

New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

ANNUAL REPORT

June 1, 2017 – May 31, 2018



*Thank you to our Presidents
who have served as leaders and guided us.*

**NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
STATE PRESIDENT LIST**

1950-1951	Mrs. John McKnight (Dora Sanders) – Roswell
1951-1953	Mrs. Earl Powell – Ft. Sumner
1953-1955	Mrs. Harold Edwards (Mrs. Victor Berchtold) – Santa Fe
1955-1957	Mrs. Walter Denison – Santa Fe
1957-1959	Mrs. Horace Bounds (Ruth) – San Lorenzo
1959-1961	Mrs. C. F. McWilliams (Tura) – Carlsbad
1961-1963	Mrs. Jeff Good (Merle) Ft. Sumner
1963-1965	Mrs. Rebeca Vidal – Albuquerque
1965-1967	Mrs. Harvey Israel (Lillian) – Los Alamos
1967-1969	Mrs. Thomas Todson (Margaret) – Las Cruces
1969-1971	Mrs. John Burroughs – Portales
1971-1973	Mrs. Edward S. Lewis (Mary Frances) – Albuquerque
1973-1975	Mrs. Edward Johnson (Margaret “Peggy”) – Santa Fe
1975-1977	Mrs. Haskel Smith – Las Cruces
1977-1979	Mrs. Alfred Long (Charlotte) – Roswell
1979-1981	Mrs. S. E. Neff (Ginny) – Clovis
1981-1983	Mrs. Thomas P. Johnston (Betty) Albuquerque
1983-1985	Mrs. George Boyce (Oleta) – Santa Fe
1985-1987	Mrs. James Knauf (Nita) – Artesia
1987-1989	Mrs. Walt Eastland (Betty) – Santa Rosa
1989-1991	Lequita Lett (Mrs. James) – Silver City
1991-1993	June Wood (Mrs. Don) – Albuquerque
1993-1995	Sue Graves (Mrs. Glen) – Los Alamos
1995-1997	Elane McIlroy (Mrs. James) – Hobbs
1997-1999	Mary Ann Moreno (Mrs. James) – Albuquerque
1999-2001	Sally Warner (Mrs. Larry) – Los Alamos
2001-2003	Donna Betty Turney (Mrs. John) – Alamogordo
2003-2005	Elizabeth O’Brien (Mrs. William) – Cloudcroft
2005-2007	Sally Warner (Mrs. Larry) – Los Alamos
2007-2009	Collen Hinker (Mrs. Fred) – Santa Rosa
2009-1011	Shirley Tetreault (Mrs. Al) – Albuquerque
2011-2013	Shirley Tetreault (Mrs. Al) – Albuquerque
2013-2015	Isabel Olsen (Mrs. A.J.) – Roswell
2015-2017	Suzy Andrego (Mrs. Tomas) – Albuquerque
2017-2019	Barbara Vance (Mrs. Donald) – Santa Fe

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OFFICER REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Barbara Vance

What an amazing year this has been. The installation of the 2017-2019 administration was the end of April at the Drury Inn in Albuquerque. With guidance and support from Suzy Andrego, former Sate President, I was immediately immersed in new positions and responsibilities. My first official duty was to represent our state at the South Central Region meeting – telling about goals and projects planned for the next two years that fit into the NGC, Inc., Theme: Plant America. My theme Grow New Mexico was chosen with an emphasis on expanding our knowledge of gardening and conservation. Grow in Leadership – Grow in Membership – Grow Friendships encouraging **TEAM** Work – **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**ccomplishes **M**ore.

The next big event was to attend the NGC, Inc., convention in Richmond, Virginia where so much history has taken place. Side trips to Jefferson's Home, Monticello, historic roadside tavern for meals, learning more about our nation's history. The meetings were filled with the latest information about the goals of NGC, Inc., and how we all fit into the scheme of things. It was a time of meeting new people, learning about what other states aspire to.

July was filled with invitations to participate in the annual Angel Fire Garden Tour. August was filled with judging assignments at Weems Gallery and the Albuquerque Garden Center. There are many talented gardeners in our organization with lush displays of horticulture and floral designs.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT – Christine Longthorp

Greetings to all New Mexico Garden Club members. This will be a brief overview of NMGC, Inc., activities in 2018. The year began with all five districts holding meetings that both honored and encouraged members to share their common interests in gardening within their local and special environments. These meetings are always energizing, and help create a bond between many like-minded New Mexicans.

In April, our Annual Convention was held at Buffalo Thunder Resort in Santa Fe, and was entitled "Footsteps of the Three Sisters". The convention was hosted by District II and expertly co-chaired by Laurie Hixson and Doris Jackson, with Juanita Ortega, District II Director. The theme was charmingly reflected in the food, décor and fascinating programs. As always, conventions require much help, and District II members rallied to create a very memorable event.

Many members of NMGC, Inc., then flew to Houston to attend the South Central Region Convention whose Director was our very own Isabel Olsen. There were also many new people to meet and learn from to help enrich NMGC, Inc.

The month of May brought the New Mexico contingent to the National Garden Club's Convention in the City of Brotherly Love, Philadelphia. It was a treat to visit such an historic city and the warm hospitality followed us all home.

Flower Show schools are continuing to be held in Albuquerque where nine student judges are completing their training. All of the schools are well-attended by garden club members who are learning how to landscape and protect the environment. We appreciate greatly the efforts of a few to provide these perks as a benefit to each of us.

The New Mexico State Fair is now over for another year. It makes one proud to see such a public display of Design and Horticulture which delights and educates the public at large. We meet Flower Show Judges from the four corners of the state and have the pleasure of judging the beauty and bounty of our summer gardens. With four shows, and a Youth show, it can only happen with the selfless dedication of just a few hard-working volunteers. NMGC, Inc., is always well represented, and these kinds of Summer County fairs and Flower Shows around the State keep us busy and productive.

October is the month in which we hold all five District meetings, followed by the NMGC, Inc., Fall Board meeting being hosted by District 4 in Alto, (Ruidoso) on October 25th. This will be attended by our National President, Nancy Hargrove, our South Central Region Director, Isabel Olsen, and our New Mexico State President, Barbara Vance. I can guarantee that all who attend will have an informative and fun time.

It has been my pride and privilege to serve the members of NMGC, Inc., in 2018.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP – Jan Smith

New Mexico Garden Clubs saw a slight decrease in membership in 2018. The total membership was 561 down two members from 2017. The three youth garden clubs stayed at the same membership 84. Here are some thoughts on how to increase membership.

RECRUITMENT: ARE YOUR BY-LAWS MEMBER FRIENDLY?

- If there is a cap on membership? Consider removing it.
- How often do you meet per year?
- Do you have too many or too few officers?
- Are your dues too high or too low?
- Do you meet in private homes or in public places? Most visitors are more comfortable meeting in a public place.
- Is your club meeting only daytime or only evening? Younger or working people cannot make a daytime meeting.

MAKE VISITORS FEEL WELCOME

- Are visitors greeted and made to feel at home? Consider assigning a greeter at each meeting who sits with a new person and explains things and makes them feel welcome.
- Are visitors introduced?
- Are visitors invited back?
- Are visitors sent follow-up cards- “We’re glad to have met you, please come back”?
- Are potential members on your call/email list? Are they called and reminded of the meetings?

