

October 2011

Volume 2, Issue 1



## Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc.



As Jerry and I travel from Idaho Falls to the Fall Board Meeting at Cascade and then up to Kendrick in the Clearwater area for their District meeting, we are again in awe of our beautiful state. What a visual delight to take in all that spectacular color at this time of year.

Our new National President, Shirley Nicolai asks us if any of our garden clubs have been recognized by National Garden Clubs for participating in an NGC President's project. Her 2011 – 2013 term offers you this chance! "Plantings for Public and Special Places" is the National President's project and every club can do it. Go to the National Garden Clubs website at [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org). After entering the site, click on Special Projects and choose Project Plantings from the list. Updates and tips will inform and stimulate your creative gardening minds.

There are two "Plant it Pink" contests: State and National. For the state contest, take photos, fill out the state application form on the GCII website and send it to our State Awards Chairman,

### Mission Statement

Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. , a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization , will create, promote and further interest in horticulture, gardening, civic beautification and natural resource conservation through educational, charity and community improvement projects.

## President's Message

Our Earth, Our Future—Renew and Protect It

As Jerry and I travel from Idaho Falls to the Fall Board Meeting at Cascade and then up to Kendrick in the Clearwater area for their District meeting, we are again in awe of our beautiful state. What a visual delight to take in all that spectacular color at this time of year.

Maxine Smolowitz. For the National contest, information can be found by again clicking on Special Projects, then choosing Plant it Pink from the list. NGC is offering an award to the state with the most participation in "Plant it Pink" gardens. What are your ideas for combining "Plant it Pink" gardens with "Plantings for Public and Special Places"?

Our Regional Director, Debbie Hinchev, asks us to keep a diary of garden club related activities and to keep track of the hours spent preparing plants for sales, advertising, scholarships, preparing educational programs and etc. Members will be shocked how the hours add up, the cash and the in-kind donations, too. This raw data will be readily available to inform others. Debbie says this written data gives your garden club clout in your community. I will be asking club Presidents for hour counts of projects and time spent on different programs for my annual report to the NGC.

National Garden Clubs, Inc. continues its Help Membership Bloom contest by offering a \$100 award to the state with the greatest per capita increase in paid membership from October 31, 2011 to March 31, 2012. I will present half of this award to the District that gains the greatest per capita increase, should we win the \$100.

At our Fall Board Meeting on October 17, the Blue Ribbon Committee for the Future of GCII chaired by Elmer Hurd made its recommendations to the Board. Objectives were considered and recommendations made including

mandatory travel for the President and Vice President, as well as streamlining costs to fund travel and attend selected meetings. The proxy voting procedure was amended with a more detailed explanation. In conjunction with these recommendations, amendments to the 'Blue Book' were proposed for member approval at our GCII state meeting in June 2012. The amendments are published in this edition of *Gem State Gardeners* and I urge you to read and consider them. Please be prepared to vote (or to give your club president your proxy vote) before that time.

Thank you to the committee members who spent many hours in preparation for these recommendations.

Everyone be on the look-out for a qualified state scholarship candidate. Our funding is \$1,000 for 2012. The application information can be found on our website at [www.gcii.org](http://www.gcii.org)

Please remember to get your award applications into Maxine Smolowitz by Dec. 1, 2011.

Your recycled President has experienced a rewarding past 28 months serving your garden clubs. I am so proud of your many accomplishments.

And I have managed to get my Angelique tulips in the ground before Halloween!

Think Pink!

*Robyn*

## **Report of the Southwest District Director—October 17, 2011**

Southwest District has nine clubs. A few do not have meetings during the summer. All clubs maintain projects they previously put together, and help with local fairs.

The District is responsible for cleaning one mile of Eagle Road in the spring and fall; our next cleanup day is scheduled for Wednesday, October 26. Beth Suhr, Ada Gardeners is chairing this project.

The Southwest District fall meeting was hosted by Ada Gardeners with early morning snacks, soup and salad for lunch, silent auction, sales table plus door prizes; all well-organized.

Several clubs actively pursue projects that beautify their city, provide educational information to the general public on plants, bugs (good and bad), what grows well in their area including flowers, bushes, trees and vegetable gardens.

