

# **NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC. 2016 ANNUAL REPORT**



**67th Annual Convention**

***“Enchanted Legends of Sierra Blanca”***

**March 30, 31 and April 1, 2016**

**Ruidoso, New Mexico**

**Suzy Andrego, New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. President**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## OFFICER REPORTS

PRESIDENT	1
1 <sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT	2
2 <sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT	3
RECORDING SECRETARY	4
TREASURER	9
HISTORIAN	10
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	10

## DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS

DISTRICT I	11
DISTRICT II	13
DISTRICT III	15
DISTRICT IV	17
DISTRICT V	18

## CHAIRMEN REPORTS

ARCHIVES	20
AWARDS	20
BEES	20
BIRD & BUTTERFLY GARDEN	20
BLUE STAR MARKERS/MEMORIAL GARDENS	21
CIVIC DEVELOPMENT	22
CONTAINER GARDENING	22
ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOLS	23
FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS	23
FOOD/HERB GARDENING	23
GARDENING THERAPY	23
GENERAL HORTICULTURE	23
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY	23
JUDGES COUNCIL PRESIDENT	24
JUDGES CREDENTIALS	24
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES/MERCHANDISE	25
NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK	25
NEW MEXICO GARDENER	26
PENNY PINES REFORESTATION	27
PERSONNEL	27
SCHOLARSHIP/LIFE MEMBER SERVICES	27
SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTER CONTEST	28
TREES AND SHRUBS	28
WEBSITE	28
WILDFLOWERS/NATIVE PLANTS	29
WORLD GARDENING	29
YEARBOOKS	29
YOUTH THERAPY/ACTIVITIES	29

## JUNIOR GARDEN CLUBS REPORTS

THE BLOOMING GARDENERS	30
PONDEROSA PINES JUNIOR GARDENERS	31

# OFFICER REPORTS

## President - Suzy Andrego

The beginning of my term as been busy, full of travel and I am having lots of fun "Planting Seeds for Our Future". I have traveled to more than 30 garden club meetings or events and driven more than 5,000 miles across the state. And, I have lost count of how many new smiling faces I've met.

I started my term by creating notebooks for the executive board members, District Directors and all state chairmen. The notebooks have all the important New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., information, position duties and responsibilities and even include a place to document what is done during their term. I am hopeful that the notebooks will help streamline all positions and chairmanships by creating a place to have the information needed in one place and at your fingertips. I am also hopeful that the notebooks will help others accept future leadership and chairman positions, knowing they have a written resource. I also created notebooks for all club Presidents in the state. The club president notebooks included all the important NMGC information, time lines, examples of agendas, minutes, treasurer's reports and a place to record what they have done during their term. These notebooks have been well received.

I was able to get the New Mexico Garden Clubs Member pin recreated. Sales of these pins go to the scholarship fund.

With the help of all the executive officers, District Directors, Chairman and garden club Presidents and garden club members, we have accomplished many things! Treasurer, Laurie Hixson has reorganized our finances and financial files, helped get us back into compliance with the IRS and helped figure out what is the IRS standing of the clubs and districts. Norma Tech, Audit Chairman, worked with our Treasurer to reconcile and reorganize our financials. Barbara Vance, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, is working on updating the convention manual. Jan Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, has updated our state membership in an EXCEL data file, providing current and accurate membership numbers. Cindy Hills, our NMGC Webmaster, has expanded and updated our website. Debra Sorrell, Awards Chair, updated our awards handbook. Scholarship Chairman, Christine Longthorp, helped get scholarship information on our website for the first time. Jo Ann Layden, Butterfly chair, created a beautiful brochure on the butterflies in New Mexico. Mary Ann Moreno, Environmental School chair, is working to complete the current series so we will have more environmental consultants in our state. Sonia James, Habitat Chairman has found more ways we can participate with the Habitat program in NM. As a member of my President's Project and the National President's Project, Mary Ann Moreno is helping spread the word about the importance of pollinators. Blue Star chairman, Shirley Tetreault, is helping members plan for the installation and dedication of five Blue Star markers, around the state. Mary Gilliam, Judges Credentials Chairman, worked hard to learn the wonderful tracking system for judges' records that was created by past Credentials Chairman, Barbara Vance. As flower show School Chairman, I am helping mentor seven student judges through writing their flower show schedules and then preparing them to take their NGC Judges Handbook reading exam in October. Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl Chairman, Mary Ann Moreno, has increased the number of poster entries from New Mexico. Isabel Olsen, Tree Chairman and Penny Pines Chairman, has

reintroduced the Penny Pines program across the state. Symposium Co-Chairman, Christine Longthorp traveled to Phoenix, Arizona, along with me and a large group of NM judges, to attend the Arizona Judges Symposium. Merchandise Chairman, Kathleen Flanders, has helped members purchase materials that promote NGC, SCR and NMGC projects and leadership. Juanita Ortega, Ways and Means chairman, has promoted and sold tickets for all the great raffle items which support my President's Projects. Esther Russell, Youth Chairman, has helped provide materials and mentorships for several new Youth Projects and clubs. The best news from that kind of support and encouragement is Renate Reisel, of Home Garden Club, has formed a new Youth Garden Club in Roswell!

I have been promoting my projects, South Central Regional projects and National Garden Clubs' projects by encouraging all members to plant for pollinators and promote pollinator awareness in their gardens and communities. I have offered to provide funding for those garden certifications, promoting environmental stewardship and planting many seeds of future leadership.

Carolyn Bedford, Recording Secretary, Penni Davey, Corresponding Secretary, Becky Fuller, Historian, Sally Warner, Parliamentarian, Lequita Lett, Organizational Studies Chairman, District Directors: Mary Ann Moreno, Doris Jackson, Colleen Hinker, Nancy Ketchum, Judy Preston, and former President, Isabel Olsen have all provided me with help and support to ensure that I am able to be the best state President I can be! It takes each and every one of the members of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. to make our organization great!

I look forward to many more great accomplishments for New Mexico Garden Clubs in 2016!

## **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT – Barbara Vance**

The year 2015 seemed to go by much more quickly than past years. The highlight of the year for me was the State Convention in Silver City with the installation of NMGC, Inc. officers for 2015-2017, when I was installed as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. I am so honored This new office will be a learning experience for me about how New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. functions with contributions of officers, district directors, chairmen and most importantly the individual members who make this a great organization in our state.

During a previous administration the State President and the 1<sup>st</sup> vice president, with assistance from others, started the "Breakout Sessions" that allowed incoming personnel to learn more about the position they were asked to serve in. Last spring 3-ring binders containing pertinent information about the requirements and duties of the position, were distributed to each officer, district director, club president, and chairman. The newly standardized report forms are very important toward consolidating the information from the Club – to the District – to the State – allowing our state officers to report to Regional and National. In the last months of the year - during conversations with officers and members - it has become evident that the new guidelines and report forms are now indispensable. The notebooks are a wonderful source of information to help each of us learn proper procedures.

In October I was invited and attended two District meetings – District II in Los Alamos and District III held at the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas. Suzy and I learned firsthand about the many activities of the various clubs in the reports of the District Directors. There was time to socialize with members/friends during and after lunch. During this year I look forward to visiting our Districts as it provides an opportunity to visit with club members and learn about them and club projects. Our club members keep very busy with numerous activities and community projects.

What exciting times are ahead for me – learning new duties – traveling to different areas – greeting friends making new friends. Wonderful opportunities to learn and grow. May we all enjoy these occasions of learning together.

## SECOND VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP – Jan Smith

2015 has been a year of ups and downs. Many clubs lost members to relocation or their passing. But all of the clubs have been working hard to recruit new members. We ended 2014 with 542 adult members and 25 youth members. We end 2015 with 562 adult members and 32 youth members! A new youth club, Pecos Valley Youth Garden Club, has been established and is supported by Home Garden Club. I would encourage all clubs to actively look for ways to inform the public about garden clubs; flower shows, gardeners markets, farmers markets, county and state fairs, and even parades. Add a pamphlet to the new home owner packages. Put flyers out at the library and garden centers.