ADVERTISE YOUR CLUB

- Donate magazines with your club’s information in it and lay at doctor’s offices or other waiting rooms. Give your local library a gardening magazine subscription with your club’s information to be put inside each issue. Give your library a copy of your state magazine.
- Give articles on home landscaping to your local realtors to give information to prospective buyers. Have contact information on it. Greet a new neighbor with an invitation to join.
- Volunteer to write a gardening article for your newspaper.
- Wear shirts with your Garden Club’s name on them when working in your community.
- List your Garden Club meetings in your newspaper in the community calendar.
- Distribute posters or flyers in town inviting people to attend your meetings. Order the NGC, Inc., flyer “Grow Your World” and put a label with your club’s information on it.

- Celebrate National Gardening Week with projects, receptions, newspaper articles, mayoral proclamations.
- Advertise events such as flower show. Invite others in your district and state officers.

USE SIGNAGE

- Use signage on your community gardening projects. This shows who created and/or maintains it.
- Consider a small magnetic logo or window sticker for your car if you don't have a Garden Club license plate.
- Consider creating a club logo and use it.
- Use signage on town welcome signs that churches and civic organizations use.
- Have business cards printed with contact information and meeting days to pass out to potential members.
- Volunteer to do arrangements at Nursing Homes or other public places and leave informational tent cards with arrangements.
- Adopt a roadside Wildflower Site with signage

OTHER PROACTIVE MEASURES TO THINK ABOUT

- Offer garden educational seminars to the public.
- Have booths in local fairs and festivals.
- Work cooperatively with other groups, including Master Gardeners, scouts, etc.
- Invite members from disbanded clubs to join your club.
- Think of creative meeting places – block parties, historic sites, public gardens...

DON'T FORGET WORD OF MOUTH

Be on the look-out for potential new members by noticing them in nurseries or working in their yards and invite them to your garden club meetings. Invite new neighbors. When you're in a store line and notice someone purchasing plants or gardening magazines or books, start a conversation about gardening and invite them. Most people join garden club by an oral invitation.

RECORDING SECRETARY – Becky Fuller

**New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.
2017 Fall Board General Meeting Minutes
Hotel Encanto
Las Cruces, New Mexico
October 26, 2017**

Officers Attending:

President -Barbara Vance
1st Vice President -Christine Longthorp
2nd Vice President -Jan Smith
Recording Secretary -Becky Fuller
Historian -Larry Layden
Corresponding Secretary -Conni Elkins
Parliamentarian -Isabel Olsen
Immediate Past President – Suzy Andregio

District Directors:

- District I Sonia James for Maple Levine
- District II Juanita Ortega
- District III Jo Ann Layden
- District IV Judy Laird
- District V Nannette Tanner

President Barbara Vance called the 68th Fall Board meeting to order at 9:10 AM. President Vance opened the meeting by introducing the District Directors, Immediate Past President and the officers at the head table.

Inspirational Reading-Lucille Lomeland

Pledge of Allegiance-Lequita Lett

Welcoming Remarks-Judy Laird

Preliminary Credentials Report-Beulah Oyler, Registrar

The preliminary credentials report showed a voting strength of 51 members.

The preliminary credentials report was adopted.

Parliamentarian Isabel Olsen reported that there was a quorum present. She then read the Standing Rules and they were adopted as written.

The 2017 Fall Board Meeting Program book was presented by Linnea Egbert with changes to the giving of awards to be done by Conni Elkins. Program was adopted with changes.

President Vance appointed Shirley Sheriff Timekeeper and the following to approve the minutes of the General Meeting: Christine Longthorp, Larry Layden and Juanita Ortega.

Minutes of the 2017 NMGC, Inc., Spring Meeting-Recording Secretary Becky Fuller. The minutes have been approved and distributed. They will stand as approved.

Treasurer’s Report-Laurie Hixson-detailed report attached. Bank balance as of September 30, 2017 was \$8,277.66.

State Officer’s Reports

State President	Barbara Vance	attached
1 st Vice President	Christine Longthorp	no report
2 nd Vice President	Jan Smith	attached
Historian	Larry Layden	attached
Parliamentarian	Isabel Olsen	no report
Corresponding Secretary	Conni Elkins	Reports for the Annual Report are due March 1, 2018. Conni helped design the new NMGC, Inc., logo for President Vance.
Immediate Past President	Suzy Andregó	Congratulated the Fall Rose recipients: District I - Dianna Doddridge District II - Laurie Hixson District III - Conni Elkins District IV - Ellie Nordgren District V – Sharon Lombardi

District Director Reports

District I	Sonia James (Maple Levine)	attached
District II	Juanita Ortega	attached
District III	Jo Ann Layden	attached
District IV	Judy Laird	attached
District V	Nannette Tanner	attached

Other Reports

Recommendation 1: The question is on the consideration that NMGC, Inc., sponsor the 2024 NGC, Inc., Fall Board Meeting to be held in Albuquerque. All Districts to participate. Debate was conducted, vote was taken and with one opposing vote, the recommendation carried.

2017 Spring Annual Convention Final Report

Suzy Andregio for MaryAnn Moreno, Immediate Past District I Director, had no report due to financial conflicts. A full report will be given at the 2018 NMGC, Inc., Spring Convention.

South Central Region Report-Isabel Olsen-Director

Oral report given.

Improve Communications: Website - www.scrgardenclubs.org
Members Area, Password-GROW!

South Central Region’s “Communicator” is published 4 times annually and available on the South Central Region website. Isabel suggests we visit the Gardeners Market General Store. “Plant America is the Region and National theme for the 2017-2019 term.”

Chairman Reports-attached

Bee, Bird and Butterfly-Jo Ann Layden
Blue Star Memorial (online)-Shirley Tetrault
Environmental Schools (online)-Suzy Andregio
Penny Pines-Larry Layden
Photography-Debra Sorrell
Trees and Shrubs-Maggie Rubino
Scholarships-Christine Longthorp
Smokey Bear – Woodsy Owl-Suzy Andregio for Mary Ann Moreno
Ways and Means-Suzy Andregio for Jennifer Moreno
Website-Cindy Hills
Wild Flowers/Native Plants-Rosemary Maddox

Scholarship Recipient-Kaitlyn Steen

New Attendees

President Vance acknowledged first time attendants to a NMGC, Inc., Fall Board Meeting.

2018 Annual Spring Convention

Juanita Ortega, District V Director, invited all New Mexico Garden Clubbers to attend the 29th Annual Convention, “Footsteps of the Three Sisters,” to be held April 4-6, 2018, at the Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Ways and Means

Raffle Winners were Ann Cooke-the all-expense paid trip to the 2018 Spring Convention and Zena Kinne-the jewelry.

Final Credentials Report-attached

Voting Strength-51

Courtesy Resolutions-presented by Shirley Sheriff. The resolutions were voted on and adopted.

Benediction-Linnea Egbert

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 PM

Submitted by Becky Fuller, Recording Secretary

69th ANNUAL CONVENTION
“Footsteps of the Three Sisters”
Pojoaque Pueblo
April 4, 5, 6, 2018
General Meeting

Officers Attending:

- President – Barbara Vance
- 1st Vice President – Christine Longthorp
- 2nd Vice President – Jan Smith
- Treasurer – Laurie Hixson
- Recording Secretary – Becky Fuller
- Historian – Larry Layden
- Corresponding Secretary – Conni Elkins
- Parliamentarian – Isabel Olsen
- Immediate Past President – Suzy Andrego

District Directors:

- District I – Maple Levine
- District II – Juanita Ortega
- District III – Jo Ann Layden
- District IV – Judy Laird
- District V – Nannette Tanner

President Barbara Vance presided over the 69th Annual Convention.

The invocation was read by Sue-Ellen de Beer, President of Floral Designers Garden Club.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Joyce Zaugg, President of Los Alamos Garden Club.

