

# WACONIAH



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

Vol. 49 No. 4

Director's Theme: *"One Green World"*



2021 – 2023  
Pacific Region  
Director  
Lana Finegold

Photo taken at Bellevue Botanical Garden, by Nancy Kartes, Garden Manager

## ***Director's Message***

One Green World is the Pacific Region Garden Clubs' theme for 2021-23. What is my vision for One Green World?

I believe that if we encourage youth to love nature and adults to respect nature and others, our planet will survive. Obviously I am very concerned about climate change. So anything we do as clubs, districts, states, regions, to mitigate climate change is worthy. I read somewhere that planting a tree can help our climate. Doug Tallamy suggests planting a tree that supports pollinators and wildlife. If that tree is also native, even better. PRGC will plant a fig tree in Las Vegas during its 2022 convention there.

Why plant native plants? They use less water and since water can be scarce in some places and sometimes lead to war, using less water can be a good thing. Native plants are more resilient and adapted to local climates. I live in the land of the rain (Bellevue which

is a suburb of Seattle); however, I have noticed that mostly it rains at night now and most days are dry. But...not this one. I am looking at a lake in my back yard. I have lived in this house over 50 years.

It used to be that when a lake in the back yard happened, it would take three days to drain. However, now when the rain stops, the lake takes one day to drain because two giant Cedar trees in my back yard suck up the water and seem to be stable too so plants and trees, planted by birds and wildlife, have created a rain garden in my back yard with a little help from me also.

Getting back to One Green World...we can purchase less and choose to buy sustainable things. We can grow some of the food we eat, raise chickens, recycle or re-purpose more. For over a year I did not go to the mall shopping and I stopped buying clothes. I have learned to shop in my closet. NGC has created a Sustainable Consumption chairmanship. How will YOU make our planet more sustainable?

Another way to support One Green World is to become a member of Pollen Pushers Garden Club. All membership donations go to the PRGC Scholarship Fund, and educating students is a way to create One Green World. The Pollen Pushers application is on the PRGC website, so select a level of giving and help pollinate the future by enabling college students to become educated. See the PRGC website: [www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org](http://www.PacificRegionGardenClubs.org) and you will also find there the registration form for the 2022 Pacific Region convention April 25-27 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The 2023 PRGC Convention will be April 17-20 at the Lynnwood Embassy Suites. Our own WSFGC Team Tavasci is planning this fun-filled convention so I hope YOU will plan to attend. For more information contact me at [lanafinegold@msn.com](mailto:lanafinegold@msn.com) or 425-747-5742. Each one reach one, teach one, try.

Yours for One Green World,

Lana

## Vinyl Mini Blind Labels for One Green World

*By Peggy Heide, President, Yreka Garden Club, California*

Old dirty and used or new white or light colored vinyl mini blinds make excellent plant labels. Use the medium or high grade vinyl mini blinds and remember these will be slightly curved to write on. I write length wise but one can write across the top of label too using a pencil. I started doing this years ago for the garden club and community garden plant sales. Pull the blinds up tight on a table. Cut the draw cords off at the head. Cut the blind off the top head. Keep blinds tight together and separate from the head. Take whatever cord is in the blind out from the bottom. Now you can easily start removing blinds a few at a time from the separating strings. These you cut into 6" long pieces to make a label. Cut the blind first at the hole where the draw cords were on each end, then cut the remaining piece into more labels, taking care if you are using wide blinds to not cut the labels apart where there are any more holes as the holes make the labels flimsy. Each blind that is 36" wide will make 6 labels. So a whole mini blind will make about 360 labels.