II	Los Alamos	31	36	5	16%	6/1/2015
II	Summit	27	26	-1	-4%	5/12/2015
<b>Total D II</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
III	Angel Fire	52	69	17	33%	6/1/2005
III	Ponderosa Pines Junior Club	10	16	6	60%	NA
III	Santa Rosa	15	18	3	20%	5/1/2015
<b>Total D III</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>26</b>
	<i>includes 1 youth club</i>					
IV	Desert Daubers	16	14	-2	-13%	6/15/2015
IV	Evergreen	18	15	-3	-17%	6/27/2015
IV	Flowering Desert	9	7	-2	-22%	5/5/2015
IV	Mesilla Valley	26	27	1	4%	6/1/2015
IV	Socorro	16	17	1	6%	7/23/2015
IV	Sunshine Valley	20	23	3	15%	4/29/2015
<b>Total D IV</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-2</b>
V	Artesia	15	12	-3	-20%	6/7/2015
V	Home	33	29	-4	-12%	5/15/2015
V	Pecos Vly Youth		#		0%	na
V	Lincoln	35	37	2	6%	4/24/2015
V	Morning	26	30	4	15%	6/15/2015
V	Mountain	5	5	0	0%	7/20/2015
<b>Total D V</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1</b>
	<i>includes 1 youth</i>					

<i>club</i>						
<b>Total NMGC</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>29</b>

I	Double Eagle Diggers #	52 members joined in 2016	Not renewing in 2015
---	------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------

## RECORDING SECRETARY – Carolyn Bedford

### Minutes of FALL BOARD MEETING, October 30, 2015

Crown Plaza Hotel

Albuquerque, New Mexico

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am

- Jane Pilley, **Protocol Chairman**, presided over the opening of the 66<sup>th</sup> NMGC Fall Board Meeting.
- Shirley Tetreault, Blue Star Chairman, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Penni Davey, **Corresponding Secretary**, read the inspirational reading.
- Mary Ann Moreno, **District I Director**, gave the welcome to Albuquerque.
- Suzy Andrego, **NMGC President**, called the meeting to order at 9:48 a.m.
- President Andrego introduced herself and the following officers:
  - Mary Ann Moreno, District I
  - Doris Jackson, District II
  - Colleen Hinker, District III
  - Nancy Ketchum, District IV
  - Judy Preston, District V
  - Immediate Past President, Isabel Olsen.
- Also introduced were: Becky Fuller, **Historian**; Laurie Hixson, **Treasurer**; Penni Davey, **Corresponding Secretary**; Carolyn Bedford, **Recording Secretary**; Jan Smith, **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**; Barbara Vance, **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**, and Sally Warner, **Parliamentarian**.
- Debi Harrington, **Registrar**, gave the credentials report. Motion made to adopted preliminary credentials report. Approved with a voting strength of 36.
- Sally Warner, **Parliamentarian**, stated that we had a quorum. Sally Warner, **Parliamentarian**, read the standing and general rules of the convention. Copy attached- a motion to accept the Standing Rules was made and adopted.
- The Chair appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of this meeting: Barbara Vance, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Jan Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Judy Preston, District

–V Director. .The Chair appointed the following members as **Time Keepers**: John Sorrell, Water Conservation Chairman and Larry Layden, Angel Fire Garden Club Member.

- The Minutes from the Spring 2014 convention were read and approved.
- The Treasurer’s report was given by Laurie Hixson, Treasurer. Copies attached. Laurie started her term in July, 2015. Laurie reported that the fall semester scholarship for Derek Barchenger, a Research Assistant in the Chili Pepper Breeding and Genetics Department, had been paid to NMSU. New Mexico State pins are available for purchase from the Scholarship Chair, Christine Longthorp, at a cost of \$20.00 and those monies will be going to the Scholarship Fund. The last convention has a surplus and 50% of the profits (approximately \$1500) were given to the NMGC for the general fund.
- **District I Director**, Mary Ann Moreno, requested that a \$1000 loan given to the NMGC State Scholarship Fund be returned to Valley Garden Club. NMGC agreed to repay this money.
- **Treasurer Hixson** is in the process of moving the banking accounts from the Del Norte Credit Union to the Los Alamos National Bank because they have branches in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Los Alamos. This move will enable the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and the Treasurer easy access to all the organization’s funds. Report filed for audit.
- **President Suzy Andrego** gave her report and also her project, “Planting Seeds for Our Future, Helping Increase Monarch Butterflies and all other butterflies in NM.” She noted that there is a new award “The Rose Award” The ROSE award is a recognition award at the District level. The candidates for this award are nominated by the District Director and club Presidents within the district. The candidates are members who have played a large role in their district and had a positive impact. The ROSE award stands for “Recognition of Service Excellence” and will be awarded at each fall and spring district meetings. Recipients will be presented with a rhinestone rose pin.

2015 Fall ROSE award recipients are:

District 1 – Debra Sorrell – Awards Chair

District 2 – Cindy Hills – Website Chair

District 3 – Jo Ann Layden – Butterfly Chair

District 4 – Linnea Egbert – NM Gardener Editor

District 5 – Lisa Peake – member of Lincoln Garden Club

Report attached.

- **Barbara Vance, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**, report attached.
- **Jan Smith, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**, reported NMGC had 542 adult members at the end of May 2014. Two youth clubs were discontinued. A total membership is currently at 548. Report attached.
- **Becky Fuller, Historian**, report attached. She asked that each club send her a one page report of the year’s activities. Form to be used is in the Award ‘s Book.
- **Penni Davey, Corresponding Secretary**, report attached. Penni gave out new updated copies of the contact information for all Officers, Chairpersons, District Directors and Club Presidents.
- **Isabel Olsen, Immediate Past President**. Report attached.
- **District Director’s Reports**:

Mary Ann Moreno, District I, report attached  
Doris Jackson, District II, report attached  
Colleen Hinker, District III, report attached.  
Nancy Ketchum, District IV, report attached.  
Judy Preston, District V, report attached.

- **Carolyn Bedford, Recording Secretary**, read the recommendations from the Executive Committee.

Recommendation 1: That \$884.94, from the President's Endowment CD is moved to the President's Endowment fund, to cover expenses of the spring 2015 President Elect's travel. Recommendation approved.

Recommendation 2: That \$970.77 from the President's Endowment CD is moved to the President Endowment fund to cover the cost of the six President medallions. Recommendation is approved.

Recommendation 3: That changes to the 2015-2016 Budget be adjusted which increases the NM Gardener budget from \$500 to \$1000 and increases the office administration budget from \$100 to \$200. Recommendation is approved.

Recommendation 4: That up to \$3,000 from the general CD is moved to the general fund, for 2015-2106 NMGC operating expenses. Recommendation is approved.

#### **Other Reports:**

- **Beulah Oyler**, Registrar for 2015 NMGC Convention reported that 87 members attended the 2015 Annual Convention in Silver City. –District IV split the surplus monies and gave the state \$1471.48.
- **Parliamentarian** report: Sally Warner explained her duties as Parliamentarian.
- **President** Andrego asked all Committee Chairmen to submit one article to the New Mexico Gardener- Several Chairman have already done so and were rewarded by President Andrego with a small gift.

#### Committee Chairmen Reports:

- **Audit Chairman, Norma Tech** presented the Audit results and recommendation from the committee.  
In honor of all Norma has done for NM Garden Clubs, President Andrego presented Norma with a replacement NMGC Silver Medallion that she found at an estate sale after hearing Norma's had been stolen from her home.
- **Butterfly Chairman: Joann Layden** presented her brochure on Butterflies of New Mexico. It is available on the NMGC website. Copy of report attached.
- **Awards Chairman: Debra Sorrell** presented the 2015 Updated edition of the NMGC awards books. She went over - the changes. -. One of the notable changes is that all photo entries must be taken in NM. And there are 6 photo sections to enter. She also asked that awards to be submitted to South Central Region must be to - her by mid-January. She asked chairpersons, members and clubs to sponsor a monetary award for

any awards they are giving, or for a project they like or just monies for the general awards fund. Copy of report attached.

- **Judges Council Chairman: Shirley Tetreault** explained that the Exhibition Tables were all prepared by Student Judges. She reported that Diane Doddridge made all the doilies used with the table-scapes for the miniatures and they are for sale.
- **Penny Pines Chairman: Isabel Olsen** is the State Chairman, the South Central Regional Chairman and the National Chairman for Penny Pines. She has a donation form and jar for each club. She will travel anywhere in the state to give a program on Penny Pines. New Mexico has five national forests, one in each of the NMGC Districts. They are as follows:

District I – Cibola National Forest

District II – Santa Fe National Forest

District III – Carson National Forest

District IV – Gila National Forest

District V – Lincoln National Forest

Chairman Olsen suggested we donate to the forest in our district in memory of loved ones or deceased members.

