone notice? I would now. What about community and public gardens that are planned, fundraised for, planted by, and maintained by garden clubs that never ask for or use a public dollar? Think of the quiet impact that garden clubs have on everyday life: children are taught how to garden, grants are given to provide for civic improvement, beautiful barrels and hanging pots are maintained in small towns, books are published to

draw emphasis on endangered wildlife and the need to save them, and thousands of dollars of annual scholarships are given to help those studying the environment and the eco-systems, horticultural and related studies.

We are simply not mindful that what we do is of any importance. Those Blue Star Memorial Marker signs have made me far more appreciative of being a garden club member. Behind those signs with that big Blue Star and the words Blue Star Memorial Marker are individuals who cared. So the next time you pass a Blue Star Marker, read just a little further down. You will find out the highway department did not come up with the idea to honor those who served. It was National Garden Clubs working with state garden clubs, who work with their districts and local member clubs, to support the Blue Star Memorial program. This is what a garden club does.

**Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**Gaye Stewart, President**

*Theme: "Plant a Seed – Reap a Harvest"*



**A BANNER YEAR FOR BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKERS IN OREGON**

2017 has seen and will see the hopeful conclusion of a banner year for Blue Star Markers in Oregon. On Memorial Day, May 29, Pioneer District dedicated its 9<sup>th</sup> Marker at the Veterans' Park in Cornelius. On June 21, Pacific District rededicated its refurbished Marker in Lincoln City, at the Wayside Park on HWY 101. On July 20, Lebanon Garden Club dedicated Santiam's 6<sup>th</sup> Marker at Edward C. Allsworth Veterans' Home, with special guest NGC Blue Star Chairman Andrea Little. On September 24, Grants Pass will dedicate the Siskiyou District's 11<sup>th</sup> Marker and the state's first Gold Star Marker.

Installed but yet to have a dedication date is Clackamas District's 12<sup>th</sup> Marker at Camp Withycombe in Oregon City. A fall date is hoped for by Pioneer District with plans to dedicate its 10<sup>th</sup> Blue Star Marker in Hillsboro at their Veteran's Park. **This will make a total of 83 markers for the state of Oregon.**

*Theme: "Growing Alaska's Love of Gardening through Education and Friendship"*

### **Where are the Blue Star Markers?**

Currently in Alaska we have listed seven Blue Star Markers. Four markers are being well cared for and are accounted for. One marker is in a garden that has been abandoned, and two markers are missing altogether. I find this disturbing and, I can assure you, I will get to the bottom of this and hopefully find them.

At the Fall Board Meeting, I had the chance to speak with Andrea Little, NGC Chairman for the Blue Star Markers. According to Andrea, this is not a unique problem just in Alaska. When I learned that during construction projects and garden landscaping projects these markers are removed and put somewhere unknown, I have to say that I was appalled. This is not something that should have happened without the knowledge of the garden clubs that placed them there. We, as garden club members, should be monitoring these markers, and we should be involved enough in our communities that we would know if they were at risk of being removed.

Placing a Blue Star Memorial Marker has responsibilities associated with it. Once placed, the garden club is responsible for it forever! Even though these markers were

placed years ago; we must not lose track of them. The gardens around them must be cared for with reverence.



I share this with you in hopes that you will not fall into the same trap that Alaska has. One of these markers is six hours driving time away from the nearest active club. This is way too far away to be appropriately cared for. As clubs come and go, as obviously has happened here, we must rethink the placement of these monuments in remote areas. In the meantime, I have people on the lookout for these missing markers. Don't let this happen to you! Communication is the key when placing these markers. New people will always come and go in city government. We must be an active part of our communities and know what is going on. Garden club members must update their contact numbers and reach out annually, at a minimum, to community officials where these markers are located.

*Theme: "Garden Therapy: Calming the Inner Storms"*

Dorothy Dwyer, member of the Vancouver Garden Club, enlisted in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corp in 1942. This was later to be known as the Women's Army Corps (WACs).

Dorothy and seven other unassigned WACs were told they would meet General Eisenhower. In 1943, all eight WACs were assigned to General Eisenhower, who became their boss. The team was part of the first step in the offensive against Hitler's European fortress.

Dorothy worked in the nerve center (also known as the 'eyes only' program) in Algiers, North Africa. As an excellent speed typist, she decoded information from Washington D.C. to General Eisenhower.