I find that this is cheaper than purchasing specific plant labels that can cost about 8 cents per label. Now if you are using old dirty vinyl blinds you can still cut the blinds and then put them in your clothes washer with soap and bleach and agitate, drain and then pick out and rinse in sink or bucket. Write on the labels with pencil and the information lasts 1-3 years or longer. The blind labels do not break down in the sun as fast either. For the left-over blind parts I take the metal rod out from the head piece. This takes a little patience and care. A screwdriver makes a good tool to pry up the rod and take the plastic pieces off. I use these as plant stakes, or they can be curved and used to hold frost/shade cover over plants or make a tunnel. The draw cords are usually nylon and can be used for anything that you need a strong twine for. Now the bottom blind piece that should still be attached to the separating strings can be used for a small trellis for vining plants or peas etc. About the only thing I actually throw away is the head piece of the blinds. As for ease in cutting the blinds into nice labels I was lucky enough to find a large heavy duty paper cutter at a yard sale for \$2 (which I found out sold for over \$700 new). I can stack about 10 blinds together and make quick work in making 2000 to 3000 labels on a winter afternoon. This is one way to keep plastic out of the landfill or at least recycle!

Note: If the old blinds are too old and dirty, throw them away or be prepared to have some break up in the washer and then you have to remove the tiny pieces from the bottom of your washer.

## Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

*Anne Sullivan, President*

WSFGC has accepted the "New Normal." Many clubs and districts are having in-person meetings and events again. I was lucky enough to be invited to Chinook District's "Fairy Tales in the Garden" Luncheon. Brynn Tavasci created a skit and as always, her astounding creativity showed through. The characters wore costumes created from recycled items. This is in keeping with PR Director Lana Finegold's "Green World" initiative. In addition to the wonderful catered lunch, the 100+ guests enjoyed the raffle of 35 baskets that were available.



I also attended the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Evergreen GC at the Cross Sound District meeting. The theme was "Remembering 80 Years." The lunch was

lovely, and tables set as they might have been 80 years ago. They also had a Small Standard Flower Show. There will be several other clubs in the state celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the coming months.

Many of our clubs have been using the available technology to maintain connections with each other. Zoom has been a very important part of including members as we navigate the ups and downs of the Covid epidemic. It has also been useful for holding committee meetings. NGC and PRGC have shown what a great tool technology can be. Having access to people who we normally wouldn't be able to interact with has been fantastic. Technology is here to stay.

Washington State looks forward to hosting the 2023 Pacific Region Convention tentatively April 18 - 20, 2023 or April 17 - 19, 2023. More to come.

## ***UNLV Arboretum in Las Vegas***

*By Robyn McCarthy, Arboreta Chairman*



While in Las Vegas you may have time to visit Las Vegas' only arboretum. The UNLV Arboretum (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) was established in 1985 and includes all the landscaped areas of the entire 335-acre campus. For more than three decades the entire campus has been designated as an arboretum with a mission to display vegetation suited to the Las Vegas' high desert climate and to investigate new plants and cultivars.

A cultivar is a type of plant that people have bred for desired traits which are reproduced in each generation by a method of grafting, doing tissue cultures, or by carefully controlled seed production. Most cultivars come from human manipulation, and some originate from wild plants.

Popular ornamental garden plants like roses, camellias, daffodils, rhododendrons, and azaleas are cultivars produced by breeding and selection. Interestingly, the world's agricultural food crops are almost exclusively cultivars that have been selected for improved yield, flavor, and resistance to disease. Very few wild plants are now used as food sources. Trees used in forestry are also grown for their enhanced quality and yield of timber.

Some call the UNLV's xeric garden the "heart of campus." For others it's a living laboratory of high desert plant-life, both native and non-native. Completed in 1988, the xeric garden is studied by landscape architecture and biology students as well as ornamental horticultural students from the nearby College of Southern Nevada.

The name "xeric" is taken from the Greek word "xeros" meaning "dry." The site serves as a tutorial for how drought-tolerant plants supplied with efficient

irrigation systems can create sustainable and attractive landscaping. The garden has more than 9,000 square feet of paved pathways, benches, ramadas, and wooden bridges. Plants growing in the garden come from Australia, South America, Mexico, the Mediterranean and the four desert regions of North America. Blue yucca, agave, eucalyptus, jojoba, and the creosote bush can be found there. At the north end of the garden a pool creates a water supply for migratory and local birds.

## ***Kakapo Parrot - *Strigops habroptila****

*By Georgia Zahar, Endangered Species Chairman*



These parrots are large flightless birds. They are nocturnal and ground dwelling, and are mostly found in New Zealand. They have a lifespan of 40 – 80 years. The male can weigh anywhere from four to almost nine pounds. These birds are herbivores and eat native plants, seeds and fruits. They will also dine on bugs, small pinecones and flowers.

