



SILVER STATE GARDENER



Volume XXIII, Issue 1

Winter 2016

President's Message



President Vicki Yuen

The start of a new year – a time to re-evaluate our priorities and our lives. I hope you've spent a little time on this, both personally and for your Garden Club activities. Maybe you could take on a larger role in your club, or at the State level. There are opportunities for everyone to grow, in your garden and in your life.

The registration form for the Region Convention is now on

our website, and will soon appear in the WACONIAH (Regional newsletter), along with a tentative schedule of events. Please don't wait too long to register! It is difficult to finalize plans when people wait until the last minute to sign up. You have certainly experienced this in your life, waiting for RSVPs and so forth. So, don't be that guy. Wishing you all a happy, healthy 2016!

2016 National Garden Club Pacific Region Convention – April 5 thru April 7, 2016

The excitement is growing as Nevada prepares to welcome NGC garden club members from Washington, Arizona, California, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska and Hawaii to our beautiful state. Our Theme is "Beyond The Neon". There is so much to see and do in Nevada in addition to Las Vegas, "The Entertainment Capital of the World". Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc. is **THE HOST** for this Convention. We need our members to attend the convention and welcome our guests from the other 7 states. A convention like this is a wonderful opportunity to meet garden club

members from other states, share information and make new friends.

The excitement will begin with an all-day preconvention tour on April 4. We will start the tour with a narrated bus ride through Henderson and Boulder City to Hoover Dam. At the dam we will be able to go down to the power generation area or visit the Hoover Dam Museum/Visitor Center or both (the tour to the power generators requires walking through tunnels). We will have a box lunch at the dam then take a bus ride to the Lake Mead Marina for an afternoon boat

ride on Lake Mead to the back side of Hoover Dam.

We have planned great workshops and a program on "Attracting Birds to Our Habitats" by the former president of the Red Rock Audubon Society. Attendees will have a choice of an afternoon tour of Springs Preserve or to stay at the resort for workshops. We will end each of the three convention days with an evening banquet at the Green Valley Resort with great food and entertainment. One of the highlights of the convention will be the Floral Design Banquet with a presentation by Helga Sallmon a top floral designer that comes to us by flying her own plane.

Location: Green Valley Ranch Resort, 2300 Paseo Verde Parkway, Henderson, NV

Hotel and registration information will be available soon on the Pacific Region Garden Clubs website: <http://www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org/>

2015-2016 Officers

- PRESIDENT: VICKI YUEN
- 1ST VICE PRESIDENT: LARRI TARVER
- 2ND VICE PRESIDENT: NANCY LEE LOESCH
- TREASURER: MURIEL SCRIVNER
- CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: JUDY STEBBINS
- RECORDING SECRETARY: ALANA SULLIVAN
- PARLIAMENTARIAN: JANE MATTHEY

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Meet Our Muriel Scrivner...



Our State Treasurer and resident Ikebana professor Muriel was born in Nebraska. When she was about nine, her father (who worked for the railroad) was transferred to Portland, Oregon, where Muriel completed high school. She joined the Air Force, and started college at night. After leaving the Air Force, she met her husband, who was a Navy man. He spent so much time at sea that he transferred to the Air Force so they could be together. Muriel's husband was transferred to Japan, which is where

her true vocation started. She returned to school there (in Japanese!), and undertook a major in Ikebana. Before she completed it, though, they were transferred to the Philippines, to a small island where they were the only "round eye" family. She started teaching Ikebana to the Filipinos, and found them very receptive. Her husband also started the Philippines' first Little League program. Both of these are still going on! They eventually requested a transfer back to Japan, so Muriel could

finish school. Ikebana has 18 levels, and after 4 more years of study, she finished the Professorship (14th) level. Even after they returned to the US, Muriel went back to Japan 16 more times to complete all 18 levels. They retired in Las Vegas, where Muriel taught for a while at CCSN, and then opened her own florist/Ikebana school, with even a small Post Office under the same roof. Now she teaches Ikebana all over the US, being one of the few high-level professors who is fluent in English.

Back to Basics, Las Vegas Iris Society

Our 2015-16 year has been great! We have some new members, Yay!! And our Board has switched positions. So everyone is in a learning mode. We began the year with a Rhizome Silent Auction as well as our door prize rhizomes. We have pictures and catalogs so we can look at the rhizome and see what it will be in the spring.

Our members brought in containers of soil from their gardens, so we were able to see and touch the differences. Our most seasoned members had the loamiest, richest, most workable soil. This shows what years of amending can do for Vegas dirt.

Christine and Mike brought in some 4-5 year old clumps. Mike set up work stations and got everyone started on how to trim the fans and roots and separate the rhizomes. We got to see how the new rhizomes form from the "mother toe" which will never bloom again. Each member took home these mystery irises to plant. We are competing to see who can identify the cultivars when they bloom.

Our next meeting using tubs of potting soil we got to actually learn hands-on how to plant rhizomes, map out our gardens, place markers. If you are going to show and sell iris you need to be sure what is

planted where. Don Fabbi gave a great presentation on gardening tools. Highlighting safety, maintenance, and types of tools.

February Cecil Taylor is going to bring in his earth worms and explain his composting worm farm setup. I visited his worm bed, believe me they are very well treated, fat and happy.

Happy growing everyone, you are always invited to visit.