- **Scholarship Chairperson: Christine Longthorp** reported that New Mexico has 3 NEW national life members. Cost is \$200 for national life membership and \$40 for state life membership. Christine is selling the new state pens for \$20 which will go into the scholarship fund. Derek Barchanger, a NMSU Master's Program student, is our scholarship recipient and the SCR scholarship winner.
- **Website Chairperson: Report submitted by Cindy Hills** and read by Carolyn Bedford. Scholarship information can now be found on the NMGC website. Along with the 2015 edition of the awards book, the District Directors Club Presidents report form and the new Butterfly brochure. Watch for upcoming District pages. She gave us the user name and password for the website. Report attached.
- **Habitat for Humanity Chairperson: Sonia James**, report attached.
- **Smokey Bear:** Mary Ann Moreno, Chairperson, gave information for the poster contests and offered herself and President Andrego will come and help your club crate posters with your youth group. Chairman Moreno reminded members that January 22 is the deadline for the poster contest. -
- **Environmental School Chairperson: Mary Ann Moreno**, recognized Suzy Andrego and Debi Harrington as recent graduates and gave special cards to Colleen and Fred Hinker for their dedication to this school. School 4 is planned for early summer, 2016 for the Bosque with plans to stay at New Mexico Tech.
- **National Chairperson for Container Gardening:** Mary Ann Moreno said prizes are offered for all entries in container gardening but must be submitted by March 15.
- **Youth Therapy/Activities:** Esther Russell, Chairperson, reported that the state had lost three youth groups this year, however there are 2 continuing and new clubs are planned. Awards are available for all youth groups.
- **Nominating Committee: Maggie Rubino.** Report Attached.

Doris Jackson will be our NMGC representative for the SCR nominating committee. Sally Warner will be the alternate.

The Regional Director and Alternate Director nominees must be endorsed by vote of the State Board of Directors at its regular meeting. New Mexico has two candidates to nominate for the positions: ***Shirley Tetreault and Isabel Olsen***. The candidate names will be posted in the winter issue of the NM Gardener, along with a few words from each. At the Annual convention, a ballot vote will be taken. The candidate with the most votes will be Director and the other candidate will be the alternate.

- **Ways and Means Committee:** Juanita Ortega, Chairman reported that there will be four drawings in the first year of this President's term. The first and second prizes will be drawn today and are an all-expense paid trip to the Spring Convention and the decorative Lightning Bolt -. The second drawing will be held at the Spring Convention for the Lapis Heshi necklace and the smiling sculpture.
- **Archives Chairperson:** Beulah Oyler will put an article in the next NM Gardener.

No unfinished business.

No new business.

President Andrego welcomed all first time Fall Board attendees and presented each with a small gift.

Meeting was recessed at 12:00 by **President** Andrego for the "Planting Seeds of Friendship" program and lunch.

Meeting resumed at 2:00 p.m. in the Rancher club.

- **Juanita Ortega, Ways and Means Chairman**, drew for the all-expense paid trip to the 2016 Annual New Mexico Garden Clubs Convention. The winner is Jan Smith from Home Garden Club in Roswell, NM. -The winner of the Creative Lightning Bolt container, Jo Ann Layden of Angel Fire Garden Club, Angel Fire, NM.
- **Announcements:** Next Board of Directors Meeting will be March 30, 31 and April 1, 2016 in Alto, NM.
- **Debi Harrington, Registrar**, gave the Final Registration and Credentials Report. We had 54 members attending and a voting strength of 46. Report attached.
- **Courtesy Resolutions** were given by Diane Peterson & Johnese Turri, Co-Chairs. The Courtesy resolutions were adopted.
- **Benediction** was given by Becky Fuller.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Carolyn Bedford, Recording Secretary

TREASURER - Laurie Hixon

### **HISTORIAN - Becky Fuller**

Hey, New Mexico Garden Clubbers, I am so proud! I received 16 club histories out of 22 clubs (I miscounted in the Gardener article). That is about 2/3's of the clubs. I want to thank all of you and I hope to see even more histories next year.

I will submit my state History report to the powers that be and look forward to reading all about you next year.

### **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – Penni Davey**

The NMGC President has written articles and other items for various publications, and I have assisted her with workshops and executive meetings. I have kept the Officers, Chairpersons, District Directors and Presidents list current. I have also gathered reports for the 2015 New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Report, and I prepared, edited and had the report printed to be distributed at the Spring Convention to be held in Ruidoso, New Mexico on March 30, 31 and April 1, 2016.

## **DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS**

### **DISTRICT I DIRECTOR – Mary Ann Moreno**

District I has eight Garden Clubs, and one Junior Garden Club I meeting. Our first District I meeting was held on October 5, 2015 at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House in Albuquerque's beautiful South Valley. The weather was warm and our delicious Pot Luck was served out side on the lovely veranda, we enjoyed touring this very historic home and gardens and celebrated our NMGC, President, Suzy Andrego's Birthday, with cake and ice cream. Garden club reports were given and all clubs are having programs on conservation and focusing on Pollinator protection by planting milk weed seeds for our Monarch Butterflies. Everyone in District I is encouraged to plant container's in their yards that offer native plants and flowers to lure bees, butterflies, birds and pollinators to drink, eat, lay eggs and increase their populations to help our environment. District I hosted the NMGC, Inc., Fall Board Meeting at the on University NE., in Albuquerque. All State Districts were well represented. A wild Scavenger Hunt was the hit of the meeting. The teams all wore funny hats, mustaches, weird glasses and competed to see who found all the items. The NM Judges Council Dinner had an after dinner program on Tables designed by six imaginative students. Everyone had wonderful color combinations, accessories and flowers. District I members are looking forward to hosting the 2017 NMGC, Inc., Annual Spring Convention and SCR Convention in 2017

This March 7, 2016, our District I Meeting will be held at the Canyon Club (old Four Hills Country Club) and a Salads and Soups Bar with drinks and desert is on the menu. Jennifer Dunn with the Forest Service will speak on Urban Forestry and how our back yards can help! District I Awards will be given by Suzy Andrego, NMGC President, and District I Awards Chairman. We are all excited about attending our 2016 NMGC Annual Spring Convention in Ruidoso and meeting with our National President Sandra Robinson, and South Central Region Director, Barbara Baker

### **High Design Club - President: Shirley Tetreault**

Established November 20, 2013

High Desert Design Club is growing fast and continues to be educational and a lot of fun for our members. Almost all of the programs are "Hands On" workshops involving all members. They bring their own flowers, containers, tools etc. and create their own design which is then critiqued for educational purposes. Below is the 2015 schedule.

**January 14** - Sculpture Design Workshop

**February 11** - Posy Pin Workshop

**March 11** - Hat Decoration Workshop

**April 8** - Type II Hanging Design

**May 13** - Share the Beauty Day - Council Project - 700 designs are made and taken to nursing homes throughout the city. It is a great project that makes a lot of people very happy.

**June 10** - Mass Design

**July 8** - Duo Design

**August 12** - Line Mass Design

**September 9** - Dark - Busy entering designs for the State Fair

**October 14** - Creative Abstract with Moderate Abstraction

**November 11** - Functional Table Setting for Halloween

**December 9** - Holiday Social at the Presidents home - White Elephant exchange

Our current membership is 28, however, we are always looking for those that enjoy having fun and being creative. We meet the second Wednesday of the month (1:00) at the Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas Blvd. N.E., (505) 296-6020.

Respectfully Submitted

Shirley Tetreault - President

Petal Pushers Garden Club was started in 1958. Today we have 19 active members. We have 9 Educational Gardening programs & meetings q year. We do not meet in July. In April we have a Luncheon with a small amount of business along with the installation of our new Officers. This year NMGC State President Suzy Andrego installed our new Officers. We so enjoyed having her join us and also do the installation. In December we had our Holiday Luncheon with guests Mary Ann Moreno, District I Director and Suzy Andrego our NMGC President. We also invited Councils President Debi Harrington. Debi was unable to come as she was recuperating from surgery. We missed her. Petal Pushers @ our annual Holiday Luncheon have for years and continue to do so bring toiletries & other useful items for the Barrett House residents. The Barrett House is a temporary home for homeless women & their Children. We help the Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs/Societies (Petal Pushers is a member) with the fund raising functions such as: Holiday Fair, Harvest Fair, Rummage Sale, Garden Tour & the State Fair. Some members volunteer in Councils Garden Shop and Library. Petal Pushers have a Container Plant sale the last Friday & Saturday of April along with Councils Plant sale. This is our major fund raiser of the year. Plus this sale also gives us the opportunity to introduce ourselves to the Public and answer their gardening questions.