Kakapo had almost no natural predators on the islands of New Zealand, and they lost the ability to fly. At one time they were abundant. Now, there are only about 150 that still live in New Zealand.

The demise of the Kakapo is mostly from predatory animals, such as cats, dogs, ferrets and rats that settlers brought with them to New Zealand. The Kakapo was also eaten by the European settlers.

The female will lay two to three eggs. The eggs are laid in a hollow part of a tree. She incubates the eggs for 10 weeks, and only leaves the nest when she goes to find food.

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It's allergy season again?!

You've got to be pollen my leg.

## Penny Pines

*By Claudia Hambacker, Penny Pines Chairman*

Why are trees needed? How do they help in our everyday life? One hundred trees can remove 53 tons of carbon dioxide, 430 pounds of air pollutants and catch 139,000 gallons of rainwater annually. A tree planted in the proper place can save 56% annually on the cost of air-conditioning. Evergreens can block winter winds and save 3% in heating cost. A study published by [nature.org](http://nature.org) in March 2021 says that 1.7 billion trees, in addition to the 1.3 billion trees currently being planted, for a total of 3 billion trees, will need to be planted each year on reforestable land by 2040 in order to combat climate change and to recover from our severe wildfires. Both public and private lands must be used to accomplish this task. If you are like me, that is difficult to imagine.

The journey begins with the seed. Pine trees produce tiny seeds inside the cone; the seeds make their way out of the cone in one of three ways. The cone matures and opens and the seeds drop out. This is sometimes a two-year process. The cones may be exposed to low intense heat during a wildfire and the cone opens and they are able to drop out. Or the cones are collected, taken to a warehouse, placed onto large wooden trays and dried in gas fired kilns that are heated to 105-110 degrees. After several days of drying the cones are tossed in a tumbler and the seeds are separated out.

We need to stop here for this unpaid solicitation. Collection of a wide variety of seeds is done primarily by volunteers. This is a great way for your club to get involved. Contact your local Forestry Service Headquarters and they should be able to direct you to an appropriate agency with whom you can organize a day to volunteer or plant.

A ponderosa pine takes about seven years to mature and then the pinecone takes another two years to produce viable seeds. One pound of Ponderosa Pine sees is anywhere from 7,000 to 23,000 seeds.

Next time we'll learn about the Seed Extractor Facilities and the Nurseries. The United States has two Seed Extractor Facilities and six Nurseries. Within the boundaries of the PRGC there is one Seed Extraction Facility and four Nurseries. Do you know if there is a Seed Extractor or a Nursery in your state?

As promised, this is an update on the 2020 and 2021 Wildfire Season summarized by the National Interagency Fire Center. Just a reminder the 2022 fire season has already begun. Please make sure your club is made aware and uses caution in the out of doors.

<u>Total Fires</u>	<u>Acres Burned</u>	<u>Cost</u>
<u>2020</u>		
58,950	10,122,336	\$2.3 billion

<u>2021</u>		
58,985	7,125,643	\$4.4 billion

*Information resources for this article are from Greg M. Peters of the National Forest Foundation, Forest Research and Outreach, and the National Interagency Fire Center and [nature.org](http://nature.org); thank you.*

## One Green World – Gumball Gazing Ball

*By Brynn Tavasci, PRGC Historian*

Materials:

- Old globe
- Waterproof adhesive
- Tiles
- Grout
- Gumball machine base or similar pedestal stand that supports a large ball.

Procedure:

Glue tiles to globe. Let dry. Apply grout to fill in gaps, remove excess with damp sponge. Allow to cure, apply penetrating sealer, and polish with soft cloth.



**PRGC Life Membership**

*By Tanja Swanson, Life Membership Chairman*

Have you ever thought about giving one of your members a Pacific Region Life Membership?

The price of the pin is \$75 and what makes this recognition so great is that besides honoring your member you will also donate to the Pacific Region Scholarship fund.

In my Club we give the President a State Life Membership after her term and our District gives a Region Life Membership to our District Director. But there are many more members who are deserving, of course. I know of one Club who picks someone in their Club every year. It depends on the size of your Club.