A few of the many projects the Southwest District members have been involved in are:

- Enclose trash cans at Ronald McDonalds
- Improve the Ronald McDonalds rose gardens
- Clean up elderly members yards
- A Victorian tea (a fund raiser covering costs of future projects)
- Standard Flower Shows
- An IHS Small Flower Show
- Spring Horticultural Symposium (educational)
- Clean grounds at Assay Office
- Provided and planted 100 shrubs at the Idaho Bird Observatory to control erosion
- Working with Boise Parks and Recreation and the College of Western Idaho to design and construct a "Waterwise Teaching Demonstration Garden" in the Terry Day Park in Boise
- An information booth at the annual Flower and Garden Show in Boise

My theme as District Director is "As friends and gardeners, together we can do it."

*Inez Thomason, Southwest District Director*

## **Report of the Clearwater District Director—October 17, 2011**

My theme as District Director is "Bloom Where You're Planted". I hope to encourage and recognize the clubs and members of the district for the work they do in their communities throughout the year. The Fall District Meeting was held on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> and the clubs were asked to speak about the awards they received at the State Convention. I wanted them to be recognized by the other clubs in the district for the work they are doing. We had a beautiful day in the small town of Kendrick and were honored with Robyn & Jerry McCarthy attending.

Flower Show School II was completed the end of September in Moscow. Marva Lee Peterschick was the instructor for Flower Show Procedure & Horticulture and Mary Lou Waitz was the Design instructor. Fourteen students registered with ten taking the test and several Lewis-Clark Judges attending. I believe everyone learned so much and enjoyed the school. Flower Show School III will be held in Clarkston, WA April 24, 25, 26, 2012.

The district is comprised of five clubs and they are all so busy with fall projects such as sponsoring a scarecrow contest, bulb planting, giving to the food banks and gathering items for Christmas gifts for children. Some will soon be preparing for their holiday wreath making projects that are the main fund raisers for the year. Programs such as Bonsai, Container Gardening, Native Plants and Backyard Waterfalls are among some of the programs planned for the months to come. We always welcome guests to attend our meetings

These are just some of the ways our clubs are making a difference in the communities where we live. I hope you all "Bloom" in the months to come.

*Jodene Caldwell, Clearwater District Director*

## Report of the Southeast District Director—October 17, 2011

The big gardening news in **Southeast Idaho District** is the Idaho Falls Japanese Friendship Garden being planted and constructed near the Broadway Bridge on the Snake River in Idaho Falls by dedicated volunteers. Plans for the garden started this spring and will continue for several years in different phases. Several members of the Southeast District Clubs have participated in the digging, pruning, planting, hauling and spreading of gravel. They have also helped build the floating bridge and placed large stepping stones across a stream. At the Southeast District Meeting in early October, District members decided to donate \$500 to add to the fund. Garden Talk Garden Club also voted to donate \$200 to the Japanese Friendship Garden to build benches of stone and wood for the area.

The **Garden Talk Garden Club (GT)** has been on the move since spring with many tours. They have visited four Japanese Gardens in Idaho Falls and Pocatello. While in Pocatello the members also visited five gardens all with large, beautiful water features. Members also visited a beautiful yard and gardens of a manicured country home and visited an Alpaca Farm near Rigby.

One of GT's interesting programs was titled "Seven Species of the Land of Israel". A member of the club who lives in Israel part of the year taught us that the Hebrew Bible describes Israel as a land blessed with seven fruits and grains. She and other members served food that symbolized each of the seven fruits and grains.

Programs with amazing power point presentations took Garden Talk on a tour of gardens using Xeriscape Gardening in the Midwest. GT Members traveled to South America to view the Travelodge which included exotic plants and rare flowers.

Garden Talk presented a "Good Neighbor Award", cleaned up and planted new flowers at the Blue Star Memorial. Members of Idaho Falls Club and Garden Talk planted flowers in the flower beds in the Historical District of Idaho Falls.

The **Idaho Falls Garden Club (IF)** had several guest speakers who enlightened members with ideas on vegetable gardens and a talk on fertilizers and its importance to plants and yards. IF members also visited an unique green house which is buried part way in the ground and takes advantage of the insulation of the soil.

A recent new member from England showed photos of her life as a gardener in England. Three members of the IF club were on the committee to host and plan the GCII State Convention this past June.

A Easter Egg Hunt for the children of Roberts and the surrounding area was held in the spring by **Roberts Town and County Garden Club**. They designed and sold community Birthday Calendars to raise funds for their community projects. The club planted and maintained flower pots in the Roberts City Park.

