

**New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**June 1, 2020 – May 31, 2021**



*Thank you to our Presidents  
who 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 (Myrl) – Ft. Sumner
1963 – 1965	Mrs. Rebecca Vidal – Albuquerque
1965 – 1967	Mrs. Harvey Israel (Lillian) – Los Alamos
1967 – 1969	Mrs. Thomas K. 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	June Wood (Mrs. Don) – Albuquerque
1991 – 1993	Sue Graves (Mrs. Glen) – Los Alamos
1993 – 1995	Lequita Lett (Mrs. James) – Silver City
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	Colleen Hinker (Mrs. Fred) – Santa Rosa
2009 – 2011	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
2019 – 2021	Christine Longthorp – Albuquerque

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# OFFICER REPORTS

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Christine Longthorp**

This year has been slow to start but is beginning to open up and we are meeting in person around the State. To fill in the Spring I gave design programs via Zoom to Los Alamos and Socorro Garden clubs. I think it was at the best entertaining and hopefully gave some practical ideas to them. District V held a meeting in Roswell on April 27<sup>th</sup> at which I Installed the new board with Julie Foster as the new Director. It was good to meet in person with everyone. I held a District Directors meeting, again via Zoom, on April 30<sup>th</sup> and encouraged the Directors to keep in touch with their clubs and to help with programs etc.

On May 13<sup>th</sup> I Installed the new board for Valley Garden Club at a ceremony held outside at the Albuquerque Garden Center. This was followed with the National Garden Clubs Annual Convention being held virtually via Zoom on May 19<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup>. Quite a feat to get all time zones together but great fun and as usual very educational.

I attended Sunshine Garden Club's 71<sup>st</sup> birthday party on June 12<sup>th</sup> held on District IV Director Ellie Nordgren's charming, shaded patio. It was very well attended, and we enjoyed delicious salads and cake.

My next trip was to Angel Fire Garden Club's meeting on July 12<sup>th</sup> where I gave a design program followed by a lovely lunch on Page Steed's deck watching a flock of entertaining wild turkeys. From this program I have been asked to travel to Raton in November to give a similar program to the Master Gardeners there. One of my favorite things to do is judge rural flower shows and I was happy to visit Socorro Garden Club sponsored show on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was so well entered and held in conjunction with the Youth Art Exhibits so the space was full and very pretty. Sadly Socorro Garden Club has requested to go dormant until better times when they can recruit new people.

I was invited to attend the District IV Fall meeting held at the Yacht Club at Elephant Butte on September 10<sup>th</sup>. It was a super turnout, and our own Suzy Andreggo gave a program about Daffodils in perfect time for club members to order and plant bulbs this Autumn. The room was decorated so well, and everyone went home with something. My most recent event was to install a new board for El Jardine Encanto on September 16<sup>th</sup> in the lovely yard of Debby Hasse. It is always so gratifying to see clubs come together and enjoy the purpose of garden clubs in friendship.

During September New Mexico held the State Fair in Albuquerque and I was able to enter designs and help many other New Mexico Judges as they judged entries. It is always amazing to me to see just what people can grow here but even more exciting when they share their treasures for the public, very inspiring.

This week –September 22<sup>nd</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>– I attended the NGC Fall Board meeting by Zoom and again have much to share with our members at the New Mexico Fall Board meeting to be held in Las Cruces on October 27<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup> which is where we will also distribute the awards from the past two years.

I have plans to attend District V meeting held in Roswell on October 5<sup>th</sup> where Debra Sorrell 1<sup>st</sup> VP will give a fall design program. That will be followed by the District I meeting to be held at the Albuquerque Garden Center on October 12<sup>th</sup> where I will install the new members of the board. District III is holding a Zoom meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup> and that brings us up to Las Cruces where Judy Laird has worked with her committee from District IV to host our Chile themed Fall Board meeting.

I am certain that this will be a fabulous time as we come together from all around our magnificent Land of Enchantment and I send gratitude to all of you for keeping things together through an enormously difficult time.

#### **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT – Debra Sorrell**

There have been so few club meetings and state activities for the last year that I do not have anything to report at this time.

#### **SECOND VICE PRESIDENT/MEMBERSHIP – Joyce Zaugg**

The Covid-19 virus has challenged us all! District and State conventions were postponed and then canceled. Many clubs had their last regular face to face meeting in March 2020 but continued to meet for their community projects. These included maintaining garden beds at hospitals, zoos, parks, libraries, and community buildings. Everyone practiced social distancing, wearing masks, and using hand sanitizers. Some clubs continued to meet via the Zoom app on computers, cell phones, and tablets.

Thank goodness we had our gardens. Many members chose to rejuvenate their lawns, flowers beds, shrubs, bird houses, and bird baths. The New Mexico Gardener continued to be published throughout the pandemic and it lifted my spirit to read how innovative and enduring our members and clubs are.

A few notes about the chart below. Every District lost some members. I'm thinking that some member loss was because of the pandemic. Other reasons may be that members moved to other states, some cherished members passed away, some are elderly and find attending meetings and gardening to be too challenging. My hope is

that in this upcoming year all our clubs will find the time to increase efforts to recruit new members.

The two youth clubs may have members, but since I did not receive rosters from them, I put 0 in their columns. I'm hoping now that things are getting back to normal that they will re-energize and their numbers will be back up.