Long after the war, Dorothy ensured that the contributions of America's veterans are remembered. As a long-term garden club member, Dorothy served as chairwoman of Washington's Blue Star Memorial Marker program. This program places markers honoring WWII veterans along the nation's highways. Dorothy's goal was to place 50 markers throughout the state. She accomplished her goal and received national recognition for her accomplishment at the age of 88.

Recently being honored by the Puget Sound Honor's Flight program, Dorothy, along with 59 other WWII veterans, were recognized for their service on the Washington D.C. mall across the street from the White House.

At the age of 96, Dorothy is an active veteran and a member of the American Legion Post 44 in Ridgefield, Washington.



## Gardening Tip

By Robin Pokorski, Contributor



Stake solution – Storing garden stakes can be a hassle — rods jut out in every direction, and searching for the one you need usually means getting poked.

Standing your stakes doesn't just make them easy to find, it saves space until next season, too. Just take two milk crates and turn them over, stacking one on top of the other. Then insert each stake through an opening in the crate. Arrange them by height, like was done here, and it'll only take a quick glance to find just what you're looking for.



## Pacific Region's Life Membership Bouquet

By Alexis Slafer, Life Membership Chairman

In this issue of WACONIAH, our *Life Membership Bouquet* grows with three new blooms. We welcome and congratulate our newest Life Members of Pacific Region:

- ☞ **Hank Vanderhorst** of California
- ☞ **Gaye Stewart** of Oregon
- ☞ **Chris Wood** of Alaska

This issue sees two of these new Life Memberships represented by their state flower -- continuing in WACONIAH order -- *California*: *California poppy* (*Eschscholzia californica*) and *Oregon*: *Oregon grape* (*Berberis aquifolium*). Let's watch our bouquet fill-out with each new life member.

Can you imagine a better way to celebrate your members' support, guidance and commitment to strengthening your club, state organization, and/or region -- while supporting our Scholarship Program? This is the perfect time to purchase a Pacific Region Life Membership because there is a recommendation for a price increase that will be presented at the 2018 Convention in Alaska. So, be sure to honor and recognize these special people with a Pacific Region Garden Clubs Life Membership before that price increase takes effect.

Life memberships may be purchased by individuals, organizations or districts to honor a member, *or* individuals may purchase their own. These donations support the Region's scholarship program and are fully tax deductible. The application forms can be found on the Region's website.

Print a copy of the application form to mail with your check. Send completed applications and checks to: Pacific Region Garden Clubs Life Membership Chairman, Alexis Slafer, 6111 S Kings Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90056-1630.



The current Life Membership donation is \$40. New Life Members will receive a Life Membership pin and certificate, along with a welcome letter. Please make your check payable to: **Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**



Remember: "*Friends are flowers that never fade*"...Let us gather our blooms for this Pacific Region Life Membership Bouquet.

## Do you Know?



... which seven other nations also celebrate an official Thanksgiving Day? (Answer on page 11.)

**INVITATION TO 75th ANNUAL PACIFIC REGION GARDEN CLUBS, INC.  
CONVENTION 2018  
CHENA HOT SPRINGS RESORT, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA  
April 6 – 9, 2018**

Let's talk about bucket lists! Do you have things you'd like to experience while you still can? You must have some things you haven't done. How about riding on a **dog sled** behind Alaskan sled dogs? What about viewing the **Northern Lights**? Make that a little better, and view the Northern Lights from a **hot springs pool**? How about drinking appetinis out of **glasses made of ice**? And, you can make that better, too, by being in an ice museum where **EVERYTHING is made of ice!**



There will be many more firsts for you if you come visit Fairbanks April 6 – 9, 2018 for our 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention! You'll fly into Fairbanks where you'll be transported 60 miles northeast to the end of the road at Chena Hot Springs Resort. Yes, there will be snow on the ground and it will be freezing at night. But, the days should be gorgeous with beautiful blue skies. Even though it's getting close to the end of the season for viewing Northern Lights, you'll still have a chance – we've put in our order for you!

**Whoopin'      Dippin'      We'll have three days of  
Livin'      Eatin'      Learnin'      Viewin'**  
**With the nicest people we know!**

You can extend your stay in Fairbanks if you choose. There's plenty to see and experience! So, don't wait. There's no other resort around and we've blocked the best rooms for you – once they're gone, the choices get quite a bit more rustic! AND, the airline rates are just fantastic right now.