President Vance called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. President Vance opened the meeting by introducing the District Directors, Immediate Past President and the officers at the head table.

Preliminary Credentials Report: Norma Tech, Registrar

The preliminary credentials report showed a voting strength of 58 members.
The preliminary credentials report was adopted.

Parliamentarian Isabel Olsen reported there was a quorum present. She read the Standing Rules and they were adopted as written.

The 2018 Annual Convention Program was presented by Laurie Hixson with the following changes. The luncheon program was changed from Clayton Brascoupe “Saving Ancient Seed for our Modern Needs” to “Sacred Gardens, Wisdom from Our Ancestors” given by Lorraine Gray. The addition of two members who passed away, Dorothy Cook and Dean Day, both of Morning Garden Club. The Program was adopted with changes.

President Vance appointed Diane Peterson timekeeper and the following to approve the minutes: Christine Longthorp, Juanita Ortega, and Jo Ann Layden.

Ratification of Resignation and Appointments:

Resignations:

Sally Warner-Personnel Chair, Christine Longthorp-Protocol Chair, Laurie Hixson-Scholarship, Life Member Chair, Esther Russell-Youth Chair

Appointments:

Nancy Ketchum-Personnel Chair, Jan Smith Protocol Chair, Christine Longthorp-Scholarship, and Life Membership Chair, Sonia James-Youth Chair. The ratification carried.

Minutes of the 2017 Fall Board Meeting – Recording Secretary Becky Fuller. The minutes were corrected and approved.

Treasurers Report – Laurie Hixson-detailed report attached. Bank balance as of March 31,2018 is \$3084.56. The ledgers were audited in March. The recent report will be reviewed and filed for audit.

State Officers Reports:

State President – Barbara Vance – attached

1st Vice President – Christine Longthorpe – no report

2nd Vice President – Jan Smith – There are 566 adult members and 84 youth members for a total membership of 650. Detailed report attached.

Historian – Larry Layden – attached

Corresponding Secretary – Conni Elkins – 2017-2018 Annual Report will be distributed at the 2018 Fall Board Meeting, covering June 1,2017-May 31,2018. Reports are due September 3, 2018. Club presidents send their report to their District Directors, who in turn compile their report and send it to Conni Elkins.

Parliamentarian – Isabel Olsen– no report

Immediate Past President – Suzy Andrego – no report

District Directors Reports:

District I – Maple Levine – attached
District II – Juanita Ortega – attached
District III – Jo Ann Layden – attached
District IV – Judy Laird – attached
District V – Nannette Tanner – attached

Other Reports:

2017 State Convention Final Report – Maple Levine – attached
2017 Fall Board Final Report – Judy Laird – attached

South Central Region Report - Isabel Olsen – Director

Oral report given. Isabel encouraged all of us to read the South Central Region Communicator to keep ourselves up-to-date with the goings on in the region. “Plant America”!

Chairpersons Reports:

Archives: Beulah Oylar – attached
Awards: Sue Ferguson – attached
Bees and Butterflies – Jo Ann Layden – attached
Blue Star Memorials – Shirley Tetrault – attached
Gardener Circulation – Linnea Egbert – Clubs need to update member’s status with Jan Smith, 1st V.P. as soon as possible and encourage getting the Gardener via email. When sending articles for the Gardener please put Bees and Butterflies article or Shirley Tetrault article in subject line *not* Newsletter. Do not format the article - just use “Word” or text unless it is a Registration form or Schedule.
Penny Pines – Larry Layden – attached
Scholarship – Christine Longthorp – attached
Ways and Means – Suzy Andrego for Jennifer Moreno – attached

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: none

President Barbara Vance welcomed all first time Annual Convention members present with a small gift.

The NMGC, Inc., Annual Convention resumed at 2:00 P.M. for the presentation of special awards:

Design of the Year – Debra Sorrell,
Beginner Design – Barbara Thorn,
Horticulturist of the Year - Shirley Tetrault,
Member of Honor – Renate Reisel,
Member of the Year – Diane Peterson,
Mentor of the Year – Linnea Egbert
Silver Medallion Recipient – Eva Zuang.
Meritorious Achievement – Conni Elkins

The meeting was recessed until 10:00 A.M. April 6, 2018.

April 6, 2018

President Vance resumed the meeting at 10:00 A.M. after the Awards Presentation.

Ways and Means

Raffle winners were Marianne Hayes, Squash Blossom earrings, Susan Dickens, bracelet and earrings, Ellie Nordgren, pendant necklace, Julie Foster, design sculpture and Maple Levine, the Michael Kors purse.

Final Credentials Report – Norma Tech – Registrar, report attached
Voting strength of 60.

2018 Annual Fall Board – Nannette Tanner – District V Director invited us to Ruidoso, New Mexico, for the 2018 Fall Board Meeting to be held October 25-26, 2018.

Courtesy Resolutions – presented by Angel Fire Garden Clubbers Conni Elkins, JJ Huddleston and Diane Peterson. The resolutions were voted on and adopted.

Benediction – Maggie Rubino, Floral Designers

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

Respectfully submitted, Becky Fuller, Recording Secretary

TREASURER - Laurie Hixon

**NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
FINANCIAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018**

	30-Jun-17	31-Jul-17	31-Aug-17	30-Sep-17	31-Oct-17	30-Nov-17	31-Dec-17	31-Jan-18	28-Feb-18	31-Mar-18	30-Apr-18	31-May-18
Savings	5,557.20	5,573.52	7,808.79	7,825.71	7,842.13	7,859.05	7,875.45	6,892.38	6,909.24	6,913.37	2,917.80	2,926.82
Checking	1,854.19	2,458.84	686.88	434.62	278.13	702.34	1,432.35	2,361.64	562.14	592.90	1,534.15	1,183.27
Bank Accounts Total	7,411.39	8,032.36	8,495.67	8,260.33	8,120.26	8,561.39	9,307.80	9,254.02	7,471.38	7,506.27	4,451.95	4,110.09
Outstanding Checks	0.00	0.00	218.01	0.00	46.69	0.00	0.00	1,900.00	100.00	100.00	383.81	0.00
General Fund	3,526.10	4,094.30	6,450.41	6,419.90	6,195.37	6,670.00	6,689.65	6,242.68	5,806.47	5,244.96	2,355.22	2,361.29
Ways & Means	1,174.38	1,174.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	714.00	714.00	714.00	714.00	714.00	714.00
Awards	87.50	87.50	87.50	87.50	87.50	87.50	87.50	137.50	137.50	392.50	87.50	102.50
Habitat for Humanity	161.12	161.12	161.12	161.12	161.12	161.12	161.12	161.12	161.12	161.12	0.00	0.00
State Conv Programs	645.37	645.37	645.37	645.37	645.37	645.37	645.37	245.37	245.37	245.37	245.37	245.37
Education Principal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.39	300.39	300.39
Education Interest	271.35	273.31	275.34	277.37	279.34	281.37	283.33	285.36	287.39	289.90	292.68	295.96
Scholarship Principal	240.00	240.00	540.39	540.39	540.39	540.39	540.39	620.39	0.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Scholarship Interest	1,305.58	1,355.17	115.07	124.97	159.56	169.47	179.05	(1,061.04)	9.64	21.59	34.82	50.40
Pres Endow Principal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pres Endow Interest	(0.01)	1.21	2.46	3.71	4.92	6.17	7.39	8.64	9.89	11.44	13.16	15.18
Ledger Accounts Total	7,411.39	8,032.36	8,277.66	8,260.33	8,073.57	8,561.39	9,307.80	7,354.02	7,371.38	7,406.27	4,068.14	4,110.09
Bank/Ledger Discrepancy	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Previous Balance	5,374.69	7,411.39	8,032.36	8,277.66	8,260.33	8,073.57	8,561.39	9,307.80	7,354.02	7,371.38	7,406.27	4,068.14
Income	12,073.57	760.34	2,379.29	0.00	424.93	487.82	746.41	210.95	1,519.06	601.25	4,154.97	41.95
Expenses	10,036.87	139.37	2,133.99	0.00	611.69	0.00	0.00	2,164.73	1,501.70	566.36	7,493.10	0.00
Book's Balance	7,411.39	8,032.36	8,277.66	8,277.66	8,073.57	8,561.39	9,307.80	7,354.02	7,371.38	7,406.27	4,068.14	4,110.09

