

Round the Mountain



Mona Dunlop
District Director
mdunlop@pacbell.net

Diablo Foothills District, Inc.
Member of California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Pacific Region, National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Linda Holmes
Round the Mountain, Editor
pljn@aol.com



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Diablo Foothills District
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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

My theme for this year is, "Cherish the Earth".

We must never forget the terrorist attack on our Country, which occurred on September 11, 2001, twenty years ago... So many lives lost and the heroism of the First Responders must always be remembered.

With all the chaos that's going on in our world, Global warming, fires destroying our beautiful forests and homes, what is happening in Afghanistan.....it is more important than ever that we appreciate and cherish our earth. We need to continue to learn and educate ourselves and others and find more ways of protecting and preserving our surroundings.

As Garden Clubs, we are doing an important part in staying informed and educating others on ways to care for our earth.

The next District meeting will be October 28th at Heather Farm. More information follows in this newsletter. I would love it if each club and Affiliate club would bring an arrangement in a pumpkin for the silent auction.

Please send this newsletter to your club members. Our meetings are open to all members. The program promises to be most informative. We ask that you only attend if you are fully vaccinated and wear masks during the meeting. Thank you.

I look forward to seeing many of you in October.

Mona
Diablo Foothills District Director

CGCI: What do garden clubs do for the community?

Our member organizations offer a wide range of educational programs and speakers on the latest gardening techniques, conservation, environmental issues, and the study of pollinators. **Sharing the Love of Gardening with California Youth.** In addition, garden clubs develop and participate in a variety of local, state (reforestation of burned areas), regional and national projects and floral design.

The newest CGCI State Project By Shane Looper, Chairman Upon conclusion of Project Mission Blue with Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy that raised \$23,000+ from 2011-2021, a new five-year project was approved by the Board of Directors, **Black Point Historic Gardens.** It is approximately one-acre in size overlooking Aquatic Park, strategically located near Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco's tourist district where 10-12 million people from all over the world visit.

The gardens have been neglected since 1972 but are an important site for public enjoyment as well as environmental and social education through community engagement. It is an ideal place to demonstrate/showcase a garden that encourages urban wildlife including birds, pollinators and small mammals in addition to the visibility of California Garden Clubs, Inc. involvement with signage and presence.

CGCI has adopted this project to raise funds to:

- ♦ Plant plants keeping with the historical aspect of Black Point to recreate a strolling garden and to design crucial urban wildlife corridors,
- ♦ Acquire garden tools and compost to assist in the restoration of the gardens,
- ♦ In exchange, CGCI's logo will appear on acrylic plant signs in the garden and be promoted on GGNPC's social media.

Local CGCI clubs can also participate by growing plants for the garden, and/or adopting an area of the garden, Maintain Black Point Historic Gardens, within its historical context, as a site for public enjoyment, horticultural, environmental and social education, community engagement as well as for the arts. CGCI is excited to have the opportunity to raise money for this newest project in partnership with Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy.

Donations of any amount are welcome. Please make checks payable to CGCI and mail to this chairman at 213 Carmelo Lane, So. San Francisco, CA 94080-2204. We appreciate your support!



Butterflies do not have taste buds. They taste with their feet. They stand on their food to get a sense of it and then decide if they want to eat it or not.

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Diablo Foothills District Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2021
Location: Garden of Linda Holmes, Alamo, CA

Call to Order: District Director, Mona Dunlop called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Inspiration: Cathie Moog, DBGC read 'Pass through this world once'

Introduction of Board Members: Mona introduced Assistant Director, Elaine Billeter; Recording Secretary, Linda Cruz; and Treasurer, Audrey Marlovits.

Roll Call: Secretary, Linda Cruz, took roll. Representatives were present from Blackhawk Bloomers Garden Club; Clayton Valley GC, Discovery Bay GC, Livermore-Amador Valley GC, and Walnut Creek GC and Affiliates, Gardens at Heather Farm and Ruth Bancroft Garden. It was reported that Antioch-Riverview GC has disbanded.

Minute Approval: Secretary, Linda Cruz, passed out copies of minutes from Virtual Meeting on February 25, 2021 for review. Minutes were emailed to attendees on April 4, 2021 for review. Minutes need to be approved at next meeting.

Treasurer Report: Audrey Marlovits provided a financial report (copy attached) Note: Mona suggested donations from participants to help cover the cost of the speaker fee today.

Penny Pines Report: Jeri Stark reported some forests are not open. Call specific forests prior to sending in your applications.

Fundraiser: Elaine Billeter reported all 100 Monarch Books by Cathie Moog were sold.

DFD Award Presentations: Jane Berger reported 5 entries were received by 4 clubs.