The Roberts Club did not meet during the summer but resumed their regular schedule in September with a speaker who told of her problems with her garden. Each member talked about their gardening experiences during the summer. Members also discussed the harvesting, preparation and storing of garden produce for winter use.

The **SE District Meeting** was buzzing with a program on bees by the owner of Browning Honey Company. The decorations, favors and lunch (prepared by Garden Talk Members and was outstanding) all centered on the theme of "Bees, Marvelous Bees". Karen Mallon, GCII Vice-President was a guest at the meeting. Southeast District is very active considering it has a total of 64 members in its three clubs.

*Constance Blyth, Southeast Idaho District Director*



### Have you been to Alaska? Or do you want to visit it again?

Announcing the July 26 - 28, 2012 **Pacific Region Convention** in Anchorage, Alaska at the Clarion Suites Hotel Downtown

For a trip of a lifetime, look into the pre-convention tour from Fairbanks to Anchorage. Visit Fairbanks, Chena Hot Springs, Denali National Park and much more...Your deposit must be received by December 1st

Full details can be found at [www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org](http://www.pacificregiongardenclubs.org)

## Protecting the Aquatic Ecosystem

All of the Idaho garden clubs are located in a valley surrounded by mountains which collect snowfall in the winter. In spring it refills our rivers and lakes with clean water.

Our economy depends on our agriculture and mining industry where our clean water can become contaminated by run-offs. Our many government agencies carefully monitor these problems for us. "As the mainstream Boise River meanders through our valley, sediment, bacteria, and phosphorous are added from a variety of sources and water quality suffers downstream", according to the Lower Boise Watershed Council.

Unfortunately, it is the suburban homeowners that contaminate our soil and water far more than our industries. We spray our trees for bugs, we over-fertilize our lawns and gardens, but we have beautiful weed free lawns and flower beds.

Boise is fortunate to have the Boise Watershed Environmental Education Center ([boisewatershed@cityofboise.org](mailto:boisewatershed@cityofboise.org) or [www.BoiseEnvironmentalEducation.org](http://www.BoiseEnvironmentalEducation.org)) and the Foothills Learning Center ([fcl-parks@cityofboise.org](mailto:fcl-parks@cityofboise.org)) where our school children go on tours. They have free hands-on science and environmental lessons for every grade level. When in Boise, take a tour of these two facilities, which are open Monday to Saturday. You might be surprised what you will learn from their hands-on exhibits. Another source of information is the evening or lunch hour programs by Idaho Rivers United ([www.idahorivers.org](http://www.idahorivers.org)) attended mostly by adults.

The Boise Watershed has had a display at our 36<sup>th</sup> Street flower show and will come to a garden club meeting as a speaker or have a meeting in their free conference room which seats 40 people.

*Sandra Ford , Report to the Fall Board Meeting, October 2011*

## Civic Development

As your state chair for civic Development, I find our National President's special project an exciting opportunity.

National Garden Clubs, Inc. President Shirley S. Nicolai has chosen "Plantings for Public and Special Places" as a special project for her 2011 – 2013 administration. This is a project in which we can all participate and receive recognition. It has three categories: Gardens with Edibles, Container Gardens, and Trees and Shrubs.

Garden Clubs serve communities in a most visible way when they provide plantings for public and special places. These plantings can beautify, have environmental value or provide sustenance. There are almost 6,000 garden clubs across our country. This national project is broad in scope, so that existing community projects can be enlarged, past projects can be refurbished, and new projects can be created. The potential contribution of club members, one club at a time, is enormous.

I invite you to take part in this display of community service, to document projects with before and after digital photographs, and to complete the interactive form on the NGC website [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org). After entering the site, click on Special Projects and choose Project Plantings from the list for information.

Citations will be presented to all garden clubs, districts and regions. State Garden Clubs may also receive awards.

*Dotty Hurd, Chairman, Civic Development*

## GCII Website Report



Phil Martin

It is always pleasing to see something that one takes pride in maintaining being appreciated and used so regularly. The results for this year demonstrate that our Website continues to be a source of help, guidance and information, giving pleasure to so many of our members and visitors.

Web page statistics to October show that we regularly receive over 3000 "hits" each month which typically lead to more than 250 actual visits. These figures are well above average for a site in this category. Well done, and spread the word!