CD Information												
LANB-30 12 m 2/8/18 .35%	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
LANB-31 24 m 2/8/18 .50%	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
LANB-48 18 m 4/20/18 .30%	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00	16,660.00
CD Total	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00	49,660.00

Total Bank Funds:	57,071.39	57,692.36	58,155.67	57,920.33	57,780.26	58,221.39	58,967.80	58,914.02	57,131.38	57,166.27	54,111.95	53,770.09
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CD Distribution	current	
	Amount	Percentage
General Fund	\$10,996.40	22.14%
Education Principal	\$ 6,069.18	12.22%
Scholarship Principal	\$28,848.48	58.09%
Pres Endow Principal	\$ 3,745.94	7.54%
	\$49,660.00	100.00%

HISTORIAN – Larry Layden

The 2018 History Award applications have been received and my committee will be judging them soon. This is an exciting time for me because I get to finally do something that relates to gardening. Here in Angel Fire we can only think growing something for another month or two. It was 10 degrees last night and the forecast is for about the same tomorrow.

Club History Award is a really easy one to apply for because it's kind of a fill in the blanks. There are a possible 100 points you can get and 45 points are covered in just three areas. The three areas are projects, club monthly programs, and flower show and they are each worth 15 points. The first two you are already doing but the third might be a deal breaker. You can still do OK without a flower show but it's tough to get a real high score without a show.

There is a total of 18 areas for points but they are all five points or less except for the three areas just discussed. So, even if you have a very successful club, you probably need a flower show to do fantastic. If you are a little afraid to start a project like that, don't be. There are lots of resources and other people that will show you the ropes. Why not give it a shot and put your club over the top? Just saying.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – Conni Elkins

It has been my pleasure to help the NMGC, Inc., President organize the Fall Board Meeting, create her logo, arrange for it to be designed and approved by the Zia Pueblo. Mailing lists were created for the president's correspondence and emails sent as needed. I have kept the Officers, Chairpersons, District Directors and Presidents lists current. The Spring Convention included helping with gifts, decorating and stuffing folders.

I have also gathered reports for the 2018 New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Report and I have prepared, edited and had the report printed to be distributed at the Fall Board Meeting to be held in Ruidoso, New Mexico, on October 25-26th, 2018.

PARLIAMENTARIAN – Isabel Olsen

As Parliamentarian, I provide guidance to President Vance and assist her by reviewing the agendas she prepares for the Executive Committee Meeting and General Business Meeting for the Annual Convention as well as Fall Board Meeting. Throughout the year at the request of Club Parliamentarians, I assist with answering questions relating to procedures, the proper handling of motions and voting. I have encouraged all to follow the Bylaws and Standing Rules of their club and state. I use the NGC, Inc., booklet, "A Parliamentary Procedure Manual" and the most current Robert's Rule of Order as a guide to conducting a proper meeting, as well as encouraging all clubs and members to do so for continuity and more efficient use of time. It is an honor to serve in this appointed office and to work with this NMGC, Inc., administration of 2017-2019.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT – Suzy Andrego

As the Immediate Past State President, it is my role to continue to provide guidance and support to our State President Barbra Vance. I am available to answer any questions and provide advice when requested by the President or any other officer or member of New Mexico Garden Clubs.

As, immediate Past President, I have attended the 2017 Fall Board Meeting in Las Cruces and the Annual Convention in March 2018 in Santa Fe.

And, I am delighted that President Barbara Vance has continued to award my ROSE Award, to one hard working member of each district of New Mexico Garden Clubs at both the Spring District meetings and the Fall District meetings.

PLANT AMERICA and GROW NEW MEXICO!

DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS

DISTRICT I DIRECTOR – Maple Levine

District I is comprised of seven active clubs that are located in the greater Albuquerque area including the East Mountains, Las Lunas, as well as Albuquerque proper. All of the clubs have adult members with the exception of Blooming Gardeners, which is a children's organization.

Blooming Gardeners meet in the summer during the two-week summer camp. This year there were 10 children ranging in ages from six to eleven. The exciting activities that occupied the children this last summer included several hands-on activities that gave each child a unique experience and an appreciation for their growing world.

El Jardin Encanto Garden Club has 27 active members that serve the Los Lunas/Belen area. Fifteen of its' members traveled 3 hours (one way) in May to the Hondo Iris Festival to flood their senses while strolling through the rows of that noble flower. Civic beautification projects included planting flowers for the Good Life Senior Care Facility in Los Lunas, and at the American Legion Post in Belen. They also helped to landscape a memory garden at the First Methodist Church in Belen. Educational programs included presentations by club members and by Dr. Ashley Bennet from NMSU. President Adrienne David was totally shocked when she was awarded the Rose Award at the District I Fall Luncheon for being an outstanding member and leader of her club.

Moriarty Garden Club has experienced "A year of learning many lessons" reports President Shari Anaya. Some were definitely frustrating but all were enlightening. Educational programs included practice with methods of plant propagation. Also, there was emphasis on ideas to face the challenges of growing their gardens in the higher altitude environments in the east mountains. This included many ideas for improving the soil. The club sponsored a lovely small flower show at the Torrence County Fair. It was quite special that one of the members of this club was able to be a student judge at this event. The members had many lofty ideas of several civic improvements but managed to beautify an area in Edgewood. Congratulations for your hard work Moriarty Garden Club!

Petal Pushers is a group of 24 members including 6 Master Gardeners. Members of this club can often be seen tending the Marie Torrens Courtyard Garden at the Albuquerque Garden Center. Many of its' members have opened their gardens for club tours. Programs have included talks about members of the animal kingdom that visit their gardens including snakes, butterflies, hummingbirds, bees, and bugs. Petal Pushers are always a presence at all District I activities as participants and volunteers.

The theme for the Uptown Garden Club is “70 Years of Gardening” for obvious reasons. This club boasts 14 Flower Show Judges and 2 Environmental Consultants. They maintain the Uptown Garden at the Albuquerque Garden Center (AGC) and two Blue Star Memorials at the AGC and the New Mexico Veterans Memorial. Additionally, they sponsor the Blooming Gardeners. Highlights of the year include a field trip to the Open Space Field Tract, and presentations of Orchid varieties and care, by Jane Cole of the Albuquerque Orchid Society. Uptown Garden Club is the largest in District I with 32 members.

Valley Garden Club is a bit different than any other club in Albuquerque due to the fact that there are male members and it meets in the evening. Many of the programs by their own talented members include “Succulent Picture Frames” by Mary Ann Moreno and “Daffodils and Bulbs” by Suzy Andrego, another favorite was Christine Longthorp’s “Romantic Floral Designs”. A field trip to the Albuquerque Botanical Garden was enjoyed by all. Valley Gardeners sponsored some of the members who attended Environmental School and Garden School sessions.