**We're all goin' to have a Great Time!**  
**Come and see us! Your Alaskan friends can't wait to show you part of the Alaska we love!**  
Call Becky at (907) 456-3066 or [beckyhasse@aol.com](mailto:beckyhasse@aol.com) with any questions.



**Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**75<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**  
**April 6 – 9, 2018**



**“Whoopin’ It Up At The Hot Springs”**  
**Chena Hot Springs Resort, Fairbanks, Alaska**

**Convention Registration Form – One Name Per Form, Please**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Full-Time Package Plan</b> (See * on Page 2)	\$ 295.00	\$ _____
After 3/01/18, please add	\$ 45.00	_____
Add Appletini in Ice Glass **	\$ 15.00	_____
<b>Total Full-Time Package Plan - No Refunds after 3/01/18</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

**Spouses/Guests Only**

Ice Museum Tour **	\$ 12.00	\$ _____
Add Appletini in Ice Glass **	\$ 15.00	_____
April 6 <sup>th</sup> Banquet	\$ 47.00	_____
April 7 <sup>th</sup> Program Lunch	\$ 30.00	_____
April 7 <sup>th</sup> Banquet	\$ 55.00	_____
April 8 <sup>th</sup> Banquet	\$ 55.00	_____
<b>Total Spouses/Guests Only</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

**Diet Restrictions** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Transportation</b> Round-trip from Fairbanks to the Springs ***	\$ 100.00	\$ _____
(Flight, Date and Arrival Time – Arrive in Fairbanks by Noon) _____		

**Badge Information** (Please check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Region Director	<input type="checkbox"/> Region Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Region Life Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Region Chairman	<input type="checkbox"/> State President	<input type="checkbox"/> Former Region Director
<input type="checkbox"/> National Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> National Board Member	<input type="checkbox"/> National Life Member
<input type="checkbox"/> Official Delegate	<input type="checkbox"/> Guest/Spouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden Club Member
<input type="checkbox"/> First Time Attendee	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden Club Name

Make Check Payable to Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. and mail with this form to PRGC Inc., 518 Slater Drive, Fairbanks, AK 99701. Contact Becky Hassebroek, 907-456-3066, [beckyhasse@aol.com](mailto:beckyhasse@aol.com), for more information.  
 Please call the Resort directly for Accommodations (907) 451-8104 or (907) 251-1007 Group AGC4618.

**BE SURE TO OPEN THE REST OF THE REGISTRATION PACKET SENT WITH THIS ISSUE**

The aurora borealis, or northern lights, are an ethereal display of colored lights shimmering across the night sky. What causes them?

When charged particles from the sun strike atoms and molecules in Earth’s atmosphere, they *excite* those atoms, causing them to light up.

**Announcing OSFGC 2017-2019 President's Project**

Oregon will be blooming with fresh new flower garden plantings designed to attract and provide safe food for bees. With 86 clubs in the state choosing a highly visible public place (the post office, city park, city hall, the Blue Star Memorial Markers, the entrance to your town) the pollinators will thrive.

The pollinators need our help! We kill our bees through pesticide use, loss of habitat, and environmental changes due to pollution.

To save our bees, we must plant flowers and blooming trees! With 86 clubs and two years, that's 172 gardens!

We're counting gardens!

**Region EC meeting at NGC Fall Board Meeting Business Recap**

*By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian*

- As provided in our region's Bylaws, and as often happens at NGC Fall Board Meetings, the Executive Committee (EC) met in St. Louis at the Call of the Director, and all members of the region at the FBM were invited to attend. Ten EC members and at least eight other members were present.
- The motion to order 100 life membership pins was adopted.
- A motion to recommend to the 2018 convention body an increase in the life membership fee to \$75 was adopted.
- Treasurer Becky Hassebroek reported.
- 2018 Convention Chairman Becky Hassebroek reported, inviting all to Chena Hot Springs Resort April 6-9, immediately following Alaska's state convention.

**POLLINATORS REPORT**

*By Chris House, from The Sequoia, newsletter of Eureka Sequoia GC, California*



by Alex Surcică

The squash family of plants, including pumpkins, have specific pollinators that migrated with the plants from their origins in Central and South America. Without

these specific native bees of genera *Peponapis* and *Xenoglossa*, which are ground laying bees, squash wouldn't be pollinated. The male bee hangs out on squash blossoms because the female is so busy collecting nectar for herself and pollen to store with the egg she lays in burrows in the ground. He knows she will be around sometime. No energy expenditure by the male!