As always, we welcome any comments and suggestions on how we can improve the site and are always willing to publish any Stories, Events and of course Photographs from your own Club activities. Just drop us an email with the attachment(s) to the address below, and share it with all our members! For help with any Computer/Internet or similar problems, please do not hesitate to contact me: Phil Martin, GCII Webmaster at [webmaster@gcii.org](mailto:webmaster@gcii.org)

## FIVE AMENDMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP VOTE AT THE GCII JUNE 2012 CONVENTION

*(Each amendment will require a yes or no vote by the membership in order to modify the GCII Policies and Procedures 'Blue Book'. Club Presidents need to assemble proxy vote counts before the June 2012 GCII Convention.)*

### 1. RENAME AND EXPAND THE GCII CIVIC DEVELOPMENT AWARD

*Discussion: See page 87 of the GCII 'Blue Book'. Award #10 'Civic Development' will be renamed 'Civic Improvement' and expense funds will be added as described below. The intent is to be more in consonant with our mission to promote civic beautification through community improvement projects.*

#### GCII Civic Improvement Award

To recognize permanent improvement for the public benefit via the development of public gardens. The program may be continuous but must have an advanced degree of completion prior to making application.

Two awards are to be given each year if eligible applications are received. The award will be granted to cover material expenses up to \$200 each. Receipts must be submitted to document expenses along with a book of evidence including pictures to show progress of the project.

### 2. EXPAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GARDEN CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

*Discussion: See page 87 of the GCII 'Blue Book.' Award # 21C 'Garden Club Person of the Year' is increased in value and expanded to recognize the exceptional accomplishments of the recipient.*

#### GCII Garden Club Person of the Year Award

To recognize exceptional accomplishments and leadership that further the advancement and appreciation of horticulture. Entrants will be judged with respect to accomplishment of the GCII mission and leadership demonstrated at the Club, District and/or State level.

One award of \$50 will be presented each year.

*(Continued on page 6)*

#### SE District Meeting, Idaho Falls, October 8

Ellen Jorgensen and  
Patty Huston at the  
Registration Table



Vice District Director Marsha Jensen



Program "Bees, Marvelous Bees" by Tom Browning



Members enjoying a cup of cider



Chris Stone, Timekeeper

### **3. MODIFY AND EXPAND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROXY STATEMENT FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING**

*Discussion: See page 60 of the GCII 'Blue Book.' The intent of this 'proxy statement' (which will be added at the bottom of the annual Membership Form for your approval) is to ensure that the club officer holding proxy can best convey the (yes/no) interests of the persons represented. In addition, the term 'proxy voting' is defined and elaborated upon for member information.*

#### **PROXY STATEMENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING (included in the GCII Membership Form):**

Club payment of Membership dues to GCII for a Member and inclusion of a Member's name on the GCII Membership Form constitutes the giving of the Member's voting proxy at the Annual Meeting (State Convention) in the absence of the Member to the following designee: Member's Club President; if the Club President is absent from the Annual Meeting, to the Member's Club Vice President; if both the Club President and Vice President are absent, to the Member's District Director; if the District Director is absent from the Annual Meeting, to another Member so designated by the District Director.

In an election year, the voting proxy is given to a prior year officer as specified. In a non-election year, the voting proxy is given to a current officer (Club President, Club Vice President, District Director or designated Member.)

#### **PROXY VOTING DEFINED**

GCII Bylaws specify that "A Member may vote either in person or by proxy executed in writing by the Member."

Voting by proxy occurs when an authorized person acts as the agent for the voting member who will not be present at a specific meeting. A proxy transfers authority to act for another. It gives the Proxy Holder the right to vote as he or she sees fit on any business that may be brought before the membership at a meeting.

GCII's Proxy Vote is only to be used at the GCII Annual Meeting (State Convention).

Club Presidents will be notified when a vote will be required. Each Club President will go to their active Club members and obtain each member's vote. The members may vote yes, no or abstain.

If the Club President is attending the State Convention, the Club President shall take the Proxy Votes to the State Convention. If the Club President does not go to the State Convention, the Proxy Votes shall be taken to the State Convention by the Club Vice President. In the case where neither will be attending the State Convention, the Proxy Votes shall be given to the District Director of their respective District. A member attending the State Convention shall vote in person.

At State Convention, if a new motion comes to the floor, the Proxy Holder (Club President, Club Vice President or District Director) has the authority to vote in the best interests of their members.