The theme for High Desert Design Club this year was “Designing with Friends Using the Elements and Principles of Design” Many design types are studied especially when it is known that an upcoming show schedule is available. There is usually a hands-on session with the obligatory ooh-ahs, also known as critiquing. Shirley Tetreault is the president and is an NGC, Inc., Instructor of Design. Most of the participants are members of other clubs to enhance their abilities to participate in design competitions.

DISTRICT II DIRECTOR – Juanita Ortega

District II has 76 members in three garden clubs: Floral Designers in Santa Fe (13 members), Los Alamos Garden Club (35 members) and Summit Garden Club (28 members) in Los Alamos.

Our members have been planting and working in their spring and summer gardens, participating in educational club activities and studying new designs from the *NGC, Inc. Handbook for Flower Shows, Revised 2017*. We have Officers and Chairmen on State, Regional and National Boards. Some of our members participate in Flower Show Schools and Landscape Design Schools.

All District II members have e-mail access to The National Gardener and South Central Region Communicator. Some members plant trees, have registered habitats, contribute to civic development and scholarships, share environmental concerns and work with other groups to help their communities. All members are encouraged to help by recycling, reducing waste, and reusing household items.

Floral Designers is a floral design study group. A favorite and challenging program was “Featured Plant Material” a new design featured in the updated *NGC, Inc. Handbook for Flower Shows, Revised 2017*, at the May 24th, 2018 meeting. The District II Fall 2017 Rose Award recipient was Laurie Hixson, member of Floral Design and Summit Garden Clubs.

Los Alamos Garden Club cares for Los Alamos Memorial Rose Garden at Fuller Lodge. A favorite program was given by Shirley Carter on “Landscape Design”. Their annual luncheon meeting was held April 16, 2018, and 2018 Club Officers were installed. The District II Spring 2018 Rose Award recipient was Judy Handy, member of Los Alamos Garden Club.

Summit Garden Club cares for the gardens at White Rock Community Garden and Bandelier National Monument. A favorite program was “Sharing Favorite Indoor Plants.”

The **Fall 2017 DII Executive Board Meeting** was held October 11, 2017 in Los Alamos, with NMGC, Inc. President Barbara Vance in attendance. Officers, Chairmen and Club Presidents gave their reports. Plans for

hosting the 2018 NMGC, Inc. Annual Convention were discussed. A box lunch was provided after the business meeting.

The **Spring 2018 District II Annual Meeting** was held April 4, 2018 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. at Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder Resort. DII Officers, Chairmen and Club Presidents gave their reports. DII Environment Committee Chairman and Los Alamos Garden Club member Ann LePage presented a program on “Forest Restoration.” Following the meeting, members were invited to meet for lunch on their own at Buffalo Thunder’s Iguana Café.

District II hosted the **2018 NMGC, Inc. Annual Convention** on April 4-6, 2018 at Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder Resort, located in Pojoaque Pueblo, 20 miles north of Santa Fe. We welcomed South Central Region Director Isabel Olsen, New Mexico Garden Club, Inc. President Barbara Vance, and NMGC, Inc. members from all areas of New Mexico. On Wednesday, April 4th, there were meetings of the NMGC, Inc. Executive Board, New Mexico Judges Council Executive Board and General Meeting, followed by Judges Council dinner and a design program on “New Trends in Floral Design,” given by Pat Copple and Shelby Green, members of Floral Designers Garden Club.

DISTRICT III DIRECTOR – Jo Ann Layden

District III is just humming this past year! I have a synopsis of some of the great activities the Clubs have accomplished in reverse alphabetical order! This is not enough space or time to list the accomplishments of all three Clubs!

SANTA ROSA: This club, though small (15 members), stays busy the entire year. Each year they have entries in the Smokey the Bear contest; in 2017 they had over 200 entries! The Club works with a Senior Citizens group and has a Flower Show at the local County Fair every year. This small Club boasts two Flower Show Judges and trains their members on floral design. They maintain an herbal garden at the local hospital and even provide scholarships to students! Two of their members are also State Chairman and State Officer. Wow, small but powerful and involved is my thought!

ANGEL FIRE: Angel Fire has a membership of 58 members; though many are part-timers. The Club maintains three signature gardens and the members are active in nursing homes, the local high school, Girl Scout Camp, and the Angel Fire Earth Day cleanup. Music from Angel Fire benefits from at least 3 floral arrangements each year. Angel Fire is generous in their contributions to Penny Pines, giving over \$400 a year. They provide scholarships, donating two \$1000.00 scholarships to local students. Seeds were donated to the local library and elementary school. Donations also went to “Free the Girls” service project and a Women’s shelter in Taos. Water irrigation projects are a top priority with Angel Fire and the three signature gardens and at least 8 members have home irrigation systems. After the Village stopped the recycling program, the Club formed a coalition with the Chamber of Commerce to reinstitute recycling and reduce the use of plastic bags and straws.

Angel Fire had their first flower show in 2017 and had the Garden Tour in July. Engraved stepping stones and granite tiles for the Butterfly garden were sold in 2017 along with several raffles that raised funds for all the projects. Each meeting provides training and information to the members on all gardening issues, concerns or growth. Angel Fire has 10 members in State Chairman or Officer Status. No grass grows under their feet (no pun intended)!

AMOR de la TIERRA: This brand-new Club in Las Vegas hit the ground with track shoes on! After a short organizational time, this Club of 15 members has shown they have the talent, expertise and motivation to be one of the top Clubs in the State. Their meetings are exceptional since they have provided excellent training to their members in tree pruning, composting, and gardening during drought issues. They have a focus of community

service, fundraising and working within the school system to educate children on gardening. They have coordinated with the local school system to work with the school's agriculture-based curriculum. They planted bulbs in planters at various businesses. Two Club members are working on having a Master's Gardener's Program in Las Vegas in 2019. Several members have been actively involved in the planning of the 2019 Convention to be held in Las Vegas. Because of their contacts and knowledge of the area, they have paved the way for an interesting and fun Convention! Wow, all this in just a short time! We are lucky to have this exceptional Club in our State Garden Clubs!

District III Rocks! State Convention April 3, 4, 5, 2019 promises to be awesome!

DISTRICT IV DIRECTOR – Judy Laird

District IV of NMGC, Inc. includes all NGC, Inc., Federated Garden Clubs located in Catron, Dona Ana, Grant, Hidalgo, Luna, Otero, Sierra and Socorro Counties of New Mexico. Currently there are six clubs located in Silver City, Las Cruces, Socorro, Truth or Consequences, and Alamogordo with total membership of 87. Four members are NMGC, Inc., State Chairmen and three are NGC, Inc., Flower Show Judges.

This District hosted the 2017 NMGC, Inc. Fall Board in Las Cruces on October 25th and 26th, 2017. Attendance was 52 members from New Mexico.

Our two District Meetings for the year were hosted by Desert Daubers Garden Club of Las Cruces and Evergreen Garden Club of Silver City. Attendance for each meeting was approximately 35.

Flowering Desert Garden Club of Alamogordo maintains a public rose garden and participates in the Otero County Fair. Sunshine Valley Garden Club of Truth or Consequences hosts the Floriculture portion of the Sierra County Fair. Desert Daubers Garden Club of Las Cruces celebrated their 50th Anniversary.

Mesilla Valley Garden Club of Las Cruces member Linnea Egbert received the NMGC, Inc. Mentor of the Year Award for 2017.

Nancy Hall, member of Desert Daubers, passed away in April 2018.