Members along with helping @ the State Fair also enter their flowers, etc. in the various horticulture and design categories. We help during National Garden week which is the first week in June with the Share the Beauty Day along with other Albuquerque Garden Clubs and Societies. Petal Pushers decorated many soup cans (containers for the arrangements) prior to helping make the floral arrangements on the first Monday in June, Over 600 floral arrangements were delivered to Nursing Home Residents in Albuquerque.

Along with the above project and the Barrett House donations Petal Pushers started supporting "Penny for Pines". We will also be donating 10 drought tolerant grasses to a new Habitat for Humanity Home in Albuquerque. We are currently working on a Civic project that will involve Residents @ a local Nursing Home in Albuquerque. That is a total of 5 different projects and for a small Club we are proud we are able to do all of these things plus other charitable things that come up during the year.

Many Petal Pushers members along with our Club entered in the various NMGC Awards. We have an excellent Awards Chairperson. We also have an excellent Publicity Chairperson who

makes sure we have an article/photo in every NM Gardener edition along with Councils quarterly newsletter & various other publicity occasions that arise. As President I send out a monthly newsletter one week prior to our monthly meeting with current and upcoming programs, events, etc. I also send out other emails when the occasions arise that members need the various information.

Some Petal Pushers members attended the spring (March) and fall (October) District meetings/luncheons in Albuquerque, the NMGC Fall Board meeting in October held in Albuquerque and the Spring NMGC convention in Silver City in March.

Petal Pushers members are talented & giving in so many areas. Plus in addition to excellent Awards & Publicity Chairpersons I have many other excellent Chairpersons. I am blessed with all Petal Pushers members who are fun, intelligent & wonderful members. I am proud to be their President.

Sincerely,  
Carol Stomp

#### UPTOWN GARDEN CLUB - Debra Sorrell, President

Uptown Garden Club has been passionately pursuing pollinators this last year! Our monthly programs have been centered on planning for, planting for and looking for pollinators of all kinds in our gardens. We have had speakers on wildlife habitat, water conservation, roses and, of course, butterflies. We will continue this focus throughout the next year as we learn more and more about the importance of pollinators and the work they do.

Uptown has also undertaken an enormous endeavor to revamp our garden space at the Albuquerque Garden Center. What was originally just a new landscaping project turned into a major drainage problem remediation and complete overhaul of the area. The project continues to move forward and we are looking at completion in early 2016.

#### DISTRICT II DIRECTOR – Doris Jackson

Theme: Linking Ecology with an Affinity for Plants

District II Garden Clubs had a very busy summer with members tending their own gardens as well as public gardens. Summit GC renovated the gardens at Bandelier National Monument and Los Alamos GC members worked weekly in the Los Alamos Memorial Rose Garden at Fuller Lodge in Los Alamos. Work parties will continue this spring. The Los Alamos GC and Summit GC have educational programs, annual fundraisers, volunteer projects and fun social activities. Floral Designers GC is a study club and meets monthly studying designs and sharing ideas from the Designing by Types book published by National Garden Clubs, Inc.

At the 2015 District II Fall Executive Board Meeting in Los Alamos we approved:

- \* The Revised Standing Rules
- \* Plans for a Small Standard Flower Show on June 17, 2016 at Fuller Lodge Art Center
- \* Working on placing the Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker that has been in storage for many years

\* Approved a Proposed Budget for 2015-17

The District II Spring Meeting will be held in Los Alamos on March 23, 2016.

### Floral Designers – Juanita Ortega, President

Floral Designers is a member garden club of NMGC, Inc. and District II. We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month, except November, December and January. We meet in Santa Fe at Church of the Holy Faith or in Los Alamos at Crossroads Bible Church or White Rock Presbyterian Church. Our club presently has a membership of twelve. We are a design study group that makes arrangements of different types of Creative Designs. Everyone is encouraged to bring an arrangement of the featured design type to the meeting. Two of our members give a short presentation on that type. We then discuss and critique the designs made by the members, using the *Handbook for Flower Shows and Designing by Types*, both by NGC, Inc., as our references. We practice point scoring the designs using the NGC, Inc. Scale of Points for All Designs, found in the *Handbook*, p. 303. In 2015, we studied the following types of designs: Small Designs, Spatial Thrust, Stabile, Stretch, Synergistic, Exhibition Table, Type I, Traditional Line/Line-Mass, and Transparency.

In August, we traveled to Taos, NM for a garden tour and luncheon meeting at the home of one of our members. The gardens displayed hundreds of blooming dahlias of all colors, sizes and types. Special guests included NMGC, Inc. President Suzy Andrego and Uptown Garden Club President Debra Sorrell. We voted to have a Small Standard Flower Show at Fuller Lodge Art Center in Los Alamos to coincide with their opening of a new art show next June 17, 2016. NMGC, Inc. District II will sponsor the Flower Show in cooperation with the District II Judges Council and the three District II clubs. Floral Designers will be the organizing garden club.

We support the Ways and Means Committee raffle ticket sales for the President's Project. Throughout the year, our members support their communities by participating in other local garden clubs' activities, such as flower shows and civic beautification projects.

### SUMMIT GARDEN CLUB – Shelby Redondo

The Summit Garden Club was very active during the 2015 period. The club enjoyed various informative talks, which were presented by local talent. These included a program called "Local Wildflowers" by Teralene Foxx, "Modern Designs in Flower Arrangements" by Shelby Green, and a Q & A session on "Hardscapes" by Los Alamos Landscaping. Doris Jackson visited us in December to share in our cookie exchange and talk about the "Joys of Flower Arranging" and encouraged members to participate in future Flower Shows.

Members had the opportunity to attend a variety of tours. David McIntire's informational talk gave us an appreciation of our own local wetlands of Ashley Pond. August provided an opportunity to visit the gardens of three of our own club members, and to enjoy the Stammlinger's Dahlia Gardens of Taos. Those who attended the tour of the Salman Raspberry

Farm in Dixon were already looking forward to a repeat visit. Manager, Jim Salman, treated club members to a personal tour of the farm. He included a tip to discourage gophers. He suggested that when the canes from the raspberries die back, they should be chopped into short pieces and stuffed into the gopher holes. This discourages the gophers from eating the neighboring plants and forces them to move on. While at the farm we visited the gardens, learned about its history, purchased plants from the greenhouse as well as raspberry delights from their store. A lunch at the little cafe was topped off with raspberry sundaes, and culminated with club members picking their own pails of raspberries. Two members from the Los Alamos Garden Club joined us for this special tour.

Summit Garden Club continues to maintain several public gardens including the White Rock Community Garden and the patio gardens at Bandelier National Monument as well as Mrs. Fry's Garden. The main patio garden at Bandelier was a challenge as squirrels took a liking to the Hollyhocks and Butterfly Weed. Several of the Potentilla shrubs also suffered. Attention to the White Rock Community Garden consisted mainly of spreading manure and mulch, weeding, and watering tender plants. An irrigation drip system was installed. Battling gophers and Bindweed were two main challenges. Some of the new fifty additions to the garden this past year included some ornamental grasses, Mexican Hat, Salvia, Catmint, and Blue Mist Spirea.

Other civic duties sponsored by the club included awarding the Jim and Pat Edmonds Memorial Scholarship to Stephan Calhoun, a graduating senior from Los Alamos High School. Fifty dollars was donated to Heifer International and the Penny Pines Project was instituted this fall. In addition, the Summit Garden Club provided monetary support to the Pajarito Environmental Education Center. The club participated in the annual Festival of Trees, a fundraiser that supports the Betty Ehart Senior Center. A display during National Garden Week occupied the foyer of the Los Alamos Mesa Public Library.

Individual members have pursued a variety of interests such as bee keeping, vegetable gardening, creating a bird sanctuary, indoor gardening, flower arranging, landscaping, and establishing a wildlife habitat. All in all we enjoy the fellowship of each other in sharing our passion for gardening

### **DISTRICT III DIRECTOR – Colleen Hinker**

Assistant Director-Joanne Layden

Secretary -Penni Davey

Treasurer- Fred Hinker

We have two very active clubs here on the eastern side of New Mexico-Angel Fire and Santa Rosa. Angel Fire has 69 members and Santa Rosa has 16. Both Clubs have sent representatives to State meetings and they support the awards program.