I am the Pacific Region Life Membership chair. I was hoping you would keep me busy during my term, but I am sad to say that I have gotten only one request for a Pacific Region Life Membership.

It is such a wonderful way of recognizing someone in your Club, District or State for all their contributions to our organization. Please think about all the members who you would like to honor in this way. They will proudly wear their pin at all Garden Club functions!

You can find the application form on the website: <https://pacificregiongardenclubs.org/life-membership>

**Plant America**

*By Debbie Spiller, Plant America Chairman*

The theme for NGC National President Mary Warshauer's term is "Plant America - Play Outdoors."

I want to encourage your club to plan and execute a "Plant America" project. It does not have to be grandiose to be great, nor huge to meet all the requirements of receiving a monetary grant from NGC. NGC Plant America projects focus on involving gardens and gardening, the core of what many NGC clubs do exclusively. Plant America financial grants support the main reason that many people say they join a garden club - to learn about gardening! (And I thought they joined for the cookies and potlucks!)

The Pine Lake GC in Sammamish, Washington applied for and received a Plant America Grant. They partnered with the Sammamish Botanical Garden Society, creating The Heritage Garden Project in a new City of Sammamish Park. Club President Nan Gordon states: "The garden demonstrates heritage plants which might have been found at early home sites in the Northwest, including a large herb selection, fruiting trees, vegetables and flowering shrubs." Their project involved putting in a bench and they received money towards the plants. The new park has a settlement era historic house (moved to the property) that Mrs. Freed, a former member of the Pine Lake Garden Club, lived in. What a great way to connect with the past!



Plant America projects can encompass any and every aspect of gardening, horticulture, garden design, and community service.

The Illahee GC in Randle, Washington also received a Plant America Grant. The club has installed and maintains its Illahee Roadside Park along White Pass which is US Highway 12, a United States Scenic Byway. White Pass goes over the Cascade Mountain Range and the roadside park is a wonderful pause to stop and stretch your legs! The Illahee GC had previously installed a Blue Star Marker in the park and now with their Plant America Grant added a new Flower Bed at the marker base. The improvements also included a pedestrian pathway of native plants, and with grant money they were able to have permanent

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**Martha Jackson** is a **GEM** because her tireless energy and enthusiasm have kept the El Cerrito Garden Club active, fundraising and growing during the pandemic. She is "priceless."

~ Anna Frankfurt

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**Vicki Yuen** is a **GEM** because she continues to serve PRGC creating a fabulous WACONIAH which comes out quarterly.

~ Lana Finegold

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*By Judy Unrine, Pollinators Chairman*

identification signage made. They also printed an informative pamphlet that is available at the beginning of their Native Plant Pathway that includes information on Native Americans who peopled the region, settlers who arrived in the area and information about the native plants on the path.

Plant America and its financial grants can apply to every kind of garden:

- Blue Star plantings
- Vegetable gardens
- Community gardens
- Container gardening
- Neighborhood plantings
- Urban farms
- Low-water xeriscape gardens
- and more.

Projects in local communities are what distinguish NGC from the work of other gardening organizations. Towns, cities, neighborhoods, and roadsides across the United States are all beneficiaries of National Garden Clubs projects.

Grant Guidelines for 2021-2022 for Plant America projects:

Garden Clubs and Members may apply for Plant America Grants up to \$1,000.00, to be used for direct expenses of projects. Projects applying for grants may be a joint venture with another organization/s. The scope of these projects in communities may include:

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

The website link for Plant America Grant Applications:

[https://www.gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/plant-america-grant-application-2021-2022\\_0.pdf](https://www.gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/plant-america-grant-application-2021-2022_0.pdf)

Get out there and get gardening!

Plant America!



**Kristie Livreri** is a **GEM** because she not only co-chaired our 2022 convention with Vicki Yuen, she also finds time to award PRGC scholarships. ~Lana Finegold

Pollinator populations are declining. Science suggests that there are multiple factors including loss of habitat and food sources, viruses and pests, diseases, and pesticide exposure.