Ruby Wagstaff of Clayton Valley GC won "Propagator of the Year" and \$25.

Cathie Moog of Discovery Bay GC won "Floral Arranger of the Year" and \$25.

There were no submissions for "Container Gardener of the Year" received prior to the deadline.

Note: Jane reported PLEASE submit applications by the deadlines to allow time for judging.

Mona presented the **Petunia Award to Cathie Moog and to Linda Holmes.**

California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI)/Pacific Region (PR) & National Awards: Mona reported she turned in Blue Ribbon Certificate applications for all District clubs. All DFD clubs are now Blue-Ribbon Clubs.

Clayton Valley Garden Club received CGCI's First Place for Award #11, "Achievement for a Single Event" and \$75 which was their on-line Plant Sale during the Covid shut down.

Clayton Valley Garden Club also received **Pacific Region Garden Clubs** First Place for Award #11 "Club Fundraising Project or Event."

Discovery Bay received the CGCI Award #78 Sweepstakes Award for most awards for Class II clubs (20-29 members)

Award #12 First Place for Club Programs and \$25

Award #17 First Place for Unique Backyard Enhancement and \$75 to Marge Hergert

Award #22 Second Place for Container Grown Vegetable and \$25 to Aprill McBeth

Honorable Mention for Award #50 Club Newsletter

Honorable Mention for Award #54 Yearbook

Continued from previous page:

Old Business: Mona asked for nominations and then for volunteers for the following DFD positions:

Director;

Assistant Director; and

Secretary. There were none. Mona reminded participants that money is budgeted for travel to Conventions and CGCI Board meetings.

Mona offered to serve one more year as District Director as there were no nominations.

As no nominations or volunteers were received for Recording Secretary, Mona will alternate asking each club to provide a member to record minutes.

Next meeting will be October 28 and Blackhawk Bloomers will be asked to provide a recording secretary in the interim. Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of the months of February, June, and October usually at the Elks Lodge in Walnut Creek.

Clayton Valley will be asked to provide a recording secretary in February 2022 and

Discovery Bay will be asked in June of 2022.

Mona also asked for volunteers to work on a Bylaw Committee. Audrey Marlovits of WCGC will head the committee. Gloria Utley of CVGC volunteered.

CGCI Virtual Convention Report: Audrey Marlovits provided a report (copy attached)
Break for lunch.

Presentation: Mona introduced **Shawna Anderson of Orchard Nursery in Lafayette**


As always, Shawna, provided new tips and gave a beautiful presentation with two large pots designing each with a filler, spiller, thriller; one for sun and one for shade. The pots were auctioned off at \$150 each.

Next DFD Meeting: October 28, 2021 at Elks Lodge in Walnut Creek pending confirmation

Meeting Adjourned: 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary, Linda Cruz, July 8, 2021

NOTE: After the meeting, as there were no nominations for Recording Secretary, Linda Cruz volunteered to serve as Recording Secretary for one more year or as needed.



Please share your love and deepest sympathy to Jeri Stark, of LAVGC and DFD Penny Pines Chair, for the recent loss of her son. This, coming after the loss of her daughter last year making the loss even more difficult.
Know our hearts are with you, Jeri



Recap of June Meeting:



District Propagator of the Year 2021 won by Ruby Wagstaff of CVGC
Prize accepted by LindaJean Cruz



District Petunia Award winners 2021
—Cathie Moog for her book and sales efforts on behalf of DFD
And Linda Holmes for production of newsletter and district communications.



District Floral Arranger 2021—Cathie Moog of DBGC



Guest Speaker: *Shawna Anderson of Orchard Nursery.*
Presentation: *Building Decorative Pots for Sun and Shade: Fillers, Spillers, and Thrillers.*



Diablo Foothills District

Meeting:

October 28, 2021
9:30 am social time
10:00 pm meeting starts

Location:

The Gardens at Heather Farm
(lower level meeting room)
1540 Marchbanks Dr.
Walnut Creek

Program:

“Ways to Save Water in your Garden”
(Not limited to succulents)

By Anna and Karen Zakaria
Anna, owner of “4SuraGarden”
Karen, owner of SucculentWares

***All fully vaccinated club members are welcome
(masks are required)
Hand sanitizer will be available***

Please RSVP no later than October 22nd
To Linda Holmes pljn@aol.com

OCTOBER

DFD

MEETING

GUEST

SPEAKERS



Cousins-in-law, Anna and Karen Zakaria, are co-founders of The Contra Costa Succulent Garden Club. They have been presenting educational workshops for over 7 years since they were certified as docents at The Ruth Bancroft Garden. Although succulents initiated their passion for gardening, they have since incorporated other water-wise flora into their hobby. You'll often find them at local pop-up boutiques where they sell hand-crafted creations made from foraged or thrifted items.