As a district, we have been studying our by-laws to bring them up-to-date, plus working on a yearly budget to guide our executive board. Hopefully we can vote on these at our March meeting. We have begun preliminary planning that we are hosting for the j2016 Fall Board Meeting which will be held at an historic hotel in Las Vegas, NM. We are also setting up an awards program for our district members.

Several years ago, our district sponsored a Blue Star Memorial near Clovis, NM. The State has informed us that they are tearing down the facility. We are now in the process of getting permission from the city to move it to their Veterans Park on the highway to the West. Santa Rosa Garden Clubs many projects include maintaining a medicinal herb garden in the courtyard of the hospital. It has informational signs to give the public important information on the plants there. They also seasonally decorate their Blue Star Memorial. They oversee the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster at two schools in their county and give a deserving high school senior a \$500 scholarship.

They all enjoy sharing their skills and they have several programs yearly to teach senior citizens floral design and horticulture. Plus they organize a great Standard Flower Show at the Guadalupe County Fair in August. Several of our ladies attended to support the Angel Fire Garden Tour in July. What a beautiful day we spent in the Mountains. And we now have 5 new members to enjoy our programs and fellowship.

We are proud of what our two clubs have accomplished this year.

### Angel Fire Garden Club –Johnese Turri, President

We had a very busy 2015. We added 8 new members and now are 69 members strong!

Our partnership with the Village of Angel Fire worked out very well as we worked on re-landscaping the median and planted lots of bulbs and even got to use the recycled crushed glass from our local transfer station. It is wonderful to see our median glow in the sunlight!

Our Butterfly Garden at the Shuter Library was designated as an official Butterfly Garden and Monarch Butterfly Garden. We are now an official member of the NABA. We've installed our signs outside with a beautiful plaque inside the library. We have several butterfly houses and were able to plant some milkweed before the snows came.

We are also designating the Butterfly Garden with the partnership of the Shuter Library as a Blue Star Memorial with a Byway marker to be installed this year.

Our Ponderosa Pines Junior Garden club was also very busy. These young gardeners participated in the Smokey the Bear and Woodsy the Owl poster contest. One of these young members won first place for her Smokey the Bear poster and was 3<sup>rd</sup> in regional. They worked on weeding at the butterfly garden and the girl-scout camp. They were hosts at our annual Garden Tour and sold their home made greeting cards at the tour.

The Blue Star Memorial at the Veterans Memorial is still being maintained by our members. We always receive such praise at this garden.

Our 13<sup>th</sup> annual garden tour was again a successful event. We had 6 wonderful gardens on the tour last year with local artists at each garden. Our decorated hats were a great hit at registration. The attendees had fun trying them on and deciding which one they would buy. Our local businesses stepped up to donate wonderful items for our silent auction.

We had fun last year and looking forward to see what 2016 brings!  
Submitted by: Johnese Turri, President of Angel Fire Garden Club

## **DISTRICT IV DIRECTOR – Nancy Ketchum**

District IV consists of six garden clubs with one hundred one members.

Desert Daubers has thirteen members and its president is Lynn Cashton. Evergreen has fifteen members with Lequita Lett serving as president. Flowering Desert has seven members and Donna Turney is the president. Mesilla Valley has twenty-eight members and its president is Charlene Brock. Socorro has seventeen members with Susan Miller serving as president. Sunshine Valley has twenty-one members and the president is Lucille Lomeland.

The spring district meeting was hosted by Mesilla Valley at the Savoy in Mesilla. Jackye Meinecke presented the program on “How to Create an Enchanted Garden.” The fall meeting was hosted by Evergreen at the Women’s Club in Silver City. The program was presented by Marilyn Markel who spoke on the culture of the early inhabitants of the Mimbres River Valley. District IV held the State Convention in Silver City in March.

Mesilla Valley sent good wishes as long-time member (thirty-five years) and flower show judge Barbara Gerhard moved to the Seattle area.

Community projects have included plant sales, bake sales, and donations of food, flowers and books to local facilities. Mesilla Valley maintains a city median. Flowering Desert continues to nurture the Memorial Rose Garden and once again partnered with the Girl Scouts for that effort. Evergreen gathered eight bags of trash during their road-cleaning project in preparation for the Tour of the Gila Bike Race. Socorro planted its third public garden at Bosque del Apache referred to as the “Point-of-Land Project.” Sunshine Valley installed colorful metal flowers at the City Triangle as a new project because the planter at the hospital is now under the care of a local landscaping company.

On Earth Day, Socorro participated in education activities sponsored by the Bosque del Apache. Students, in grades one through four, planted a seed in the proper amount of soil. Instruction was given in care and maintenance of seeds to help grow a full plant.

Club members enjoyed wonderful programs during the year. Doris Adams taught how to press fresh flowers and presented a program on Xeriscaping. Many clubs toured of the gardens of club members or others. Jeff Dornbusch, who discovered an approximately 90 million-year-old fossil turtle in Truth or Consequence area, brought in and discussed a variety of rocks and other fossil specimens that were found in close proximity to the turtle. A member of the Audubon Society taught about owls. Members learned about the meaning of flowers, irises and day lilies, viewed the results of the first year’s experiment with straw-bale gardening from Monica Rude, listened

to Jackye Meinecke teach about Garden Tasks for fall including information about which flowers and vegetables should be planted in the fall. A club also went on a field trip to El Paso for a guided visit to the Chihuahuan Desert Museum Gardens at the University of Texas, El Paso.

Flowering Desert, Sunshine Valley and Socorro sponsored flower shows at their county fairs. Mesilla Valley and Desert Daubers, in association with another club in Las Cruces sponsored a Small-Standard Flower Show, as did Evergreen. The clubs in Las Cruces once again sponsored the Las Cruces Tour of Gardens.

Flowering Desert observed National Garden Week by placing posters at strategic locations and a banner at the corner of the Rose Garden.

Members attended flower show schools and symposiums, the Fall Board in Albuquerque and the Spring Convention in Silver City. All in all, a busy and productive year.

### Socorro Garden Club - Naomi Castaneda

We installed a memorial at the Socorro Hospital flower bed to honor those who have passed away. We purchased a flat rock and had the phrase "in Memory of Those Who have Departed" etched on it.

In addition to our regular Octoberfest fund raising event, we joined forces with the Friends of Socorro Library and held a couple of plant sales in conjunction with their book sales.

We assisted the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in the development of a circular landscape area by the visitor's center. This was to consist of native plants requiring little or low maintenance to enhance the wilderness area and inspire naturalists. This was accomplished in the fall and some plants are beginning to show some growth. At first, we did have to water them regularly but with the precipitation we have had, we do not need to water as often. The problem now is that there are rodents who eat the young plants as soon as they appear above ground

This year, we have been asked to help the San Antonio Elementary Schools in designing a landscape area for their yard. We are waiting for more information from the schools in order to decide whether to go ahead with this project.

### DISTRICT V DIRECTOR – Judy Preston

District V is very busy because we will be hosting the State convention in March, 2016 at the Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club.

### Artesia Garden Club – Julie Foster, President

Two of our members attended Fall Board in Albuquerque. We enjoyed a Christmas Party and Dinner. Everyone made their specialty dishes, and the center staff join us. Gathered toys for the children's home in Portales. It was a great time with a Chinese gift exchange.

January we discussed award applications and design types for the fair flower show. February, we discussed convention, District V meetings and started our succulent planter for convention.

### Lincoln County Garden Club – Nannette Tanner

This has been a busy year! So much to see and do.

Visited the Cadwallader Cherry Orchard. A successful plant sale at the Ruidoso Library. Pegi Smith gave us a program on succulents. We received an award and \$200.00 from National for the Library water catchment system. We met and gave a \$100 donation at the Mescalero Hoop Gardens and Fishery. Lisa & Gordon Peak demonstrated how to make Hyper tufa containers. Judy Sarabia of Ruidoso Community Center gave the program and encouraged community service.

### Morning Garden Club - Pamela Davis, President

We have been busy this past quarter. We have donated a tree, along with garden tools, for the most recent Habitat for Humanity home.

Renate Reisel and Sue Ferguson planted the tree along with two cadets from New Mexico Military Institute.