Since early 2000, large-scale death of bees has been blamed on Colony Collapse. European honeybees are dying as a result of a tracheal mite. Miticide helped with the problem until the mites developed resistance to the miticide.

Another explanation for the phenomenon of so many pollinators dying is exposure to insecticides. While many of us do not use insecticides, the agricultural industry does. Neonicotinoids, a group of chemical pesticides, are used on a wide variety of crops. Corn and soybean seeds are soaked in these pesticides before they are planted. Neonicotinoids are also commonly used on turf, ornamentals, pets (flea treatment), and for other commercial indoor and outdoor purposes.

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) requires that pesticides be registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In 2020 the EPA issued a decision to continue the widespread use of Neonicotinoidal insecticides, commonly known as "neonics." The seven EPA registered Neonicotinoid chemicals are: acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, thiacloprid, and nithiazine.

The action of the EPA to continue registration of Neonicotinoids in 2020 was taken despite their acknowledging that the currently permitted use of these neurotoxicity pesticides pose risk to birds, bees, small mammals, aquatic invertebrate species that are critical food sources for fish and other wildlife, and human health.

While it is commonly said that Neonicotinoids are not harmful to humans, the breakdown product of imidacloprid, desnitro-imidacloprid, has been found to be quite toxic to mice.

The EPA has said it will work with industry to develop and implement the best management practices. In its interim report, the EPA proposed ways to mitigate the effect of these chemicals on the environment, pollinators, and humans:

1. Reduce the amount of pesticide used and keep the pesticide on the intended target.
2. Reduce occupational hazards by wearing and using additional protective equipment.

3. Limit exposure to bees by restricting the spraying of pesticides when plants are blooming.
4. Label packaging and advise homeowners not to use Neonicotinoid products.
5. Cancel spray uses of imidacloprid on residential turf.

While the EPA's measures are helpful, they omit the real solution. Stop the widespread use of Neonicotinoid pesticides. As long as these pesticides are in use, humans and pollinators are at risk, and our environment is threatened.

***Pollinator Picture***

*By Phyllis Olson, Youth Chairman*



I gave a pollinator class to our Dufur school sixth graders. I challenged the students to draw a picture of themselves, as if you were a pollinator and name it. Jessica Lamb is my winner. This is her as a humbat. Yes, we have her parent release form. I think it is awesome.

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When's the best time to wash your Slinky?

During spring cleaning.

***Good News from Promise Trees Project***

*By Tanja Swanson, Promise Trees Chairman*



More than 4000 families in Oregon lost their homes, their memories and their sense of place in the September 2020 fires. Slowly some of these families have rebuilt their homes and some are ready to plant trees.

Our Promise Trees team worked hard to find distribution points for the \$50 Tree vouchers. In some places the County building permit departments are giving out the vouchers because they know exactly who is eligible. In other places long term relief organizations have lists of the affected people. Fire departments have been helpful making the contacts.

After some challenges we also had to go out and find nurseries that would honor the vouchers and once they understood what it was all about they enthusiastically wanted to participate!

So Hurrah! The first vouchers went out! We had enough money to cover the more than 500 that were needed. We can't give out more unless we raise more money.

Once again I would like to thank everyone who so generously donated to our Promise Trees Project. But we aren't done and if you haven't donated yet the Promise Trees Project needs your help!

Any questions, please contact me Tanja Swanson, [tanjandy@gmail.com](mailto:tanjandy@gmail.com)

Please send your donations to:

Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Peggy Trees, P.O. Box 1418, Sherwood, Oregon 97140

[peggytrees97@gmail.com](mailto:peggytrees97@gmail.com)

Thank you so much! Tanja Swanson Promise Trees chair.

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**Launa Gould** is a **GEM** because she wanted to learn a new skill - PRGC Webmaster, and she put in the time to learn and excel. Huge THANKS. ~Lana Finegold

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## ***Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication***

*By Carol Parrott, Arizona Blue Star Memorial Co-Chairman*



Gold Canyon Garden Club is proud to announce the dedication of a Blue Star Memorial at Boyce Thompson Arboretum. The Blue Star Memorial was dedicated on Veteran's Day, November 11, 2021.

