



# Riviera Garden Club

## Sea Breeze

COSTA VERDE DISTRICT, CGCI, PACIFIC REGION, NGC

Volume 66, Issue No. 1

June, July, August, Sept., October 2023

### FROM OUR PRESIDENTS



Carolyn Pohlner



Pam Barrett-Hill

**Carolyn Pohlner and Pam Barrett-Hill**  
**Co-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from CAROLYN**  
**"Fall is Summer's Flamboyant Farewell". . .**

And we say goodbye to summer vacations and easy livin', we embrace the fall and the return to meetings, talks, field trips, and luncheons with our friends in the Riviera Garden Club. The board has been busy during the summer planning and preparing a full schedule of events for the upcoming year. We hope to be able to escort our members on two field trips this year – one in November to Roger's Gardens and another next March to The Hollyhock House.

We will once again enjoy a festive holiday December luncheon at Los Verdes Golf Club and be entertained by the L.A. South Town Chorus to help us ring in the New Year!

**Marie Hoffman** and her assistant, **Teresa Henderson**, have arranged for some interesting, informative speakers on a wide range of gardening topics for our monthly general meetings, beginning with a wonderful inspirational presentation this September. Please be sure to make your reservation early with Pam Barrett-Hill. **(continued on page 2)**

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Sept. 19** RGC board meeting 9:30 a.m.  
at the South Coast botanic Garden

**Sept. 26** RGC general mtg 10 a.m.  
at **Mary and Joseph Retreat Center**. **RSVP**  
to **Pam Barrett-Hill** by Sept. 16, 2023

Information on page 6

**Oct. 17** RGC board meeting 9:30 a.m.  
at the South Coast botanic Garden

**Oct. 24** RGC general meeting 10 a.m.  
at the Airport meeting room.

**Nov. 14** RGC board meeting 9:30 a.m.  
at the South Coast botanic Garden

**Nov. 17 (Friday)** RGC bus excursion to  
Roger's Gardens in Corona del Mar.

**Carolyn Pohlner and Pam Barrett-Hill RGC Co-Presidents** (continued from page 1)

Speaking of **Pam**, she and I will be sharing this column to bring you the most up-to-date news about the Riviera Garden Club. Welcome back!

**Carolyn Pohlner**, Co-President

**Co-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FROM PAM BARRETT-HILL**

HELLO, RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB FRIENDS!

I have been in the Riviera Garden Club for 23 years and now after all that time, to be a partner with **Carolyn Pohlner**, as co-president, is exciting! We want a FUN year for you with great programs and some excursions! See you on the 26th of September at the Joseph and Mary Retreat Center. We are lucky to have as our guest speaker, **Robin Pokorski** (She makes me laugh!) plus a delicious lunch. Please send your checks to me for \$30. Thanks! **Pam**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY RGC MEMBERS!

<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>
Bernice Slocovich 9	Lynn Fernandez 2	June Young 5	Marilyn Barker 6
Margery Phillips 14	Laurie Vaillant 20	Linda Meighan 5	Meredith Grenier 8
Jill Verenkoff 15	George Unrine 24	Kay Kanuit 8	Geneva Martin 9
	Mary Watson 25	Beebe Moorhead 14	Charlie Sappington 18
		Mary Eninger 19	Pati Johnson 19
		Mary Alessandra-Cook 20	Diane Connell 28
		Sheila Kutkus 28	Marilyn Rubin 30



**Welcome new RGC Member!**

**Jo Labor**

# PHOTOS FROM the Riviera Garden Club MAD HATTERS Luncheon



Carolyn Pohlner and Pam Barrett-Hill



Robin Pokorski and Toni Sargent



Mad Hatter Winners Laurie Vaillant, Pat Heilmann, Marilyn Rubin



Carolyn Pohlner, Robin Pokorski, Gail Vanderhorst, Ellyn Meikle, Pati Johnson



Carolyn Pohlner, Robin Pokorski, Gail Vanderhorst, Ellyn Meikle



Pati Johnson



Carolyn Pohlner



A view of the Original Red Onion banquet room



**TOO BEAUTIFUL TO EAT!**

## 2023-2024 RGC officers

**Co -Presidents:**

Carolyn Pohlner Pam Barrett-Hill

**1<sup>st</sup> VP excursions:** Alberta Brice

**1<sup>st</sup> VP s programs & hospitality:**

Marie Hoffman, Teresa Henderson

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP s membership:**

Regina Taylor, Lynn Fernandez

**Secretary:** Marilyn Rubin

**Treasurer:** Geneva Martin

**Parliamentarian:** Toni Ziegler

**Newsletter:** Marilyn Rubin

**Advisor:** Ellyn Meikle

## Poem by Charlie Sappington

**END OF SUMMER**

Summer was here.  
We liked it a lot.  
A little too long,  
And a little too **HOT!**  
We like to complain.  
We think it's OK.  
But we know where we live  
Is our bliss every day.  
So love where you are,  
Enjoy every day,  
'Cause there's no better place  
Than to live in the Bay.