GCII has a general proxy as the GCII Bylaws have no defining voting instructions or limitations. A general Proxy Holder should be someone that can be trusted to act in one's behalf in a manner sensitive to the Member's interests. A general proxy can accommodate the many actions on the floor during an Annual Meeting that are new or modified and could not be published.

*(Continued on page 7)*

**Value work. But not any kind of work. Ask yourself,  
"Is the work vital, strengthening my own character, or  
inspiring others, or helping the world? Author Unknown**



**Wishing you the joy of the Christmas Season,**

*Jerry and Robyn McCarthy*

#### **4. EXPAND DESCRIPTION OF PRESIDENT'S AND VICE PRESIDENT'S DUTIES**

*Discussion: See page 42 of the GCII 'Blue Book'. Travel requirements are delineated to establish minimum travel expectations for the GCII President and Vice President, and to establish payment of travel expenses to the extent funds are available. Travel for the GCII Vice President is added because it is important the Vice President be groomed, gain experience and develop relationships at the State, Regional and National level that are necessary for a successful term as GCII President.*

***Add under President's Duties:***

**Attendance at State/District Meetings:**

Attendance at certain State/District functions as noted below is mandatory. Unless otherwise specified, GCII will pay for the President's expenses at these meetings to the extent that funds are available in the President's Travel Fund.

- Attend State Annual Meeting (Convention) every year. The Convention funds shall pay for the President's registration and housing.
- Attend the Fall Board Meeting every year. GCII pays for the President's expenses.
- Attend at least one District Meeting outside his/her home District during the President's term preferably during the first year of his/her term. The expenses (registration and one night's lodging) for the mandatory District Meetings shall be paid by the host District. GCII shall not incur any costs for attendance at home District Meetings.

**Attendance at Pacific Region/NGC Meetings:**

- The GCII President shall attend the Pacific Region Annual Convention and the NGC Annual Convention.

***Add under Vice President's Duties:***

**Attendance at State/District Meetings:**

Attendance at certain State/District functions as noted below is mandatory. Unless otherwise specified, GCII will pay for the Vice President's expenses at these meetings to the extent that funds are available in the Vice President's Travel Fund.

- Attend State Annual Meeting (Convention) and attend the Fall Board Meeting every year.
- Attend at least one District Meeting outside his/her home District during the Vice President's term preferably during the second year of his/her term. The expenses (registration and one night's lodging) for the mandatory District Meetings shall be paid by the host District. GCII shall not incur any costs for attendance at home District Meetings.

**Attendance at Pacific Region/NGC Meetings:**

- The GCII Vice President shall attend the Pacific Region Annual Convention and the NGC Annual Convention in the second year of his/her term.

#### **5. AMEND EXISTING DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESIDENTS DUTIES**

*Discussion: See page 42 of the GCII 'Blue Book'. This is an amendment to the current first paragraph under 'Elected Officer Duties' that removes the District Meeting attendance requirement phrase [in red] because attendance requirements are already delineated in item 4, above.*

The PRESIDENT shall preside at all meetings of GCII; shall appoint an Auditor, a Parliamentarian, an Historian, a Corresponding Secretary and the Past President Advisor; shall appoint Chairmen for all standing and special Committees including the Chairman of the Nominating Committee; **[shall attend at least one District meeting of each District per year;]** shall be an ex-officio Member of all Committees with the exception of the nominating committee; shall serve as editor-in-chief of "Gem State Gardeners" and shall appoint a managing editor of that official publication.

## CW District Meeting, Kendrick, October 20



Raina Weyen, President of hosting club, Hill and Valley Garden Club



Edith Cole (R) presents a Community Volunteer Award to Darlene Norden



Jeannie Ensley auctions the centerpieces



Cathy Mosher of Orofino Flower Shop gives the program



District Director Jodene Caldwell conducts the meeting



Donna Weyen and Idaho Quilt

### A Visit with Edith Cole of the Clearwater District and her Marvelous Award-Winning Mums!



Edith Cole, Master Flower Show Judge



Happy Holidays everyone from Valley Garden Club in  
Kamiah, Kooskia and Stites, Idaho!