Las Vegas Bonsai Society

In The November Las Vegas Bonsai society meeting was a workshop on cascade style. Several members brought their trees to work on and others brought trees to show and tell with the group. This picture is a perfect example of a cascade style bonsai. Notice that the

main branch bends down sharply over the edge of the container. In nature, you will often find this style growing on a hillside, reaching out and down seeking sun and shelter from the wind and rain.



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Rose Garden Club News

The Rose Garden Club was able to enlist the help of the Cub Scouts, Troop 922 of the Boulder Dam Area Council. They planted a variety of miniature scented daffodils in our Touch & Smell garden; this event was organized by our Pacific Region Director and Secretary of the Rose Garden Club, Kristie Livreri (on the left), State President Vicki Yuen (on the right) along with other members of the Rose Garden Club. This was a great success and the scouts will return this spring to see how their bulbs are doing and to help us to give this garden a spring clean-up.

The November meeting of the Rose Gar-



den Club was hosted by Linnea Miller Domz. Linn is Swedish and she wore traditional Swedish garb, including her clogs and the wonderful bonnet you see in the picture below. In celebration of Linn's heritage both she and Kristi Livreri served up a delightful Swedish Smorgasbord. Our Holiday Celebration was hosted by Vicki Yuen and it was a wonderful gathering with all members contributing great dishes.

In the coming months the Rose Garden Club will have its hands full with a large number of projects. We are responsible for over 150 roses bushes growing adjacent to our Touch and Smell Garden directly across from our State Garden build-



ing. These rose bushes were originally planted throughout Lorenzi Park and when the City did a remodel of the building and parking lot over 20 years ago the park was going to throw out the rose bushes. All of the Garden Clubs objected and persuaded the State Parks to not to throw them away; instead they dug up and replanted all of the rose bushes. Over the years many garden club members have stepped up to help in their care. The State Park was good enough to grant our initial request and now it's our obligation to continue to maintain them - all of the State Garden Clubs. Right now the Rose Garden Club is doing all they can to maintain them but we need more hands. Our State President and member of the Rose Garden Club, Vicki Yuen, has been feeding them with coffee grounds donated by Starbucks.

On January 23rd, weather permitting, we will be out there as a group and welcome any volunteers to help prune and clean up. The goal is to truly make these areas shine so they will look amazing in time for our convention this Spring. It's all hands on deck....we need your help!

Cactus & Succulent Society of Southern Nevada

The Cactus and Succulent Society of Southern Nevada launched the Winter/Spring Education Series. The speaker lineup up and topics included:

October: Pete Duncombe from the Springs Preserve: Irrigation

November: Jean Cote from Mountain States Wholesale Nursery: Mojave Appropriate Companion Landscape Plants

December: Bob Morris, the Xtremehorticult Consultant: Nopal Cactus

Members welcomed and appreciated these talks. The next several coming months will include guest speakers with presentations on Cactus & Succulent Propagation, Tree Botany and Pruning, Soils, Pesticides, Herbicides.

PEOPLE are CSSSN keys to success of 2015 and heading into 2016. Most of our speakers are not members of CSSSN. Rather, they are acknowledged subject matter experts through education and experience who willingly share their time and knowledge. Some of our members, (Vicki Yuen and Phil Lawton and maybe more) volunteer at the Springs Preserve (and Pete Duncombe works there). A few members (Tom Bohannon, Stephenie Thomas, Novella Holland and more) worked at or even volunteered at Moon-Sun Cactus & Koi Nursery. Some members (the whole Thomas and Murphy family at least) referred to as "Hiker Dudes," take desert walk-a-bouts and report on local finds. There is a quartet of people (guess who) involved in an ongoing effort to photo-document and publicize the

Cromwell Cactus Garden. There is the outreach to Laura Dearing Elementary School by member Bob Middag. While a few other club members donated supplies (Dick Askew and others), Bob did all the work on his own over the course of several months. Their work outside the CSSSN meetings to support the hobby and encourage the use of desert appropriate plant material builds important relationships with other people and organizations. By creating coalitions and partnerships and mutual respect, strength comes to CSSSN. These are only a few of the PEOPLE and things they do that make this affiliate Nevada Garden Club successful.

“Growing in Nevada”

SILVER STATE GARDENER



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2015-16 Officers

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The Nevada Garden Club is an association of twelve garden clubs in Nevada. Our members have a variety of interests, from general gardening to specific plants to flower arranging.

Our History (as remembered by Linnea Miller Domz): The Rose Garden Club was organized around 1945, by Adeline Bartlett. Linnea was a member of that Club. She “discovered” a National Gardener Magazine on vacation one year, and was intrigued by the idea that there was more to gardening than just the Rose Garden Club. She saw that there was a Flower Show School being held in Tucson, so she and Hobby St. Denis attended. They came back quite enthused about “federating” with National, which finally happened in 1963, with ten clubs in Reno, Fallon, Ely, Caliente, Pioche and Las Vegas.

The Nevada Garden Club has long met in Lorenzi Park, but originally the meetings were in a small building by the lake (currently used for after-school activities for handicapped youth). The present building was erected in 1970.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

<http://nevadagardenclubs.org/>



2016-17 NV Garden Club Events Calendar

- April 5-7 Pacific Region Convention
- April 16-17 Iris Show
- April 30 Sunset Garden Club Flower Show
- May 2-6 National Convention
- June 4 Spring Meeting



Waterlilies

“My garden is my most beautiful masterpiece.” - Claude Monet