**By Charlie Sappington**



# Buddy Bench



Riviera Garden Club

## The Buddy Bench Teaches Children to Include Each Other.



A **buddy bench** is a seat in a school playground. **Buddy benches** are situated in open and well-traveled areas of the school so that any child using the bench will be noticed quickly. A child feeling the need for a friend can sit on the **buddy bench**. Others will recognize this as a sign that the child needs friendship, help, support or comfort. Someone will come to talk with and befriend the child on the **buddy bench**.

**Riviera Garden Club**

Is ***STILL COLLECTING***

**BOTTLE CAPS AND LIDS** to recycle

into a **Buddy Bench**.

**We Need Your Help!**

Please save your clean caps and lids and give them to: **Carolyn Pohlner**, RGC co-president at a Riviera Garden Club meeting. Thanks!



### ACCEPTABLE CAPS

medicine bottle caps	drink bottle caps
milk jug caps	flip-top caps (ketchup, mustard)
detergent caps	spout caps (mustard)
hair spray caps	spray paint caps
toothpaste cube caps	ointment tube caps
deodorant caps	caps w/ RECYCLE NUMBERS of (2) (4) (5)

### ACCEPTABLE LIDS

cottage cheese container lids	cool whip container lids
mayonnaise jar lids	coffee can lids
yogurt lids	cream cheese container lids
peanut butter jar lids	butter container lids
ice cream bucket lids <b>under 8"</b>	Prescription bottles labels removed

# RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB *first* GENERAL MEETING & LUNCHEON



**When: Tuesday, September 26, 2023**

**Where: Mary & Joseph Retreat Center**

**5300 Crest Road**

**Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275**

**(310) 802-6376**

**Time: 9:30 a.m. Social Mingling & Coffee**

**10:00 a.m. Business Meeting**

**10:45 a.m. Guest Speaker, Robin Pokorski**

**12:00 p.m. Lunch**

**RSVP: Pam Barrett-Hill**

**(310) 548-3926**

**Please RSVP no later than 9/16/2023**

**Reservations are required**

**Cost: \$30 for buffet quiche and salad bar**

**It will be so nice to see everyone in person again at this lovely, peaceful venue.**

**Members and guests will enjoy a motivational message about**

**“Leadership” from California Garden Club’s Robin Pokorski.**

**You are welcome to visit the gardens and grounds after lunch.**

**Please make your check payable to**

**Riviera Garden Club and mail it to**

**Pam Barrett-Hill**

**27826 Saddle Road**

**Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274-5131**



RIVIERA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
and RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB  
**LANDSCAPE AWARD**  
**July, August 2023**  
The **McKown** residence  
412 Camino de las Colinas



Our front yard has 100% California Native Plants, including the Coastal Cliff Buckwheat Plant that has become a home to the South Bay local El Segundo Blue Butterfly! The El Segundo Blue Butterfly was the first insect ever added to the endangered species list. They have been mating and eating in our front yard. They lay their eggs and when hatched, the caterpillars go underground for a whole year and then return next summer to live the cycle all over again. Once California native plants are established, they do not need watering at all. We haven't watered our front yard in two years! Our native garden is pesticide free and attracts all the native pollinators in the area. Bees, birds, and lizards thrive in our yard! We hope to inspire others to choose native plants as well!

**Sara and Brad McKown** and girls

**CGCI AWARDS** FOR RIVIERA GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS by **Ellyn Meikle**, Awards Chairperson

**California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI)** gives out various awards for various categories that you may qualify. Prizes do vary, and they may include a trophy, and/or cash prize, and/or certificate, and an announcement at the state convention. Some winners will be automatically entered for Pacific Region and National Garden Clubs' awards.

The following is an edited version of CGCI award categories that may interest you.