"food" for thought:

WHO IS TO BLAME FOR OUR SNAILS?

Many garden pests were introduced into California accidentally, usually in shipments brought in from other countries or U. S. states. However, some serious garden and agricultural pests have been introduced deliberately. The common brown garden snail is one. Here is an explanation of how it happened from an article published in 1900.

First, among the land shells we find the well known snail *Helix aspersa*, a common European species, largely used for food on the continent and familiar to persons who have patronized the restaurants of Paris. This species was intentionally introduced or 'planted', in California over forty years ago by Mr. A. Delmas, of San Jose, Santa Clara county, who brought the stock from France and turned it out among the vineyards on the west bank of the Guadalupe, a small river that flows northerly through Santa Clara Valley ... The introduction of *H. aspersa* by Mr. Delmas was made for edible purposes, or in common parlance 'with an eye to the pot'.

Article from CVGC August Newsletter



DIABLO FOOTHILLS DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT **From 6/23/21 to 9/30/21**

BALANCE ON HAND 6/23/21 (First Republic Bank checking acct) \$6,686.76

CASH RECEIPTS

2021-22 Membership dues	\$788.00
Interest for May - August	\$0.00
June meeting - auction and donations	\$415.00
June meeting - plant sale	\$35.00
Penny Pines donation June meeting	\$40.70

TOTAL CASH RECEIVED \$1,278.70

CASH DISBURSEMENTS

Ruby Wagstaff, Propagator of the Year Award	\$25.00
Cathie Moog, Flower Arranger of the Year Award	\$25.00
Shawana Anderson, June program presenter	\$300.00
plants, etc. from Orchard Nursery, reimburse Mona Dunlop	\$200.00
Gardens of Heather Farm room rental Oct 2021 & Feb 2022	\$240.00

TOTAL CASH DISBURSEMENTS \$790.00

BALANCE ON HAND September 30, 2021 \$7,175.46

Earmarked Penny Pines funds	\$103.10
one year Reserves	\$3,000.00
	\$3,103.10

WORKING FUND \$4,072.36

Balance on hand	\$7,175.46
First Republic Bank CD--balance on 4/16/21	\$1,949.26
	\$9,124.72

Audrey Marlovits, Treasurer 09/2021



CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

- California Garden Clubs Inc. has changed its address. The new mailing address is:
P.O. Box 823 San Fernando, California 91341-0823

CGCI Fall Board Meeting

October 18-22, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

[Registration Form](#) on californisgardenclubs.org

- February 7-9, 2022 Winter Board Meeting Airtel Plaza Hotel, Van Nuys Chairman: Rita Desilets
- June 6-10, 2022 CGCI Convention Hanblery Hotel, San Diego Chairman: Sharon Tooley



CGCI website has been “remodeled”...take a few moments of your time to look and see how things have changed. It is more user friendly.

Important areas of note:

Under the AWARDS tab: CGCI MANUAL, NCG Awards. Pacific Region Awards, Judging Guidelines, Blue Ribbon Certification Quite a number of awards have a deadline of December 1st—so please take a look and get your club moving!

Under the FORMS tab: Group Tax Exemption Program (GTEP) various forms (i.e. Organization Information Sheet and General Non-Profit/Charity Related forms (i.e. Raffle Registration and Report Forms) Some of these are government required reports, do make sure your treasurer is actively aware of what needs to be completed.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL: Learn Principles of Landscape Design Series 27 Courses 1, 2, 3, 4

Instructor: Course 1, 2, 3

Dale Pollard, Arborist

Professor Modesto Junior College, retired

Environmental Horticulture,

Board Member Director Curator at the

Hughson Arboretum

Instructor: Course 4

Elias Armenta, Professor

Merced Community College

School of Landscape Horticulture

Landscape Design, Landscape Construction

Landscape Maintenance

LODGING

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

3001 Hotel Drive, Turlock 95380

209-664-9999

Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott

3301 Countryside Drive, Turlock 95380

209-668-3800

Candlewood Suites

1000 Powers Court, Turlock 95380

209-250-1501

RV Campground, StanCo Fairgrounds

\$35/night. Full hook-ups.

Reservations: 209-668-1333

Pictured right: NGC
Landscape Design Consultant
pin (\$24). Available online:
www.gardenclub.org



CERTIFICATION

The Consultant Certification Card is issued by National Garden Clubs, Inc. to garden club members after completion of the Landscape Design School Courses 1, 2, 3, 4 with a passing grade of 70% or more on each course exam.