We continue to collect small soaps, shampoos, etc., for our local Roswell Refuge for Battered Adults, and recycling small items such as batteries, etc., are ongoing.

We decorated the Historical Society for SE New Mexico, House Museum, for their annual Christmas Open House. This is also an ongoing yearly project. See pictures.....

Looking forward to spring and a busy time!

We will be planning the planting of knockout roses, along with some greenery, around the Historical Museum for Southeast New Mexico. These are the beds we prepared in the fall using the 'Lasagna Garden' method.

We have ongoing butterfly gardens in our Cahoon Park, and planters and bird feeders in a local nursing home.

We're all looking forward to the State Convention and doing our share in helping Ruidoso, as hosts from this district. The plans sound amazing, and we look forward to being with the other clubs and members from around the state!

### Roswell Garden Club - Janice Dunnahoo, President

We have planted 10 trees and have been working with Junior Gardeners and Girl Scouts. We have 8 Life members and participate in both State and National President's Projects.

Programs have been various but the Bitter Lakes National Wildlife Refuge was one of the best.

## **CHAIRPERSON REPORTS**

### **ARCHIVES - Beulah Oyler**

I have taken several boxes of items to be archived at the NMSU library to have them catalogued. They will be available to anyone who would like to access them.

### **AWARDS – Debra Sorrell**

The Awards Handbook was revised at the beginning of my term, with a few minor changes. Those changes were presented at the annual Fall Board meeting in Albuquerque and new handbooks distributed. I have written articles for the New Mexico Gardener, encouraging our members to begin to plan early for entering. I have been soliciting donations for monetary prizes, as well. We are looking forward to a great awards ceremony in the Spring of 2016!

Debra Sorrell

NMGC Awards Chair

### **BEES – Vicki Frye**

Through my articles, I tried to instill curiosity and some understanding of the World of Bees. I also hope my articles helped our members to appreciate bees and all they do for us. I will try to continue to that in my future articles.

We all know they are great pollinators but they are so much more than that. They are fascinating and entertaining. My husband and I had bees for almost 20 years in the East mountain area near Albuquerque.

I hope to put an Awards Program in place soon. I believe that that would encourage members to investigate and learn more about our Bees and their products.

I was disappointed that I was not able to do everything that I had planned to do this last year due to personal and family health issues. This year will certainly be better.

I have enjoyed sharing with members some stories and facts that I learned from our beekeeping experience.

If you have questions about bees, please contact me by email. If I don't know the answer, I will find out.

### **BIRD & BUTTERFLY – Jo Ann Layden**

It is an honor to be the Bird and Butterfly Chairman for NMGC and this first year has been a learning experience as it has helped me to take an active interest in studying and appreciating the different butterflies and birds and their migration and eating habits and learn about their ecological roles in our world. It was almost a shock to me to realize how seriously in trouble the

Monarch butterflies are due to human use of pesticides and also our habit of planting so many mono-crops where there used to be milkweed the only monarch caterpillar food.

I strongly believe that awareness truly is the major step in helping resolve or reverse this problem. Some of the methods I am attempting to use to spread awareness include the brochure I developed (*NM Butterflies Brochure*) for NMGC which was distributed at the Fall Board Meeting. I will be spreading the brochure around Angel Fire also, through the Community Center and Visitor Center, hoping it gets picked up by both our locals and visitors who will take it to other states as well.

We have designated our Butterfly Garden at the Shuter Library in Angel Fire as an official Butterfly and Monarch Butterfly Garden with the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). By registering the garden, I now receive information directly into my email about butterflies throughout the nation including pictures and other interesting articles. We have professionally installed signs at the garden notifying everyone of this designation and added butterfly houses hoping butterflies will hibernate in them. Through National Garden Clubs, Inc., we have registered about 30 New Mexico gardens into the Million Pollinator Challenge. I believe that we are on the right track to help protect all our butterflies and other pollinators by spreading this important information.

Regarding birds.....what amazing creatures they are and what a great variety we have in New Mexico! Although I have been feeding birds for years, this year I've made extra effort to study them in more detail and it is astounding how far they can migrate and how they survive under extreme conditions. Hummingbirds are some that are constant summer visitors in Northern New Mexico and withstand extreme snow storms that hit us in April and even May. Somehow these tiny birds show up in mid-April and make it through those late storms. This year I will be organizing bird watching days for Angel Fire Garden Club and anyone else interested, with a local group of amateur bird watchers. I have joined their "club" and hope to learn more about the type of birds we have in New Mexico and about their habits with this active bird watching group. Then I can pass on the information to all of our NMGC members.

We are also educating our local Ponderosa Pines Junior Garden Club about the importance of protecting all our butterflies and they are learning how the pollinators impact our planet earth. We have had several meetings devoted to the problems the Monarch butterflies are facing and how humanity is responsible. They also learn how to find solutions to the dangers facing pollinators. It feels good to see these young minds soaking up information, knowing they are our future and they can help save our pollinators!

### **BLUE STAR MARKERS/MEMORIAL GARDENS - Shirley Tetreault**

New Mexico is very active in honoring our veterans. Three memorials are on order and two others are in the process of being dedicated.

New Mexico Garden Clubs Inc., ordered 6/29/15, Chairman - Barbara Vance. Dedication

at Conchas Dam - Date and Time TBA.

District IV NMGC Inc., Evergreen GC, ordered 11/11/15, Chairman - Lequita Lett. Dedication May 30, 2016 at BatanVeterans Memorial Park in Silver City, NM. Time TBA.

District III, Angel Fire GC, ordered 1/18/16, Chairman - Johnese Turri. Dedication Spring of 2016 in Angel Fire. Date and time TBA.

District II, Santa Fe - Chairman - Maggie Rubino - Dedication TBA.

District III, Clovis - Chairman - Colleen Hinker - Re-Dedication. This marker was originally placed in Clovis, however, it had to be moved. The marker will be re-dedicated at a new location in Clovis.

Respectfully Submitted

Shirley Tetreault, Blue Star Chair

### **CIVIC DEVELOPMENT – Maple Levine**

No report received.

### **CONTAINER GARDENING for butterflies - Mary Ann Moreno**

Making a Butterfly Container is a wonderful way to entice butterflies and pollinators to our homes and surrounding gardens. Planting wild flowers and native plants that grow in your area are one of the best ways in attracting butterflies. Milkweed Plants, is a must for Monarch Butterflies. Some native Milk Weed seeds need freezing to germinate. Find information on the internet about what variety grows well in your area. Many butterflies are attracted to bright flowers. Look for plants that are colored red, orange, pink, or purple.

We start our container garden by selecting a plastic container that will with stand the seasons of hot and freezing temperatures. Place the container in an area that will receive some sun and shade and wind protection. For drainage, put plenty of broken pieces of old ceramic pots on the bottom of the container, or alternatively use three inches of Styrofoam peanuts. Your container needs a mixture of good garden soil, some commercial potting soil and compost.

Garden soil will add bulk and fiber to support the roots of the growing plants. Potting soil is fluffy and has perlite and other ingredients to keep the moisture and air in the soil. Compost can be from your compost pile or purchased. Mix equal parts of the soils together and add water to moisten. Plant your tallest horticulture such as Salvia, Milkweed, Dill or Fennel in the middle of the container for height. Place your seeds or plants around the inside edge of the container, where you want shorter flowers to grow. The finished container should attract egg laying butterflies, Caterpillars will grow, eating your tasty plants and more butterflies will appear for everyone to enjoy.

Mary Ann Moreno –Container Garden Chairman –For Bees and Butterflies

### **ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES SCHOOL – Mary Ann Moreno**

Environmental Studies School IV is in the planning stage.....But will be held this summer in late July or August of 2016. The topic and studies of ESSIV revolves around water and related subjects. We are exploring the possibility of having the school at Bosque Del Apache or other areas that features water. The notification and registration will be in the next New Mexico Gardener and you can find it on line in TNG, (The National Gardener). The school will be a great time to learn about our water resources and environmental concerns.

### **FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS - Suzy Andrego**

This has been an exciting year for the Flower Show schools!

We had five students successfully complete School IV, and they all have begun to write their flower show schedules. We have two additional students, from the Roswell Flower Show School series, also writing their flower show schedules.

The plan is for all the students to complete their schedules by May 1, send them off to be graded and then start preparing for the National Flower Show School reading exam scheduled for October, 2016.