For questions and more information contact **Ellyn Meikle** 310.503.1061 [ellynmeikle@gmail.com](mailto:ellynmeikle@gmail.com)

**11. ACHIEVEMENT FOR A SINGLE EVENT**

1st \$75, 2nd \$25. **To clubs.**

EMAIL DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

For a single fundraising event benefiting a club, a CGCI or an NGC sponsored project.

The event itself need not be garden-related.

**12. CLUB PROGRAM AWARD**

1st \$30, 2nd \$20, 3rd \$10. **To clubs.**

EMAIL DEADLINE: JANUARY 10

provide stimulating, informative, diversified programs during the awards year, Jan. 1 to Dec. 31.

**(CGCI awards continued on page 8)**

(CGCI awards continued from page 7)

#### **20. BACKYARD HABITAT AWARD**

1st \$50, 2nd \$25. To individual club members.

EMAIL DEADLINE: JANUARY 10

For establishing a habitat or sanctuary in a home backyard/garden to benefit local wildlife including but not limited to birds, butterflies, mammals, reptiles.

#### **22. CONTAINER-GROWN VEGETABLE AWARD**

1st \$75, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$30. To individuals. (Container Gardening or Edible Gardening)

EMAIL DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

For the most outstanding container/s and growth of vegetable/s in one or more containers, each container containing single or multiple vegetables (can include herbs).

#### **23. HOME GARDEN AWARD**

1st \$75, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$30. To individuals. (Edible Gardening)

EMAIL DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

Given for the most outstanding garden of edibles, fruits, vegetables, and/or edible flowers

#### **27. UNIQUE BACKYARD ENHANCEMENT AWARD**

1st \$75, 2nd \$50. To individual club members.

EMAIL DEADLINE: JANUARY 10

For a backyard/garden that has been enhanced by the addition of unique items, such as a greenhouse, aviary, aquaponics, rainwater collection barrels, etc.

#### **29. RAISED BED GARDENING**

1st \$75, 2nd \$50, 3rd \$30. To individuals.

EMAIL DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

For best system and growth of vegetable/s in raised bed/s, each raised bed containing single or multiple vegetables (can include herbs).

#### **40. PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD**

1st \$50 in each section. To individual club members.

EMAIL DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

**LIMITED TO ONE ENTRY PER PERSON, PER SECTION.**

Photograph size: 5" x 7" or 8" x 10". Photograph is to be taken by the applicant in the current awards year by an amateur photographer/club member.

##### **Section 1. Applicant's own garden.**

Plantings to be focal point. Include brief description of garden and botanical names of plants.

**Section 2. A cactus/cacti** (for succulent, see Section 6) grown and maintained by the applicant, in a container or planted in the ground. Include brief description, how and where grown and botanical name (genus and species). Must show full plant.

(CGCI photography awards continued on page 9)



(CGCI photography awards continued from page 8)

**Section 3. A named rose, single bloom, or spray,** grown by applicant.

Include brief description, how and where grown, type of rose (hybrid tea, miniature, etc.).

Give botanical name (genus (“Rosa”) and cultivar name).

**Section 4. A flowering tree or shrub, in bloom,** grown by applicant.

Give botanical name (genus and species), description of growing conditions and its use in the garden. Must show full tree or shrub (not just the blooms).

**Section 5: A named California arboretum or botanical garden.** Plantings to be the focal point.

Include a brief description of plants in photograph with botanical names and the date visited.

**Section 6: Close-up of a succulent grown and maintained by the applicant,**

in a container or planted in the ground. Include brief description, how and where grown and botanical (genus and species) name.

## 50. NEWSLETTERS

EMAIL DEADLINE: DECEMBER

### Club Newsletters

1st \$35 in each class. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, HM certificates in each class.

For newsletters published during the awards year distributed at least three times per year under one editor or manager with ONE sample issue submitted.

- Class A: 1-2 page newsletter
- Class B: 3-12 pages
- Class C: 13+ pages

## 51. PUBLICATIONS

EMAIL DEADLINE: DECEMBER 1

### Published Article by an Individual

1st \$25. 2nd \$15. 3rd \$10.

Article must have been published during the awards year on the following:

Promotion of objective/s of CGCI, PRGC or NGC (floral design, environmental, landscape, gardening, horticulture, garden therapy, education, etc.). One entry per person.

**Be sure to check with Ellyn Meikle if you are interested in winning a CGCI award!**



Check out our website at [www.rivieragardenclub.org](http://www.rivieragardenclub.org)

Email: [president@rivieragardenclub.org](mailto:president@rivieragardenclub.org)

Sea Breeze editor: Marilyn Rubin