*NGC Multiple Refresher Chairman Lana Finegold*



The eighty-eighth annual Fall Board Meeting of National Garden Clubs, Inc. took place at the Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel in Missouri from September 13 - 15. These gatherings begin with committee meetings and

this one ended with a full day Board of Directors' Meeting. St. Louis was sunny and warm while we were inside at meetings.

Many of the lobby designs incorporated interesting metal sculptures. Julia Clevett, NGC Design Instructor and NGC FSS Symposium Chairman, gave the Thursday dinner program "So What's New" creating many designs inspired by the New *Handbook for Flower Shows*. After the program, her designs were moved to the hotel lobby. Pacific Region held a short meeting following the program and voted to recommend an increase in the fees for region life memberships.



On Friday the Annual Board of Directors Meeting began with the presentation of colors by members of Moolah Shrine. There was a voting strength of 190, and six past NGC Presidents were among those attending. President Nancy Hargroves reported on copyright progress for NGC publications as well as the Plant America logo. NGC is starting to quantify its success to answer the questions of current and future partners. The lunch program featured Susan Yoder, Executive Director of **Seed Your Future**, which encourages youth to choose careers in horticulture. She talked about terminology changes needed. Horticulture is not the right word, it seems. Focus groups are used to learn how to stimulate job acceptance by making the jobs available sound cool/attractive to those applying. She said that 61% of horticulture jobs go unfilled and 30% of horticulture scholarships are not filled. **Seed Your Future** hopes to change that by using words that resonate with youth.

Before dinner, five How To seminars were offered: PowerPoint, Excel Files, Dropbox, Social Media, Format/Fix Photos to Enter in a Contest.

The dinner speaker was Kelly Norris who is the first Director of Horticulture at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, an award winning author, a plantsman and the winner of a NGC Scholarship. He was a dynamic and enthusiastic speaker using garden pictures to make his point about choosing appropriate plants to match land use needs as well as our changing climate. His topic was **Planting for the Future**. He showed a photo of a housing development with small lots and spoke about the need to use native plants to create beauty. The photo made me think of the Pete Seeger song "Little Boxes." From what Kelly Norris said, I was especially proud that the city I live in (Bellevue, Washington) views itself as a city in a park.



## Take, Make and Register

Becky Hassebroek, MPGC Chairman

Remember to:



**TAKE** pictures of your pollinator gardens to share with others.



**MAKE** sure there's appropriate food for your pollinators whenever they're active in your area.



**REGISTER** your gardens at [millionpollinatorgardens.org](http://millionpollinatorgardens.org).

**Tell them you're from NGC!**



## Don't Forget the Design Plant ID card

By Marva Lee Peterschick, Flower Show Schools Chairman

A new requirement when exhibiting designs in a **NGC Flower Show** is to have a Plant identification card with the entry tag. All plant material used in the design must be identified on the card and the schedule may list that the information be typed for neatness. The show schedule might also require that the card will be furnished by the committee. If so, it should state color and size so the exhibitor can plan ahead. For example, if it is 3x5 size and white cardstock, the exhibitor can prepare the card at home.

If the exhibitor is lacking the plant identification card, judges must take off points under conformance, even though meeting the other requirements in the class description. If very few are required, the plant identification card could be worth a good percentage of the seven points allowed. **DON'T LOSE POINTS BECAUSE YOU ARE LACKING THE PLANT IDENTIFICATION (PI) CARD.** Allow yourself enough time before the show to do your homework in preparing the **PI Card**. If purchasing exotic plant material to use in your design for a show, check with the retailer or wholesale florist on identification. Look online at different flower growers. One resource is the *California Farm and Flower Guide*. This outstanding publication lists many flowers and fillers with common name and botanical names of plants. Go to [WWW.cfcf.org](http://WWW.cfcf.org) for further identification of plants.

## Issue Deadlines and Issue Focus

Here are the newsletter issues and their deadlines and the focus for the next two issues:

February 2018	deadline 12-25-17 How your state uses social media
May 2018	deadline 3-25-18 Community Projects in your state

## Parliamentary Tidbits

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian



To **adjourn** means to close the meeting. Even if there is still business that has not been completed a majority may vote to adjourn.