DISTRICT V DIRECTOR – Nannette Tanner

This has been an exciting year for District V. We will be hosting the State Fall Board Meeting on October 25 and 26 at the Alto Lakes Golf and Country Club. Each club has new presidents, secretaries, and treasurers. They have been busy getting organized for the coming year. Artesia had programs on NGC, Inc., designs and then preparing for the County Fair. They were our hosts for the Fall District V meeting, which was wonderful.

Christine Longthorp gave a wonderful program on flower arranging. Home Garden Club continues to maintain the Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge Garden and the Spring River Park and Zoo Garden that has been in their care over 26 years. They also sponsor the Pecos Valley Youth Club. Renate Reisel is doing a great job organizing programs and projects for the youth club. Their goal is to recruit new members and improve programs. They have 30 members at this time and are working on getting more new members. Morning Garden Club is a co-sponsor of the Eastern New Mexico State Fair in Roswell.

Morning Garden Club had a total of 16 Blue Ribbons. They also maintain the Butterfly and Triangle Gardens in Cahoon Park area as well as the Alena Gardens at the Historical Society for Southeast New Mexico Archives Building. They also maintain hummingbird feeders and birdseed feeders all year at Sunset Villa Care Center in Roswell. They also maintain a large planter and landscaping at the entrance to Roswell Refuge for Battered

Adults. Morning Garden Club will be implementing two gardens at the J. Kenneth Smith Bird Sanctuary and applying for a National Garden Club Grant to help in that endeavor. They also decorate the Historical Museum for the Christmas Holidays, with a reception at the community center highlighting the decorations. Another highlight is working with the Habitat for Humanity and fall and winter programs for preschool children.

A busy group of ladies! Lincoln County Garden Club placed a Blue Star Memorial Marker at Fort Stanton in September and gave a reception after the ceremony. In November the Ft. Stanton Cemetery had a wonderful ceremony which Gov. Martinez, along with several other dignitaries from the state, attended. Lincoln County Garden Club still maintains the Ruidoso Public Library Garden and the Hospital Garden in Ruidoso. They also maintain a large planter at the Capitan Library. Members also gave programs and a workshop on Mason Bees at both libraries.

CHAIRPERSON REPORTS

ARCHIVES - Beulah Oyler and Becky Fuller

We have delivered several boxes to the Archives at NMSU Library where the students have filed them. Any member can go to the library and access information on any club affiliated with New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. We are available at the Spring Convention and the Fall Board Meeting to receive anything you might want archived.

AUDIT/FINANCE COMMITTEE – Norma Tech

No report received.

AWARDS – Sue Ferguson

This chairman submitted articles quarterly to the New Mexico Gardener, explaining the NMGC, Inc., award process and giving encouragement to clubs and members to apply for each and every award they were eligible for. Award handbooks from NMGC, Inc., South Central Region and NGC, Inc., were provided electronically to NMGC, Inc., Officers, District Directors, Club Presidents and Chairmen, and are also available on the NMGC, Inc., website.

Award sponsorships were solicited and thank you letters were sent to donors.

State, Regional, and National award results were published in the New Mexico Gardener, and on the NMGC, Inc., website.

Top individual award winners for 2017 were:

NGC, Inc., Member Award of Honor - Renate Reisel
NMGC, Inc., Special Achievement Award - Eva Zhang
NMGC, Inc., Member of the Year - Diane Peterson
NMGC, Inc., Design of the Year - Debra Sorrell
NMGC, Inc., Horticulturist of the Year - Shirley Tetreault
NMGC, Inc., Mentor of the Year - Linnea Egbert

BEES, BIRDS, BUTTERFLY GARDENING – Jo Ann Layden

Bees are fascinating and totally vital for growing our food supply. Most people do not realize that bees (and other pollinators) pollinate 75 to 80% of all our food! As Chairman for bees, birds and butterflies, I've studied them more than I probably would have done if I wasn't Chairman. I have more knowledge and therefore more respect for all pollinators and the role they play in our world. I have made an effort to educate our members on ways to help preserve healthy bees, birds and butterflies.

The butterflies, bees and other pollinators are rapidly and alarmingly declining. There are many reasons given for this including the following:

Loss of habitat: The chief causes for pollinator habitat loss are agriculture, mining and human development.

- **Growing non-native plants:** Non-native plants may attract pollinators away from native species that are more nutritious and better food sources. Also, non-native species of pollinators may compete with native pollinators for pollen and nectar.
- **Using pesticides, fungicides, and insecticides:** Pesticides can adversely affect pollinators directly or some types of pesticides, called systemic, may remain in the environment for an extended time and affect multiple generations of pollinators. Insecticides applied to plant seeds may, when the plant is mature, contaminate pollen grains that are food sources for pollinators. Insecticides that don't directly kill may hamper the ability of pollinators to navigate or forage. Herbicides may kill important forage plants for pollinators.
- **Climate Change:** Flowering plants may occur farther north or at higher elevations as a response to warming temperatures and may become out of sync with their pollinators, so that the butterflies, etc. that frequent a certain area do not find their usual food. The types and distributions of pollinators may change; pollinators adapted to warmer temperatures may expand their northward range, displacing other pollinators. This throws everything out of sync and tends to confuse the species.

There are many things we as humans can do to try and save these important pollinators, including:

- **Plant many NATIVE plants.**
- **Avoid the use of insecticides, fungicides, and insecticides,** especially neonicotinoids, which are systemic, staying in the plants for months, moving through the entire plant, including the pollen and nectar. They also get into the water, such as our streams.
- **Help educate others** on the importance of reading labels, planting native plants.
- **Notify stores when they carry plants treated with neonicotinoids** so they can remove them.

When we concentrate so hard on saving these species because of their importance to our livelihood, we should not forget that they are also a source of beauty and wonder, things that make life so amazing.

Birds! You might say, "Well, they're fun to watch and some are beautiful but what purpose do they serve?" While doing research on why they matter, I found a website that had such beautiful quotes from people being asked this question that I felt I should include some of them here, as they describe it so much better than I ever could! The website is: www.audubon.org/news/why-do-birds-matter and here are some quotes from that site:

Birds are important because they keep systems in balance: they pollinate plants, disperse seeds, scavenge carcasses and recycle nutrients back into the earth. But they also feed our spirits, marking for us the passage of the seasons, moving us to create art and poetry, inspiring us to

flight and reminding us that we are not only on, but of, this earth. — Melanie Driscoll, Director of Bird Conservation for the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi Flyway

Birds make any place a chance for discovery, they make a garden seem wild, they are a little bit of wilderness coming into a city park, and for a bird watcher every walk is filled with anticipation. What feathered jewel might drop out of the sky next? — David Sibley, Author

Birds are wherever we are. They are our companions. Birds are mediators between heaven and earth. — Terry Tempest Williams, Author, When Women Were Birds

How do we have a bird friendly garden? Offer them a variety of shrubs, trees and or structures to help them with the things they require; food, water, shelter and protection. Different sizes of shrubs, etc. helps the birds hide when they feel threatened. They don't care to cross over open spaces. Offering a wide variety of food also helps, such as plants with fruit, seeds and insects helps birds stay in your area. Again, let's remember the pleasure of watching birds and their beauty.

Studying bees, birds and butterflies is fascinating and so rewarding. For me it has opened more doors of opportunity to learn about these amazing creatures and I have developed a deeper respect for all of them. We can't forget the bats and other not so attractive pollinators, as they play an important part in our world!