The most exciting news is that we had one student take the national reading exam, pass it and is now NMGC and NMJC's newest Accredited Flower Show Judge! CONGRATULATIONS to Debra Sorrell!

### **FOOD/HERB GARDENING – Colleen Hinker**

I received 3 applications – lots of gardening involved in New Mexico. Applications ranged from a very large area to a small well-tended backyard garden.

I thank not only the applicants, but all of the members who work with Mother Nature.

### **GARDENING THERAPY – Renate Reisel**

No Application on garden therapy where submitted

Email went out to all garden club presidents to encourage and support Members to send in application for awards

I am happy to talk with garden club member if they need help with their garden project.

Hopefully this coming season we will have more luck and I will send out more emails to club members.

Renate Reisel chairperson

### **GENERAL HORTICULTURE - Ellen Reed**

I have written horticulture articles for each issue of the New Mexico Gardener pertaining to what you need to do in your garden at that time of the year. Watch for my horticulture articles in the coming New Mexico Gardeners.

### **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Sonia James**

No report received.

## **NEW MEXICO JUDGES COUNCIL - Christine Longthorp, President**

January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015: All of our meetings are conducted at the Albuquerque Garden Club at 11:30 A.M. where we also serve a potluck salad lunch. The program for the January meeting was a Show and Tell where judges brought specimens of indoor horticulture or designs from the previous year that they had entered in shows.

Our April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting had our own member, Shirley Tetreault give a program on miniature designs. We then offered the latest information from the NGC Instructors Symposium. As usual, we enjoyed discussion regarding changes for the future.

On July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 we met again for a potluck luncheon with Suzy Andrego, our New Mexico State Fair Chairman, who helped us all prep for the flower shows by going through the schedules and refreshing judges on the special issues our State Fair present.

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 our program was a discussion on judging ethics and protocol and addressing some of the challenges judges face around the state.

Throughout the year we have all enjoyed a close camaraderie between New Mexico flower show judges.

We also welcomed five newly accredited judges, Carolyn Buckley, Carolyn Bedford, Debi Harrington, Nancy Ketchum, and Debra Sorrell.

Plans for 2016 are that a total of thirteen N.M.G.C. judges will attend a symposium on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in Phoenix, Arizona.

Our NMGC judges are clearly committed to excellence in flower show judging.

Christine Longthorp, Judges Council President

## **JUDGES STATE CREDENTIALS – Mary Gilliam**

New Mexico Flower Show Judges Report, February, 2016

Judges:

To date, New Mexico has 32 active Accredited Judges.

21 Master Judges

4 Life Judges

7 Accredited Judges

7 students have passed all Flower Show Schools and are writing their Schedules.

Since October, one student has become an Accredited Judge.

1 student must retake the Handbook Exam. (Not sure of status)

Since October, one Accredited Judge is now a Life Judge.

Since October, the two lapsed judges are once again in Good Standing.

Respectfully,

Mary Gilliam

N.M. Judges Credentials Chairman

## MEMBERSHIP SERVICES - Kathy Flanders

As Membership Services Chairman, I am responsible for selling merchandise at meetings and conventions. The merchandise includes gift and educational items. The District V Fall Board meeting in Roswell was the first time we had a table set up. The members that attended the meeting enjoyed the convenience of having the items to view and take home with them.

## NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK – Rene McCoy

I would like to encourage your clubs to participate and plan projects to promote National Garden Week **JUNE 7-13, 2016.**

It is not too early to start the planning, inviting others to help, and to publish your club projects. Many projects can be promoted during this week. Some ideas are listed below:

- Plant or renew community flower beds (Invite youth groups Master Gardeners or others to help) Work with a 4-H club to plant a garden for their National 4-H Garden Project.
- Host a program at the Library regarding gardening in your area, information on your club, club projects and membership information.
- Ask your Mayor to designate National Garden Week for your town and publish your project together with the designation in your local paper. Be sure and give your contact and membership information too.

Here are some interesting facts about gardening and what it teaches: **Patience.** Waiting for plants to grow and then bloom takes time, sometimes more than a year; **Creativity.** Planning a garden with a color scheme or a bed with companion plants encourages creativity; **Responsibility.** Planting, weeding, watering and general care takes commitment; a **sense of accomplishment.** Seeing a plant grow from a seed or rhizome to fruition gives a feeling of success; and, **Family devotion.** When we spend quality time together by participating in a common interest, we foster love and respect and a continued interest in growing, keeping the earth pollution free, protect our water ways from too much pesticide use and personal serenity too.

I hope that this gives you some ideas and I look forward to getting your club reports so that I can report to the State President and South Central Region on what wonderful projects we are doing to support our area garden clubs in New Mexico. Thank you for supporting National Garden Week and National Garden Club projects.

Rene McCoy, National Garden Week committee chair.

## NEW MEXICO GARDENER – Linnea Egbert

At the 2015 NMG Convention, the Board decided that the New Mexico Gardener should be emailed to all members capable of receiving it electronically to reduce costs. The first issue following this decision was a transitional issue as club member email addresses were not available. Also, the Gardener now utilizes each page to maximum use to reduce printing costs and the electronic version may have additional pages of photos not printed in the mailed version.

Your editor utilizes a Retail Connect card issued by a non-profit to which she belongs reducing printing costs by ¾ of the published cost at Office Max. I urge the Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. to investigate obtaining this membership for all its members to use.

To stay within the newsletter budget going forward, either mailed newsletters must be significantly reduced and/or the Retail Connect association must be continued.

### Printing charges for the past year:

Issue	# of Pages	# of Copies Printed	Printing Cost	Misc. expense	Postage cost	Total
Summer 2015	34	140	353.10		212.37	565.47
Fall 2015	14	87	56.03		61.77	117.80
Winter 2015/16	16	87	52.92		60.35	113.27
Spring 2016- <b>Estimate</b>	16	87	55.00		60.35	113.27

Spring printing charges are estimated to be similar to the previous two issues as the number of members receiving the mailed issue has not significantly changed.

- All articles need to be submitted as an e-mail message or a Word document attached to an e-mail.
- Please do not format any articles or forms.
- All photos must be sent as separate .jpg files attached to an e-mail.
- Any photos sent imbedded in a document or other than .jpg will be returned.
- Poor quality photos will not be used (i.e. such as out of focus or grainy.) Please see the Winter 2013/14 issue of the *New Mexico Gardener* report on how to take photos for publication.

### **PENNY PINES REFORESTATION CHAIRMAN - Isabel Olsen**

It has been my goal to reintroduce the Penny Pines project to all of the garden clubs in New Mexico. Along with writing articles for the NM Gardener, I have collected information from all five of the National Forests in New Mexico and have prepared an educational display to share with all clubs and members. The board was also on display at the 67th Annual Convention in Alto. I am available to present a program to any of our clubs. I have also created donation jars that I present to the clubs that invite me to speak. These jars have been wonderful reminders of the program and have become a great silent partner in increasing contributions.

I particularly want to thank Los Alamos Garden Club and Home Garden Club for their support and contributions in 2015. I look forward to more participation of our clubs in the upcoming year.

### **PERSONNEL - Carol Stomp**

I sent a letter to the 5 District Directors on August 20, 2015 -- D-1 Mary Ann Moreno, D-2 Doris Jackson, D-3 Colleen Hinker, D-4 Nancy Ketchum, D-5 Judy Person.

This letter included a Personnel list for them to fill out after obtaining the needed information as listed in the enclosed form. I also included a copy of the NMGC Bylaws Article IV, Section 2 - Qualifications for Officers. I asked them to contact the Club Presidents in their respective Districts to see if any of their Club members were willing and qualified to serve as a NMGC Officer for the 2017 to 2019 term, I followed up in September and again in October 2015 to those District Directors who had not gotten their information back to me. After I did receive the needed information I compiled all this information and gave this information to the NMGC Nominating Chairperson, Maggie Rubino on October 29, 2015 @ the NMGC Fall Board meeting held in Albuquerque.

Prior to this I obtained a list of attendees of the 2015 NMGC Annual meetings in Silver City from Beulah Oyler the Registration Chairperson. I recorded the attendees in the Nomination personnel files.

I will repeat this process again in 2016 to see if there are any more willing and qualified members who want to be on the Nomination Slate of Officers in 2017. I will also check with the Registration Chairperson of the 2016 NMGC Meeting in Ruidoso to get a list of the attendees and file those accordingly.