A short break from a meeting is a **recess**. The chair may declare a recess or there may be a motion and majority vote to recess. A recess may be for a specified time or may be until called to order by the chair.

The chair may cause a brief pause in the proceedings if there is no objection by the members by directing the group to **stand at ease**. Members remain in their places, perhaps talking quietly, until the chair again calls the meeting to order.

*Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief*, page 17.

## NGC Fall Board Meeting – Business Recap

By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian

- Committee meetings took place September 13-14. State Presidents and Region Directors met on September 14. The Board of Directors met on September 15.
- Voting strength was 190, the same as last year's meeting in Portland, Maine. Total registration was 208, down from 219 last year.
- Certificates were presented to state presidents who have taken office since the Richmond convention.
- Officers and chairmen reported.
- President Nancy Hargroves reported that the digital edition of the Flower Show Handbook is now available and opportunities for raising money from *Garden Design Magazine* and P. Allen Smith are forthcoming.
- *The National Gardener* is going to an all-color format effective with the Fall 2017 issue.
- The partnership with Ames Tools will continue for 2017-2018.
- Standing Rule amendments were adopted to reflect the change from the 2007 to the 2017 FSS Handbook and to reflect changes brought about by the new independent status of the regions.

**Last Thanksgiving I had my chance to do the traditional thing of shooting my own turkey. You should have seen the people scatter in the meat department!**



*Sow the leadership seeds for your club, district or state – it's an investment for your group's future!*



**NGC Schools**

By Greg Pokorski, NGC LD Schools Chairman, GS Advisor

Regarding the name changes for Environmental Schools and Gardening Schools reported in the August issue, please note that updates to the NGC website will be gradual because of the costs involved.

Consultants, do you know your Good Standing Date? That is the final date your Consultant certification remains valid. It is your responsibility to know that date for each school you have completed. It marks the end of the fifth calendar year after you became a Consultant or after you last refreshed. It should always be December 31 of whatever year. If you have not refreshed by that date your Consultant status lapses. If you have Consultant status that is due to lapse in 2017, and you cannot find a refresher to attend in the last two months of this year, request an extension from your State School Chairman while you remain in good standing. Master Consultants in good standing may request Emeritus status if you are unable to continue refreshing.

By Janet Petersen, Invasives Chairman

**Washington State has many invasive species. They are known as "aliens" or "exotics." Invasive species are plants, animals, or organisms that spread so quickly that they harm other wildlife.** They are not native to Washington State and were brought here by someone or something. Because they are new to this state, natural predators often don't exist, allowing them to spread at alarming rates.

Most non-native species are useful, such as farm animals and crops. Just a handful of non-native species cause problems.

**Invasive Species Are Everyone's Problem**

Invasive species can take over your garden, favorite swimming lake, or hiking trail. Invasive species out-compete native plants and animals for scarce resources, changing the landscape. They damage farms and forests as well as lakes, rivers, and marine waters. They cause hundreds of billions of dollars of damage. Farmers, foresters, and homeowners also spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to control invasive species.

Invasive species are not just a danger in Washington. They are one of the leading threats to the world's diversity of plants, animals, and the places they live. For example, invasive species impact nearly half of the plants and animals listed as threatened or endangered under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

What YOU can do:

- **Landscape and garden with native plants.** Many popular garden plants have escaped into our parks and wilderness areas where they compete with native plants.
- **Do not release pets, aquatic plants, or aquarium water into the wild.** Be careful when ordering on the internet. Look for reputable sources that get plants and animals legally. To learn more, visit the [Habitattitude](#) website.
- **Clean your watercraft, trailer, and fishing equipment.** Be careful not to release non-native fish or bait into the water.
- **Control the spread of invasive seeds.** Wash boots and tires before hiking or biking in a new place.
- **Get involved!** There are many opportunities to help turn back the tide on invasive species. Here are just a few.
  - Help eradicate invasive species by volunteering to pull weeds at your local park. Help find invasive species with the [Marine Invasive Species Monitoring Program](#).
  - Please visit your State's Invasive species website for more information.

## ***Garden Therapy – Calming the Inner Storms***

*By Joyce Lounsberry, WFSGC President*

Garden Therapy is defined as the use of garden related activities as an aid to the recovery and rehabilitation of the disabled. It is a very flexible activity that can be used to meet many individual needs. Every club and district should have a Garden Therapy Chairman to organize an ongoing project to continue for two years.