After passing two courses, a student becomes a Provisional Consultant and may join a Consultants Council. For information go to:
<http://gardenclub.org/resources/ngc-es-gs-ld-schools-guide-for-students-and-consultants.pdf>.

To remain in good standing, Consultants must continue their education by attending a Refresher or a Landscape Design School course by the end of 3 calendar years after becoming a Consultant or last Refreshing. No exam is required. After the fourth Refresher, the Consultant becomes a Master Consultant. Refresher credit can be earned only once within a calendar year.

Brent Hendrix, School Chairman
Valley Lode District
P.O. Box 1234, Corvallis, OR 97331



Landscape Design School

*The Fine Art of
Design in Landscape*

Series 27 Courses 1, 2, 3, 4

January, February, March 2022

Sponsored by

Valley Lode District

Serving the counties of
Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Tuolumne, Colusa, Colusa,
Amador, Alpine, Mono



California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL: The fine art of Design in the Landscape.

Series 27 Courses 1, 2, 3, 4

REGISTRATION FORM

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Area Code/Telephone		
Email		
Garden Club name		
State where school records are held		

Check all that apply. Fee includes NGC Certification

- ☐ Course 1 January 15, 16, 2022 \$ 75.00
- ☐ Course 2 February 12, 13, 2022 \$ 75.00
- ☐ Course 3 February 26, 27, 2022 \$ 75.00
- ☐ Course 4 March 12, 13, 2022 \$ 75.00

Total Remittance \$ _____

Registration includes complimentary refreshments and lunches. Special dietary requests cannot be accommodated.

For Course credit complete and send NGC schools form 6-2020 (or form 7-2020 to Refresh) electronically to registrar Barbara Hawkins at: cgbh@att.net.

Registration with payment and Form 6 or 7 MUST be received at least two weeks prior to Course start date.

NO refund for cancellation received within one week of Course start date.

Credit/Debit Card accepted – PayPal

_____ exp: _____

Make checks payable to: Valley Lode District

Mail registration and payment to:
Berni Hendrix
P O Box 1234
Ceres, CA 95307

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL DATES

- Course 1** January 15, 16, 2022
- Course 2** February 12, 13, 2022
- Course 3** February 26, 27, 2022
- Course 4** March 12, 13, 2022

**Note: Those refreshing or those not wishing to become a NGC Landscape Design Consultant need not take the course exams.*

8:30 a.m. Registration (check-in)

8:45 a.m. Announcements / Introductions

9:00 a.m. Class begins

3:00-4:00 p.m. Class ends

Required Reading: *The National Gardener* magazine available online only.
"A Brief History of Urban Garden Programs In the United States" by Laura Lawson. (This is reference for Course 4, History and Development of Community Gardens).
"Guide for Students and Consultants", NGC

SCHOOL LOCATION & DIRECTIONS

StanCo Fairgrounds Floriculture Building
900 North Broadway, Turlock, CA 95380

From Hwy 99, take Fulkerth Road exit, turn east; continue to Golden State Blvd; turn right; StanCo Fairgrounds is on the right. Enter through the arch entrance. Free parking.

CONTACT:

Berni Hendrix, Schools Chairman, VLD
209-402-2351
Email: schoolsvld@gmail.com

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL

OBJECTIVES:

National Garden Clubs, Inc. has created the Landscape Design School Courses - a series of four courses designed to:

- Develop a greater sense of appreciation, pride and knowledge about our private, public and historical gardens.
- Become better informed in order to promote positive changes in our surroundings to encourage beauty, utility, convenience, sound ecological practice and ease of maintenance.
- Encourage a better understanding of the landscape design process to promote landscapes that will sustain sound management.
- Stimulate interest in all phases of landscape design, including community planning.
- Develop a contingent of qualified Landscape Design Consultants to serve in such decision-making areas of public life as providing leadership, educational programs, scholarships, awards and promoting better landscape design.

The Landscape Design School curriculum has been developed by *National Garden Clubs, Inc.* and is then customized by the course instructors.

Classes are open to the public as well as to garden club members. The program consists of a series of four 2-day courses. Each course is 10 hours long.

Alexis Slafer, CGCI LDS Chairman
email: aslafer@ca.rr.com

DISTRICT CLUBS:

Blackhawk Bloomers. Cindy Inloes, President

Discovery Bay Garden Club. Nancy Dyer, President

From the Discovery Bay Garden Club September newsletter, an interesting bit of information:

September meeting set a good pace. 2021-2022 Programs include Pumpkin decorating, an outing to Pt. Richmond Palm Nursery, Peony and Iris Farm in Milpitas Hills and a trip to Amador Flower Farm next June.