BLUE STAR MARKERS/MEMORIAL GARDENS - Shirley Tetreault

On July the 28th at the Albuquerque Garden Center we re-dedicated our Blue Star Memorial Marker in conjunction with the Patriotic Flower Show. Uptown Garden Club and the Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs sponsored the event and provided a beautiful lunch for dignitaries. Maple Levine, District I Director served in Viet Nam as a nurse. There are several other memorial markers proposed throughout the state that will be dedicated in 2018/2019.

CIVIC DEVELOPMENT – Maple Levine

Recently at the fabulous State Convention at the beautiful Buffalo Thunder Resort we witnessed many achievement awards given to both individuals and to clubs. While the recipients were very deserving for the kudos that was given, there were many other potential awards that received no applicants.

As District I Director, I was given the task of providing a SHORT summary of all nine garden clubs in District I. While gathering the information for the report, it became evident that almost every club had performed at least one and often more than one civic improvement project. Most of these projects could have easily qualified for a Civic Development Award.

To get started here are some basic tips:

1. Pick a project that all or at least a majority of your members can be a participant.
2. Consider becoming a partner with a local business to possibly help out with expenses or provide a discount for supplies and plant material.
3. Draw a concise plan.
4. Take the all-important "before" photo.
5. While actually performing the manual labor, erect a sign that says who you are. Who knows, you might attract a potential new member or two!
6. Take more photos of members having fun while working.

7. Take more photos when the project is completed.
8. Write a summary of your accomplishments and include any obstacles, publicity that was awarded, and plans for maintaining the improvements.

The above information will get you started but please read the Awards Booklet to further guide your club through the whole process. If your club does not have the Awards Booklet, your president can download it from our website: www.newmexicogardenclubs.org (password protected).

Well, there you have it. You are already doing so many cool projects so you may as well get credit for all that you and your club are doing. While you are browsing through the Awards Booklet you will probably notice other projects that are of interest. Let's make the 2019 be the most exciting gathering ever!

EDUCATIONAL SCHOOLS

State Sponsored

- **GARDENING SCHOOL – Debi Harrington and Mary Ann Moreno**

No report received.

- **ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL - Suzy Andrego**

We are starting a new Series in August. School I, Series III will be held in Albuquerque at the Rio Grande Nature Center. We have one new Environmental Consultant, Debi Harrington, of Albuquerque. We have two Master Environmental Consultants and four Environmental Consultants.

- **LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL – Suzy Andrego**

We have four new Landscape Design Consultants, Suzy Andrego, Debi Harrington and Debra Sorrell of Albuquerque, along with Laurie Hixson of Los Alamos. CONGRATULATIONS! We have one Master Landscape Design Consultant, Collen Hinker.

Judges' Council Sponsored

- **FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL - Suzy Andrego**

We have held three schools during this reporting period. School I, School II and School III. We have eight Flower Show School students as of this date.

- **SYMPOSIUMS - Christine Longthorp**

No report received.

- **FLOWER SHOW CREDENTIALS – Mary Gilliam**

No report received.

- **FLOWER SHOW & FAIR SCHEDULES – Shirley Tetreault**

No report received.

FOOD/HERB GARDENING – Colleen Hinker

I have enjoyed sharing my knowledge with the many members who have called or discussed with me at our conventions and meetings concerning vegetable, fruit and herb gardening. I have shared information on herb usage and food recipes with many members, doing several club programs on organic gardening and sustainable agriculture. I have attended the Organic Farming Conference every year since its inception, learning new updates on seeds, processes, machinery, as well as other farm related subjects. I have attended every State and South Central Region Convention and have participated in their programs.

An article was written for the New Mexico Gardener and another was written for this Spring. Although I received only one application for our award, I do enjoy reading what others are doing in their gardens. And, of course, I am still growing, preserving and using my own home-grown vegetables, fruits and herbs- need a recipe?

GARDENING THERAPY – Renate Reisel

I am very pleased to report that I received three entries on Garden Therapy. Each club submitted outstanding photos and reports about their projects. Each club has different activities and I enjoyed reading all about their involvement working with seniors and youth, including design and educational gardening. I hope all garden clubs include garden therapy in their projects for the next season.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Sonia James

No report received.

HORTICULTURE - Ellen Reed

I have written horticulture articles for 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.

LITTER CONTROL & RECYCLING – Julie Foster

Thank-you for all your effort in making our world a nicer place...

This year was another rewarding year for me as chairman. We had wonderful applications for some awesome projects. I love creating awards to be useful to recipients, and hope to inspire more applicants by doing so. I know there are many more types of projects that could be entered, and hope to see more in the future.

Congratulations to 2017 award recipients, and I hope you continue your efforts to make our world a nicer place: Angel Fire Garden Club, Morning Garden Club, Pecos Valley Gardeners (youth), and Diana Dodridge (individual).

I would like to remind everyone that garden club is a learning and informational tool to help community and likeminded individuals care for and beautify the world we live in.

The joy on people’s faces brings joy and peace to one’s heart, especially when you brighten another’s day with something as simple as a flower, or a creation of a useful or decorative item that has been saved from becoming just another piece of trash along our roads.

KEEP NM BEAUTIFUL – Connie Elmore

No report received.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES/MERCHANDISE - Kathleen Flanders

No report received.

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK – Peggy Voight

National Garden Week is held each year to observe and acknowledge the importance of gardening and to promote knowledge of gardening. As Chair of NMGC, Inc., National Garden Week Committee, I furnished a flier that was published in the *New Mexico Gardener* for use of all garden clubs in the state and encouraged all clubs to celebrate the week of June 4-10, 2017, with activities and events that would inspire gardeners and also promote membership in garden clubs. Each club was requested to contact me if they needed suggestions and to also let me know how they celebrated the week.

NEW MEXICO GARDENER – EDITOR - Eva Zhang

No report received.

NEW MEXICO GARDENER – CIRCULATION - Linnea Egbert

As Circulation Chair in 2017, I proofread and helped format each newsletter. For the first three issues I sent newsletters electronically and by hard copy. Eva sent the electronic issues in Winter. Because folding the large (11 x 17) paper is hand labor and pricey, I choose to fold them myself. The summer issue postage includes the flat rate for sending the newsletter to me from my vacation month in Arizona. This was an extremely large issue and for some reason, had an increase of number of recipients. Noted below in both the printing and the postage are price increases in 2017.

Our Las Cruces printer is a quality business that allows electronic submission, is very competitive and reasonable. I would recommend other clubs getting a quote and consider utilizing their services. Flat rate postal services do not add a significant amount to large orders.

Total cost for the year was \$431.69 – under the budget of \$500.00.

New Mexico Gardener Circulation 2017

Date/Issue	# Electronic Copies	# Hard Copies	Pages	Printing \$	Mailing \$	Amt/Issue w/Postage
Spring 2017	486	71	16	34.45	51.80	1.21
Summer 2017	489	85	20	70.00	73.87	1.69
Fall 2017	481	68	16	42.75	46.69	1.32
Winter 2017	Eva 491	68	12 + 1	50.39	61.74	1.65

PENNY PINES – Larry Layden

Even though the Penny Pines Program has been around for 78 years, it's still a rather obscure subject for some garden clubs. The fact that you can get 200 tree seedlings planted in a National Forest of your choice nationwide for only \$68 is a great bargain. On top of that someone else does the planting plus you don't have to weed it.

In 2016, New Mexico Garden Clubs had their biggest Penny Pines year ever with a combined donation of over \$1200 or around \$45 a club. During 2017, we dropped a little with a total contribution of just over \$900. I don't know how we are doing this year statewide but with the horrific wildland fire season in New Mexico I'll bet our 2018 total plantations will be impressive. My local club alone donated about \$300 last year which was good but this year we have already given almost \$560.