Lorraine Smith, President , Valley Garden Club

## Flower Show School Course II – Moscow

A Flower Show School Course II was held in Moscow 27- 29. Ten students took the course for credit (to become a judge) and four others to increase their skills. Instructors were Marva Lee Perterschick, Horticulture and Mary Lou Waitz, Design. A Master Panel comprising an instructor and two Accredited Judges scored students' creations.



Mary Lou with a Creative Design featuring moderate abstraction



Marva Lee teaches herbs



Learning about coleus



Creative Design featuring minor abstraction

## Idaho Horticultural Society Fall Flower Show—Boise



The Idaho Horticultural Society held a Standard Flower Show September 17 and 18 at the 36<sup>th</sup> Street Garden Center in Boise. The theme was "School Days" and included miniature flower designs depicting ABC, Lunch Break and Time Out. Seminars were also offered on Saturday, September 17, one an hour for four hours. They were attended by 10 to 20 people. The design seminar had the largest attendance. Judges were Harriet Calverley (Merry Tillers Garden Club), Allen Dietz (Ada Gardeners) and Bessie Skinner (Golden Garden Club).



Miniature Flower Designs



Allen Dietz



Harriet Calverley



Bessie Skinner

THANK YOU

A BIG THANK YOU to the Ada Gardeners for making the SW District fall meeting such a success. We couldn't do it without everyone working as a team. Even if you didn't actively participate we know you were thinking of us and rooting for us.

Beth Suhr, President, Ada Gardeners Garden Club



Concept watercolor by Gloria Miller Allen

## THE JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Something very exciting is happening in Idaho Falls. It's about the Japanese Friendship Garden located on the bank of the Snake River near our Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker. In August GCII applied for a CHC Foundation, Inc. grant of \$2,800 to be used towards the purchase of an etched granite stone (called a Kanji stone) depicting Japanese symbols for "Friendship" to be placed in the garden and for new plantings which will be added to more closely conform to traditional Japanese plantings. Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. was able to apply for the grant because of our 501 (c) (3) non-profit status which the CHC Foundation requires. We received the letter on October 24<sup>th</sup> that our grant has been awarded!!

History of the garden goes back to 1981 when a Sister City Agreement was signed between Idaho Falls and Tokai-Mura, Japan. The two cities make a perfect match as both have nuclear research laboratories and had been exchanging scientists, engineers and technology for many years. The cities were of similar size and shared many artistic and cultural interests. It was the desire to promote a positive relationship with Japan and heal the memories of WWII and of the Japanese-American Internment Camps that brought many of Japanese ancestry to Idaho.

Since the Agreement's inception, delegations have been exchanged between the two cities. In 2010 Tokai-Mura sent 15 delegates to Idaho Falls. Thirty people were scheduled to visit Tokai-Mura in 2011. Unfortunately, the March 2011 earthquake in northern Japan, 80 miles north of Tokai-Mura, caused major destruction in Tokai-Mura and the exchange of the Idaho Falls group was cancelled.

Over the years since 1981 interest in keeping up the garden was lost and the garden became an embarrassment when the Japanese delegation visited Idaho Falls. Because of the recent earthquake and the coming 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on July 4, 2011 of the Japanese Friendship Garden, interest was sparked to spruce up the garden. A volunteer steering committee comprised of Master Gardeners (including SE District members), a Sister Cities member, Master Naturalists and a landscape architect began in early summer to revive the garden.

Great progress has been made over the summer months with plants donated by volunteers and local nurseries. Over 64 volunteers, including a County Jail work detail have accumulated well over 600 volunteer working hours in the garden. Over \$3,000 have also been donated. Future plans include the Kanji stone, a pond and a Japanese Country Gate in addition to more plantings. A dedication is scheduled for July 4, 2012 when the Japanese delegation will visit. Call me for a special tour if you are in Idaho Falls.

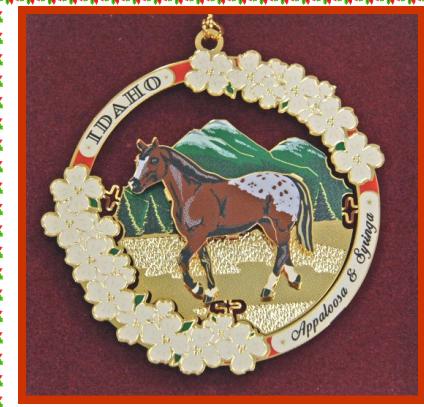
This is a very exciting and rewarding community volunteer project. It's a chance for everyone to learn about Japanese Gardens, our Sister City, Tokai-Mura, and to get to know other fellow citizens who are uniting to give Idaho Falls another special area along our Snake River. GCII is proud to be a part of this beautifying project.