For those of you who have been watching this club—there is a history with Monarch Butterflies. They built a garden in Discovery Bay and it is still going strong....recently a member even added a "butterfly house"! Well Done!

Clayton Valley Garden Club. Linda Jean Cruz and Gloria Utley, Co Presidents

As usual, Clayton Valley Garden Club has been very active this summer:

Growing plants at our Hoop House project for future fundraisers, Community projects, Blue Star Memorial, Library and Clayton Museum Garden.

In **June** our first fieldtrip in over a year to the Lafayette Community Garden & Outdoor Learning Center (we highly recommend);

in **July** having a "Welcome Back Pizza Party" for the first in-person meeting in a Year where we honored members with Penny Pines awards, CGCI Longevity Awards (over 20 years with CVGC), CGCI & DFD Awards, CGCI Business Commendations, and 2 scholarships to deserving High School graduates;

When given permission, recording our virtual presentations and posting on the Clayton Valley Garden Club Facebook site. In **August** we held our Annual Membership Appreciation BBQ;

in September we begin a Fall online Plant Sale and introducing for the first time Bonsai's at www.ClaytonValleyGardenClub.org

For **September** we will have our 1st Progressive CVGC Member Garden Tour where we will visit one member's vegetable garden and share various appetizers, next stop will be at a member's beautiful garden with running creek bed and pond within an aviary her son built to raise his exotic ducks while enjoying finger foods. The last stop will be at a member's hillside home with views of the entire valley showing Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, Martinez, and across the Carquinez Strait with dessert and wine during a beautiful sunset.



Left: Welcome back meeting of CVGC

Right: Recognition For CVGC members with over 20 years of service



Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club: Jeri Stark, President

From the LAVGC September newsletter: This is a very active club. Each month there are numerous activities that can cover your interests: Zoom meetings on "Protecting Gardens During Drought" and "Edible Gardening". Work parties to take care of various local gardens, and from the September newsletter a special note to a member:

"You may notice a name is missing on the Eden Garden Update – Beth's! Beth has contributed so much to Eden over the years, most notably the pollinator garden she created. She has also worked diligently on growing our herbs and has plans for a herb spiral. More behind the scenes, Beth has kept us all on track with planning documents, our newsletters and often a voice of reason! We are so grateful for all that Beth has done for the Eden Garden and are even more grateful that she will continue on as a volunteer, making sure that the pollinator garden is taken care of and spear heading our efforts with herbs."

Northern California Camelia Society: Justin Bergamini, President

Walnut Creek Garden Club: Elinor Hernon and Maureen Little, Co-Presidents

From WCGC September "The Red Rose" Newsletter.

A Celebration of 70 years and a claim to fame of being the oldest garden club in Contra Costa County.

And a request that you SAVE THE DATE:

**Thursday, April 21, 2022
11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Crow Canyon Country Club ..711 Silver Lake Dr.
Danville**



Mark Your Calendars for the WCGC Fundraiser

Because of you, our virtual fundraiser in 2021 was a success however, after two cancellations of the in-person fundraiser, we are looking forward to gathering again.

**Luncheon & Fundraiser for the Community Outreach Programs of the
Walnut Creek Garden Club**

**featuring
TV Host of Open Road (Formerly Bay Area Back Roads)
Journalist & Environmentalist: Doug McConnell**

<https://www.ruthbancroftgarden.org>



[CA NATIVES IN DRY GARDENS-](#) (webinar)* **Sept 22nd (Wed)**

Join Mariano Resendiz for a lecture about how you can create a habitat for beneficial wildlife including native pollinators and soil microorganisms that requires fewer pesticides, fertilizer, and water.

**Note: Webinars are recorded so you can watch them when your schedule allows during the following week.*

The Gardens at Heather Farm enriches the community through the beauty and environmental stewardship of our gardens, provides educational programs for adults and children, and offer venues for social and cultural events.



ART AND BLOOMS! A GARDEN STROLL CELEBRATING ART IN THE GARDEN

Saturday, September 18th, 4-6 p.m.

We will be featuring Heather Martin's artwork in an afternoon garden stroll. Enjoy live music by cellist, Pawel Walerowski, and learn more about The Gardens by chatting with our docents.

Join us for a relaxing afternoon surrounded by art and blooms, while helping us raise funds to support The Gardens. Admission includes a complementary beverage.

\$15.00 per person for Members \$20.00 for Non-Members **Tickets must be purchased in advance.**

Fall Plant Sales:

September 4, 8 am to 1 pm.

October 2, 8 am to 1 pm

November 6, 8 am to 12 pm