The dedication featured a presentation of colors, military tributes, live music, and guest speakers. The Executive Director of the Arboretum, Lynne Nemeth, sang Gold Bless America. It was a very moving ceremony.

The Blue Star was placed near the Visitor's Center as you enter the arboretum, freely accessible to all.

Gold Canyon Garden Club planted six native agaves to represent the six branches of our military: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy and Space Force. Native plants and wildflower seeds were planted to complement the design. Spring will bring a potpourri of color to our beloved Blue Star Memorial.

A reception followed on the Arboretum's patio where attendees lingered to enjoy the day.



Gold Canyon Garden Club is honored that this is the first Blue Star Memorial in our state that has been placed in a renowned botanical garden. Boyce Thompson Arboretum is the oldest and largest botanical garden in the state of Arizona; it is one of the oldest botanical institutions west of the Mississippi River.

Gold Canyon Garden Club is honored to have placed a Blue Star Memorial in such a magnificent setting.

## ***Good GEM News***

*By Michele Noe, GEMs Chairman*



For those attending the PRGC Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada, April 25-27, **GEM** order forms were available for your convenience.

The **GEM** order form is also available online at <https://pacificregiongardenclubs.org>. Click on the **GEM ORDER FORM** button to download and make as many copies as needed.

Thank you for considering future **GEM** purchases.

## ***Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.***

*By Marcia Brown, President*

We held our second Flower Show since Covid closed us down. What a delight to see all the tables with Horticulture! Everyone is so happy to share their growing successes again. The Design tables were also a vision of beauty. This was an NGC Small Standard Flower Show, just enough to get back into the fun of designing. "Dancing in the Street" was the title.

More Flower Shows coming up: April 9 - Sunset Garden Club; April 16 - Las Vegas Valley Rose Society; April 23-24 - Las Vegas Iris Society.

Besides the excitement of the Flower Shows, we are also preparing for the Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. 78th Annual Convention to be held April 25-27, 2022. Lana Finegold, Pacific Region Director, will be with us and the National Garden Club President Mary Warshauer will be her guest.

This is a wake-up time for our gardens. What fun to "Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow". The herbs are ready for picking, and our roses are beginning to bloom. The trees are also in bloom. Do get out and enjoy.

## ***Issue Deadline***

The deadline for the August 2022 issue is 6-30-22.

## Flower Show Schools

By Marva Lee Peterschick, FSS Chairman

I attended several of the NGC Membership Zoom Presentations recently, and was impressed and refreshed on approaches to club membership. Using NGC's three headlines of **RETENTION, RECRUIT, AND RETAIN**, it made me think about Flower Show Schools and new judges.

We are in dire need of getting new judges but first let's address THE THREE R'S that NGC is using as a promotional on membership and apply the same to Flower Show Schools. Let's talk about:

**RETENTION:** Are we working enough to keep our Accredited Flower Show Judges? How do we serve their needs and make it easier for them to continue after certification? Some communities are very short on Accredited Judges.

**RECRUIT:** We have been asked to market our clubs; we must also constantly communicate to garden club members on the benefits and enjoyment of becoming a Flower Show Judge. Do we advertise by word of mouth and other means to different gardening groups about Flower Show School? Make each member of your club an ambassador to promote membership and become a Flower Show Judge. Go on Social Media, spread the word. A prospective new student to FSS does not need to be a NGC member when starting a series of schools but must become a member before she completes the series.

**RETAIN:** How many times has a garden club member gone through Flower Show School, became Accredited, and then gave it up when they needed to refresh for the first time? The local Judges Council has an obligation to promote interesting and exciting activities at their meetings and within their community. Discuss the problems your judges might be experiencing; let's use the three R's to promote Flower Show School. We have important tools, and I am sure NGC would be happy to hear we are using their approach. Go for 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: [GCII.org](http://GCII.org)
- Alaska: [AlaskaGardenClubs.org](http://AlaskaGardenClubs.org)
- Hawaii: None

## Youth Projects

By Tanja Swanson, Youth Projects Chairman



Is your Club or District working with Youth?

Often I hear it's difficult to get the teachers to make time for a garden activity. But there are other ways to reach out to youth besides through schools.