*Robyn McCarthy, President GCII*

## The Appaloosa and our 2011 GCII Ornament

Our newest fund-raiser ornament featuring Idaho's State Appaloosa Horse makes a wonderful gift for any occasion (think Christmas!). Cost is \$20 each, paid on receipt. Ornaments are available from Louisa Cone, Ornament Chairman, at 208-459-2209.

Want to learn more about the Appaloosa? The Appaloosa Museum in Moscow includes an exhibit area; a theater; a hands-on Kid's Area; a library & archive featuring books, magazines, and videos. Exhibits themes range from the early evidence of spotted horses in art and literature, to the relationship between the Appaloosa and the Nez Perce Indians. Detailed information is at [www.appaloosamuseum.org](http://www.appaloosamuseum.org). You can purchase our GCII ornament at the Museum also!



## GARDEN CLUBS OF IDAHO, INC. OFFICERS

**President:** Robyn McCarthy, Idaho Falls  
208-522-8230

**Vice President:** Karen Mallon, Boise  
208-853-6108

**Treasurer:** Maxine Smolowitz, Idaho Falls  
208-523-0373

**Secretary:** Joyce Parr, Moscow, 208-883-3051

**Parliamentarian:** Louisa Cone, Caldwell,  
208-459-2209

**Historian:** Karen Mallon, Boise  
208-853-6108

**Advisor:** Dotty Hurd, Boise, 208-343-3273

**Pacific Region Director:** Debbie Hinckey,  
Anchorage, AK 907-278-2814

**NGC President:** Shirley S. Nicolai,  
Ft. Washington, MD 301-292-3667

## GCII Board Meeting, Caldwell, October 17



Linda Thacker (L) President Long Valley GC shows off a pictorial history of the Marion Kerby Memorial Garden in Cascade



Elmer Hurd, Chair of the Blue Ribbon Committee is awarded a GCII cap



Inez Thomason talks about the 2012 GCII Convention



Jodene Caldwell gives the SW District report



Members of the Long Valley GC pose in the Marion Kerby Memorial Garden

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

### 2011

- Awards applications due to Maxine Smolowitz Dec 1

### 2012

- Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Posters** due to Joyce DiGiovanni January 15
- Clearwater District Meeting** March 15, Moscow
- SW District Meeting** March 26, TBD
- SE District Meeting** April 21, Idaho Falls
- NGC Convention** May 16 - 19, Buffalo, NY
- GCII Convention** June 25 - 27, Boise
- Pacific Region Convention** July 26 - 28, Anchorage, AK

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**The National Gardener**



**THE NATIONAL GARDENER IS THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE** of National Garden Clubs, Inc. It is the voice of NGC and communicates with all garden club members. It contains ideas for horticulture, floral & landscape design, flower shows, conservation, and environmental projects. It is also a manual containing the latest about NGC Awards and Basic Flower Arranging, as well as information on NGC Schools—Flower Show School, Horticulture Study, Environmental Study, Gardening Study and Landscape Design. It contains interesting articles on gardening and the latest garden related products.

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For more information or to subscribe,  
please contact Joyce DiGiovanni, P.O.  
Box 1321, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816

Phone: 208-765-5890

Email: joycedigi@hotmail.com

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State President: Robyn McCarthy  
915 S. Karey Ln.  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402  
208-522-8230  
RobynGCII@Q.com

Managing Editor: Jerry McCarthy  
Facebook Master: Juergen Schrattenholzer  
Webmaster: Phil Martin  
Website: <http://www.gcii.org>

Gem State Gardeners  
Robyn McCarthy  
915 S. Karey Ln.  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

### Celebrating Volunteers

Volunteers come in all sizes  
All colors, shapes and styles.  
No two are ever quite the same  
But each one makes us smile.

They show up in many places.  
They help our towns to bloom.  
It seems they're always growing  
And they elevate our mood.

No one can really stop them—  
Why would anybody try?  
And so we celebrate them  
And look to them with pride.

These volunteers we celebrate  
Are plants but people, too.  
And today we simply want to say  
Our hats are off to you!



Raina Weyen  
President, Hill & Valley Garden Club