District directors will report club and district projects and results at Board of Directors meetings.

Some Suggestions:

Begin a garden at a nursing home.

Teach individuals to make dish gardens in foil lined boxes.

Help disabled to grow gift plants to give to friends.

Teach about herbs and help individuals to grow them.

Instruct in corsage-making and floral design projects.

Present interesting nature programs with slides.

Make bird feeders.

Plant healing gardens for the disabled and sensory gardens for the blind.

Read books such as *The Saved Seed* and *The Frightened Frog* to disabled children.

WSFGC and NGC provide annual awards in Garden Therapy for recognition of benefits provided to disabled persons. See the WSFGC directory for information on how to apply. A "Garden Therapy Manual" can be purchased through NGC that provides a valuable resource of information.

## ***School Days***

*By Sheila Parcel, Schools Chairman*

### **FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL**

Nov 1-3, Course III, Port Angeles, WA  
Contact: Mary Lou Waitz, (360) 928-3728  
[marylou@hotmail.com](mailto:marylou@hotmail.com)

### **LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS**

Feb 3-4, 2018, Course I, Colfax, CA  
Contact: Ingrid Elsel, (530) 263-0003  
[ieisel8888@gmail.com](mailto:ieisel8888@gmail.com)

Feb 10-11, 2018, Course 2, Colfax GC CA  
Contact: Ingrid Elsel, (530) 263-0003  
[ieisel8888@gmail.com](mailto:ieisel8888@gmail.com)

## ***Article Submission***

Articles are welcome from every state in the Pacific Region. Email your articles with pictures to [CGCIRobin@gmail.com](mailto:CGCIRobin@gmail.com). The editor would love to hear from you!

## ***NGC Poetry Contest 2017-2018 Theme: "Let it Grow"***

Let's excite and encourage our youth to express and explore their creative thoughts through different types of poetry. NGC's Poetry Contest enables our youth to embrace their creativity through the art of writing. Be imaginative and join the winners to see your poetry in a printed booklet!

**Eligibility:** Special Education and English as a Second Language: K - 9<sup>th</sup> Grade.  
General Education: K – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade.

### **Dates for Submission:**

January 1 – Club entries due to state chairman

February 1 – State winners due to Region Chairman,  
Shirley Schmidt  
1630 Williams Hwy. #145, Grants Pass, OR 97527

### **Contest Rules:**

1. All entries must be typed and titled
2. Include name, address, age, grade, and schools of participant on the back of entry
3. Sponsoring garden club and state garden club must be identified
4. Sponsoring garden club may be that of a grandparent
5. All entries become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
6. Poems do not have to rhyme
7. Poems may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limericks, or Haiku

### **Scale of Points:**

Title:	10%
Content:	40%
Creativity:	30%
Style:	20%
Total:	100%

Note: Only region winners are considered in the judging for national winners. Contest winners will not be allowed to win two consecutive years. All of the winning entries will be compiled into a booklet, which will be made available to the winners.

## ***Calendar of Events***

Apr 6-9, 2018 Pacific Region Convention, Chena Hot Springs, Alaska

## ***Answer to Do You Know:***

The other seven nations that also celebrate an official Thanksgiving Day are: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Japan, Korea, Liberia, and Switzerland.



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Did you share your  
 WACONIAH with someone  
 in your club and district?  
 There may be a pop quiz at any time!



***Boulder City GC Distributes Smiles and Seeds***

*By Cynthia Simpson, President, Boulder City Garden Club, Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.*

Josie Benyshek of Boulder City distributed smiles and packets of seeds for the Boulder City Garden Club at the annual Damboree 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. The seeds are hollyhocks, the official flower of Boulder City and one of the favorites of the families who came with the building of the dam. Each packet had growing instructions, a card bearing the club's logo, "Come Grow with Us," and meeting information, inviting all to attend. Several members walked the parade route and handed out seeds and they were well-received. The club won first place over-all for its entry.

***WACONIAH Staff***

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**I want to be like the caterpillar. Eat a lot. Sleep for a while. Wake up beautiful!**

**Did you count all the GEMS in this issue? If you think it's a bit slim, think of someone YOU could honor/surprise!**