Here in Klamath Falls, Oregon we have a small District with three Clubs, so we do lots of things together such as the Fair, Flower Shows and Plant Sales and we do lots of youth projects together too. Not necessarily in schools, but with the library or during street fairs.

The most rewarding events are the Third Thursdays Street Fairs. In June, July and August the Downtown Association organizes three hours of fun on Main Street. Our District has a booth at all three Thursdays. Sometimes we plant houseplants with the kids, sometimes herbs, other times we have made lavender sachets or each kid went home with a crown decorated with plants and grasses from our yards.

Every July, for the past twenty years we have made tiny flower arrangements in laundry lids filled with oasis. (The trick is to collect enough laundry lids, spray paint lids, or hairspray lids work also. People from all over the state help us out!) We start with buckets full of flowers (sometimes they are generously donated) and lots of greens and interesting plant material and more flowers from our yards. More than 250 of these little arrangements are made in one evening. It is exhausting, but oh so much fun! The kids are so proud and you will see them walking up and down Main Street with their flowers. Good advertisement for Garden Club! Of course we have flyers and photo permission slips available at each event!



Everyone agrees, the Garden Club booth is the best and we get to work with youth!

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### ***Our Next Generation***

*By Phyllis Olson, Youth Chairman*

Oregon has three registered youth groups this year. They are Coos Bay, Dufur Public Schools and Sunny Hills Preschool. There are many resources available to help make your youth group a success. We have contests that can be entered, grants for tools, grants for seeds, online programs etc. It has never been easier to bring education and encourage our youth. NGC has three books in publication that can be read to your classes with a short program.

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### ***Bird Migration***

*By Ann Kronenwetter, Bird Chairman*

Bird migration is a regular seasonal movement, north and south along a flyway, between breeding and wintering grounds. Billions of birds migrate every spring and fall through the United States. Birds travel mostly in the cover of darkness. The migration is driven primarily by availability of food. The migration flight follows specific routes, well-defined over long distances. Bird habitat along the route needs to be protected.

We in Pacific Region Garden Clubs are fortunate to live in the Pacific Flyway. This is an area that stretches from the Arctic to the coast of Mexico and from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific. North to south it is over 4,000 miles long. The states covered by the Pacific Flyway include Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

I just returned from a week of bird watching at Patagonia Lake, Arizona. Using my new Zeiss binoculars, I was amazed to find so many birds in the area. Birds including Gila Woodpeckers, Curved-bill Thrasher, Yellow-rumped Warblers, Northern Cardinal, Lesser Goldfinch, Hooded Oriole, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, White-crowned Sparrow, California Quail, Redwinged Blackbirds, Turkey Vultures and more. There were also many hummingbirds.

The Patton House in the town of Patagonia, Arizona is run by the Tucson Audubon Society. At this wooded site there are benches and bird feeders to view the migrating birds. There is also a webcam set up at two feeders so you can view the birds visiting the area via your computer.

I tried to find the Elegant Trogon bird but it was elusive. Maybe I will spot it on my next trip to Patagonia Lake in southeast Arizona.

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### ***California Garden Clubs, Inc.***

*By Lynne Batchelor, President*

Springtime California greetings! California garden clubs are bursting with new life this spring with many clubs and districts meeting in person for the first time in almost two years. Clubs and districts are again sponsoring schools, holding flower shows, giving garden tours, dedicating Blue Star Markers, fundraising, working in school gardens, beautifying and serving our communities, providing scholarships, educating our members and the general public, etc; we are back in full swing at last!

We are preparing for our first in-person convention since 2019 and you are all invited. It is being held in sunny San Diego from June 6-10.

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### ***PRGC Bylaws***

*By Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian*

PRGC bylaws may be amended at any Annual Convention provided that a copy of the proposed amendments shall have been printed in an issue of *WACONIAH* or sent to the *WACONIAH* distribution list, at least fifteen days prior to the meeting. Proposed changes have been emailed to the distribution list and will be considered at Convention. If you did not receive them or have questions about them please contact Organization Study Committee Chairman Greg Pokorski.

In addition, amendments to the Standing Rules will be considered at the board of directors meeting in Las Vegas.

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