Sincerely Submitted,  
Carol Stomp

### **SCHOLARSHIP/LIFE MEMBER SERVICES – Christine Longthorp**

No report received.

## SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL POSTER CONTEST – Mary Ann Moreno

The Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Contest was very successful in having four Elementary Schools and two Junior Garden Clubs participating and sending in posters to be judged in New Mexico. Now the poster winners from all four states in South Central Region will be again judged and the Winners sent to The United States Forest Service for their selection of the finalists. Cross your fingers and hope New Mexico has one of the winners!

## TREES AND SHRUBS – Isabel Olsen

During the past year, two articles were written for the New Mexico Gardener. As chairman I was contacted and assisted members with their questions of which trees were best to plant for their particular needs. There was one award application submitted by Morning Garden Club of district V for a total of 39 trees and shrubs.

1<sup>st</sup> Place was awarded to Morning Garden Club with \$20.00 awarded at the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention.

## WEBSITE – Cindy Hills

The NMGC, Inc. website, <http://newmexicogardenclubs.org>, continues to evolve.

An effort has been made to keep the website up-to-date. Information is usually posted within 24 hours of receipt, if not sooner. The "Members Only" area contains

- current and back issues of the New Mexico Gardener,
- contact information for all officers, chairpersons, district directors, and presidents,
- the latest editions of NMGC's Bylaws, Manual, Standing Rules, and Awards Handbook, and
- Registration materials.

A new scholarship page was implemented and can be found on the Home menu bar.

Photographs from the 2015 Spring Convention were added to "Members Only" along with two new NMGC document categories, *Annual Reports* and *Minutes*. After last year's convention, Awards Chairman Sue Ferguson forwarded entries for the *2014 Photographic Print of the Year* and *2014 Design of the Year*. These photos are available through Flickr on the "Awards" page along with photos of the winning entries.

Projects for 2016 include implementing pages for each District and redoing the whole website with more robust/cleaner coding, taking advantage of newer browser technology and enhancing uniformity throughout the site. This redo will also include implementation of "responsive" web pages, so the pages will adapt to different devices, such as tablets and smartphones. A large amount of spam mail comes in through the "Contact Us" and "Become a Member" pages. A technique will be implemented so the programs for these forms will be able to determine if a human or a spam robot is filling out the form, thus reducing the amount of spam.

Club members are encouraged to send information and photos promoting their club's activities. Send e-mail to either [nmgc@newmexicogardenclubs.org](mailto:nmgc@newmexicogardenclubs.org) or [cinzh@aol.com](mailto:cinzh@aol.com).

## WILD FLOWERS/NATIVE PLANTS – Cynthia Shafer

Nothing to report

## WORLD GARDENING - Sue Ferguson

*“New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., encourages Club generosity for charitable purposes, with emphasis on New Mexico charities and/or garden related projects in foreign countries” - excerpt from NMGC Award Handbook Page 30, WORLD GARDENING.*

The following clubs made monetary Contributions to World Gardening during 2015:

**Los Alamos Garden Club** (District II) - Global Partners Running Waters, Inc.; Penny Pines; Heifer International; Los Alamos High School Environmental Club (cash for birdbath towards their National Wildlife Federation Certification); Los Alamos Public Schools Science Fair (Cash awards to elementary school children with projects relating to plants/gardening)

**Summit Garden Club** (District II) - Heifer International

**Artesia Garden Club** (District V) - Habitat for Humanity

**Home Garden Club** (District V) - Global Partners Running Waters, Inc.; Penny Pines

**Lincoln County Garden Club** (District V) - Mescalero Tunnel Garden

**Morning Garden Club** (District V) - Global Partners Running Waters, Inc.; Habitat for Humanity

## YEARBOOK – Kathy Brown

The Yearbooks sent in this year were wonderful and we thoroughly enjoyed judging them. I sent email messages and talked to some club presidents encouraging them to send in their yearbooks. There were twelve yearbook entries this year. Judging the yearbooks I learned so much about the clubs and different programs in their area. I would like to encourage all clubs to submit a yearbook next year. Requirements for yearbook submission can be found in the New Mexico Garden Club Awards Handbook

## YOUTH THERAPY/ACTIVITIES - Esther Russell

Hello fellow gardeners,

Our New Mexico Youth Clubs began our year on a low note. We had three clubs disband. We did have a new youth club formed in Roswell sponsored by Home Garden Club. The Pecos Valley Youth Club is led by Renata Riesel. The club is in full swing and is planning lots of activities for the coming months. Way to go Home Garden Club.

Ponderosa Pines Garden Club in Angel Fire, led by Joann Leyden, is trying to keep their activities going even with all the low temperatures and cold weather. The Blooming Gardeners in Albuquerque, led by Shirley Tetreault and Connie Elmore, will begin their spring and summer activities at the New Mexico State Fair Grounds soon.

Please keep supporting our state youth. I would like to challenge other state clubs to sponsor other new youth clubs.

Have a fun and prosperous gardening year  
respectfully submitted,  
Esther Russell  
New Mexico State Youth Activities Chairman

## JUNIOR GARDEN CLUBS REPORTS

### The Blooming Gardeners - Chaired by: Shirley Tetreault and Connie Elmore

Established in 2009 by Brooke Tetreault

In 2015, the Blooming Gardeners met weekly at the New Mexico State Fair Grounds. This year they studied pollinators (bees and the butterflies) and how important they are to our society and food chain. The gardeners have a short program, play, plant and eat. Connie always has hot dogs and drinks for those rough days of planting in the Ronald McDonald farm. Each week the gardeners are given a plant or seeds to take home and plant in their gardens. In addition, they have entered in the poetry contest and the Smokey Bear contest. Each year we lose a member or two to high school, however, a toddler will come on board and a new seed will be planted for our future.

This year both our youth and adult members manned a booth at the New Mexico State Fair. Coloring pages were distributed to the youth that visited the booth. The sheets were educational about the Butterfly, Dragonfly, Caterpillar, Centipede, Ladybug, Spider, Housefly and Mosquito. Each sheet had an explanation to the right. Did you know that the largest butterflies in the world have a 12" wingspan? The Butterfly was a favorite and the least favorite was the Spider.

The club is a lot of fun and very rewarding as we watch these youngsters learn and grow. Meetings will start up again in May, as soon as school is out. We meet at the State Fair Grounds on Wednesdays. Time varies depending on the outside temperature.

Respectfully Submitted  
Shirley Tetreault - Chair  
Connie Elmore - Chair

## Ponderosa Pines Jr. Garden Club – JoAnn Layden

The Ponderosa Pines Jr. Garden Club is sponsored by Angel Fire Garden Club and has had a great year. In spite of losing one member to high school “busyness”, they have grown to 20 registered members. There are two five-year-olds, and one seven-year-old, but the majority of them are 8 to 12 years old. They had a busy spring, summer and fall in 2015, working in the Butterfly Garden and the Girl Scout Camp garden.

They learned to identify weeds and did their more than fair share of pulling them from the Butterfly Garden. One day alone they filled about six large trash bags with weeds and debris left over from winter! After pulling weeds they spread an organic compost/mulch in the garden and later on in the season, they planted milkweed seeds. They have also helped transplant plants to other areas in the garden and transplanted the plants they had grown indoors into the garden.

They studied all about butterflies and a few of the group gave a presentation to the Angel Fire Garden Club, during one of the AF Club’s meetings, about the importance of protecting pollinators such as bees and butterflies and especially Monarch butterflies and how to do this. They also described all the activities they have been involved in throughout the year. During the AF Garden Club Garden Tour, they were hosts at the Girl Scout Camp (which was on the tour last year) and sold the greeting cards they had made the month before. They did a great job of showing the guests around the garden, describing the different plants growing there.

When the Girl Scouts were in Angel Fire at the Elliott Barker Camp, they had a study and plant session with a group of Girl Scouts and helped them obtain their Gardening Badges in one day. That day, they studied about the entire process of planting, learning the difference between seeds, cuttings, bulbs and rhizomes, then planted seeds, bulbs and rhizomes at the Girl Scout Camp garden. Because they had studied these things before, the Ponderosa Pines Club was great at instructing the Girl Scouts on the entire process.

Although they still meet bi-weekly, winter is a difficult time for working with the kid’s club because they have to stay indoors, so they usually have a craft project and get lessons about plants, either studying the biology of how they grow, or how to plant and also identifying plants.

THEY ARE OUR FUTURE GARDENERS!