At our annual convention in April 2018, at the Buffalo Thunder Resort, I gave Penny Pines donation containers to any club that asked for one. If your club has not donated at least \$68 for a plantation, please consider doing so before the end of the year. If you need a donation jar, just ask.

A few weeks ago, I had the privilege of attending a joint meeting of the Los Alamos and White Rock Clubs in Los Alamos. We talked about the best way to have a successful Penny Pines Program. The program works best when clubs have a dedicated individual that keeps track of the donations. That same person sends the donation to the National Garden Club and then communicates with the Forest Service to make sure the tree seedlings are planted in a timely manner. As garden clubs we are everything horticulture including helping our nation stay green.

PERSONNEL – Nancy Ketchum

No report received.

PHOTOGRAPHY – Debra Sorrell

No report received.

PROTOCOL – Jan Smith

All protocols were followed per President Barbara Vance's requests.

RESOLUTIONS – Shirley Sheriff

The NMGC, Inc., 68th Annual Fall Board was held October 25-26, 2017 at the lovely Hotel Encanto in Las Cruces, New Mexico. The theme for this Board Meeting was "Welcome to the Chihuahuan Desert – Cactus and Critters." Shirley Sheriff, New Mexico Resolutions Chair, presented a poem "Cactus and Critters and Other Creepy Things" depicting visions of the desert and Halloween fun recognizing and thanking all who participated in making this Fall Board such a great event. Just a few of those recognitions included: Thank you District IV under the direction of Judy Laird who made the Fall Board a pleasure to attend, no one got bored; thanking President Vance for her leadership, wine and fine feast and now she can sit a spell as everything went so well.

The NMGC, Inc., 69th Annual Convention was held April 4, 5, 6, 2018 at the Buffalo Thunder Resort. The theme for this Convention was "Footsteps of the Three Sisters." Members from the Angel Fire Garden Club (Diane Peterson, JJ Huddleston and Conni Elkins) performed a delightful skit depicting The Three Sisters,

namely Corn, Pinto Bean and Squash – Grow! Grow! Grow! Through this skit, appreciation was expressed to all those who led this convention including: NMGC, Inc., President Barbara Vance and her Board; Laurie Hixson, Convention Chairman, and her club members who did such a great job planning; special speakers, including Shelby Green and Pat Copple (Judges Council), Lorraine Gray (Executive Director, Four Bridges Traveling Permaculture Institute), Roxanne Swentzell (Co-Founder, Flowering Tree Permaculture Institute); and the Buffalo Thunder Resort.

ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION – Debi Harrington

No report received.

SCHOLARSHIP/LIFE MEMBER – Christine Longthorp

No report received.

SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL – Mary Ann Moreno

No report received.

TREES – Maggie Rubino

No report received.

WATER CONSERVATION – John Sorrell

No report received.

WAYS and MEANS – Jen Moreno

The Ways and Means Committee raffle fundraiser supports the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. (NMGC, Inc.) President's Project. Our NMGC, Inc. President Barbara Vance's Project is GROW NEW MEXICO: GROW/expand our knowledge of gardening & conservation; GROW Membership, GROW in Leadership, GROW Friendships.

The first drawing will happen at the 2018 NMGC Inc. Fall Board meeting on October 26th in Alto, New Mexico. The prizes for the drawing include an all-expense paid trip to the spring 2019 NMGC, Inc., annual state convention in Las Vegas, New Mexico on April 3-5, a beautiful, brand new Calvin Klein hobo-style bag and a \$50 gift card to Lowes. The second drawing will happen on April 6th at the spring 2019 NMGC, Inc., Annual State Convention and will include drawings for items including: a beautiful turquoise necklace and earring set, a stunning, brand new Ralph Lauren handbag and many other fabulous prizes! Tickets for the drawings will be sold for \$1 per ticket or \$5 for six tickets.

Raffle tickets have been sent to each NMGC, Inc. garden club president, so please contact the president of your garden club to purchase tickets. Additionally, Barbara Vance will be selling tickets as she travels the state for meetings. Thanks for supporting NMGC, Inc. and your state president!

WEBSITE – Cindy Hills

The New Mexico Garden Clubs Facebook account was implemented in October 2017. The Facebook page is accessible by searching on "New Mexico Garden Clubs" while logged into Facebook, by connecting to the link

<https://www.facebook.com/newmexicogardenclubs/> or by clicking on the Facebook icon from NMGC, Inc.'s, website, <http://newmexicogardenclubs.org>. Individual club Facebook pages (for those clubs who have Facebook pages) were added to the NMGC, Inc., website "Resources" page.

The "Awards" page was updated after the 2018 NMGC, Inc., Spring Convention with photographs of NMGC, Inc., Top Award recipients and with links to one booklet listing all NMGC, Inc., award recipients (submitted by Sue Ferguson) and another one showing the winning photographs (submitted by Debra Sorrell). A link to photographs taken during the Convention by Eva Zhang was added to the home page.

Registration forms for various NMGC, Inc.-related schools and meetings were added to the "Members Only" page as they become available. Individual district pages in "Members Only" were updated with information provided by district directors, and PDFs listing contact information for NMGC, Inc., Officers, Chairmen, District Directors and Club Presidents were updated as they became available. The New Mexico Judges Council's newsletter, *Here Comes the "Judge,"* and South Central Region's newsletter, *SCR Communicator*, were also added to "Members Only." *The New Mexico Gardener* is added to "Members Only" shortly after publication. Back issues of the *Gardener*, going back to Fall 2009, are also available in "Members Only."

WILDFLOWERS/NATIVE PLANTS – Rosemary Maddox

When I got the word that my report was due September 3rd, I realized I didn't have much to report. Here it is: I have several times distributed wildflower seeds to Mesilla Valley Garden Club members. I gathered a panel of other club members to assist in judging award applications. I have visited Native Plant Society meetings, and responded to an invitation to join the Sierra Club. So far that has involved just signing petitions and requests for more funds.

When I was asked to take this chairmanship, I should have said "I'm basically a vegetable and herb gardener, and while I do have wildflowers and native plants, they have pretty much naturalized." I have the same problem as Ado Annie in the musical "Oklahoma"--I Can't Say No. My husband bought me a book entitled "The Disease to Please," subtitled "Nice People Can Say No," but I have been too busy to read it.

I am finally willing to admit that Texas Poinsettias are weedy. Not weeds, just weedy. They have completely taken over my garden, and although they are beautiful, some of them have to go. I wanted them for 20 years, I got them, and they want all the space. But that's not a bad problem to have, considering they pop right out of the ground when pulled and don't spread by underground roots. I'm in the second half of my ninth decade, and if that's my worst problem, I'm happy with it.

WORLD GARDENING – Carolyn Bucklen

No report received.

YEARBOOKS – Julie Foster

Awesome work on those yearbooks, they were a joy to read. What wonderful yearbooks are being put together with the technology available. There are programs taking place around the state that are truly awesome. Entries were light but very difficult to judge as they were all so beautifully done.

Congratulations to Morning Garden Club, the Pat Edmonds Award recipient. A panel of seven chose Morning Garden Club. It was a very tough decision, but it was unanimous. Lincoln County Garden Club, and Angel Fire Garden Club were this year's first place applicants in Classes III and V.

I would like to remind everyone that garden club is a learning and informational tool to help community and likeminded individuals care for and beautify the world we live in. The joy on people's faces brings joy and peace to one's heart when you brighten another's day with something as simple as a flower.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES – Sonia James

No report received.