District	Club Count	Club Name	Registrat on 2019-20	2019-20 Youth	Registrat on 2020-21	2020-21 Youth	Membership Change	Percentage Dif f erence
I		Blooming Gardeners		36		0	-36	0%
I		El Jardin Encanto	37		33		-4	-11%
I		High Desert Design	29		33		4	14%
I		Moriarty	11		11		0	-27%
I		New Mexico Floral Art sts	12		13		1	8%
I		Petal Pushers	21		27		6	29%
I		Uptown	30		33		3	10%
I		Valley Gardeners	33		37		4	12%
<b>Total D I</b>	<b>8 includes 1 youth club</b>		<b>173</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-22</b>	
II		Floral Designers	12		8		-4	-33%
II		Los Alamos	30		25		-5	-17%
II		Summit	22		22		0	0%
<b>Total D II</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>64</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>		<b>-9</b>	
III		Amor de la Tierra	18		12		-6	-33%
III		Angel Fire	68		52		-16	-24%
III		Santa Rosa	18		14		-4	-22%
<b>Total D III</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>104</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>78</b>		<b>-26</b>	
IV		Desert Daubers	11		9		-2	-18%
IV		Evergreen	7		6		-1	-14%
IV		Flowering Desert	15		10		-5	-33%
IV		Mesilla Valley	19		16		-3	-16%
IV		Socorro	14		14		0	0%
IV		Sunshine Valley	17		17		0	0%
<b>Total D IV</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>83</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>72</b>		<b>-11</b>	
V		Artesia	18		19		1	6%
V		Home	28		25		-3	-11%
V		Lincoln	35		31		-4	-11%
V		Morning	20		22		2	10%
V		Pecos Valley Youth		18	0	0	-18	0%
<b>Total D V</b>	<b>5 includes 1 youth club</b>		<b>101</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-22</b>	<b>-22</b>
<b>Total NMGC</b>	<b>25</b>		<b>525</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>489</b>		<b>-90</b>	

### **RECORDING SECRETARY – Dorothy Duff**

Nothing to report. The 2020 Fall Board meeting was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic as was the 2021 Spring Convention.

# TREASURER - Laurie Hixon

## NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC. FINANCIAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

	30-Jun-20	31-Jul-20	31-Aug-20	30-Sep-20	31-Oct-20	30-Nov-20	31-Dec-20	31-Jan-21	28-Feb-21	31-Mar-21	30-Apr-21	31-May-21
Savings	1,841.95	1,877.89	1,915.02	1,952.15	1,988.09	2,025.22	2,061.16	2,098.33	2,135.57	2,164.72	2,196.98	2,220.35
Checking	7,708.96	8,865.03	9,757.10	9,757.18	9,615.26	9,440.34	9,333.96	8,084.04	8,127.60	8,152.67	8,152.74	8,252.81
Bank Accounts Total	9,550.91	10,742.92	11,672.12	11,709.33	11,603.35	11,465.56	11,395.12	10,182.37	10,263.17	10,317.39	10,349.72	10,473.16
Outstanding Checks	643.96	1,791.96	541.96	541.96	106.96	106.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00
General Fund	3,493.49	4,467.51	6,615.73	6,621.96	6,640.99	6,472.21	6,478.74	6,484.97	6,491.20	6,521.10	6,501.52	6,605.48
Ways & Means	813.90	813.90	813.90	813.90	813.90	813.90	813.90	813.90	813.90	813.90	813.90	813.90
Awards	(184.86)	(184.86)	(184.86)	(184.86)	(184.86)	(184.86)	(184.86)	(184.86)	(184.86)	(184.86)	(184.86)	(159.86)
Sensory Garden	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00
State Conv Programs	45.37	45.37	45.37	45.37	45.37	45.37	45.37	45.37	45.37	45.37	45.37	45.37
Education Principal	690.22	695.32	700.60	705.87	710.97	716.25	721.35	726.63	731.92	736.06	740.64	743.95
Scholarship Principal	2,126.59	1,190.85	1,215.91	1,240.98	1,545.24	1,570.30	1,594.56	369.65	438.29	457.96	479.73	495.48
Pres Endow Principal	1,646.25	1,646.87	1,647.52	1,648.17	1,648.80	1,649.45	1,650.07	1,650.72	1,651.37	1,651.88	1,652.44	1,652.85
Ledger Accounts Total	8,906.96	8,950.97	11,130.17	11,167.38	11,496.40	11,358.61	11,395.13	10,182.38	10,263.18	10,317.40	10,324.73	10,473.17
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	9,608.30	8,906.96	8,950.97	11,130.17	11,167.38	11,496.40	11,358.61	11,395.13	10,182.38	10,263.18	10,317.40	10,324.73
Income	37.19	1,294.01	2,189.20	37.21	1,216.02	62.21	36.52	37.25	80.80	54.22	32.33	298.44
Expenses	738.53	1,250.00	10.00	0.00	887.00	200.00	0.00	1,250.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	150.00
Book's Balance	8,906.96	8,950.97	11,130.17	11,167.38	11,496.40	11,358.61	11,395.13	10,182.38	10,263.18	10,317.40	10,324.73	10,473.17

CD Information												
EB&T-6541 12m 2/9/22 0.25%	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54	9,008.54
EB&T-3395 24m 2/9/22 1.1%	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50	20,011.50
EB&T-6248 18m 4/20/22 1.0%	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00	13,660.00
CD Total	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04	42,680.04

Total Bank Funds:	52,230.95	53,422.96	54,352.16	54,389.37	54,283.39	54,145.60	54,075.16	52,862.41	52,943.21	52,997.43	53,029.76	53,153.20
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	current	
	Amount	Percentage
General Fund	\$ 7,016.44	16.44%
Education Principal	\$ 6,069.18	14.22%
Scholarship Principal	\$ 28,848.48	67.59%
Pres Endow Principal	\$ 745.94	1.75%
Total	\$ 42,680.04	100.00%

## HISTORIAN – Julie Foster

First, I would like to Thank and Congratulate those who took the time to complete Awards for 2020. As we all know how trying of a year it was, as everything fun was cancelled repeatedly. Hopefully we all survived the dire warnings, we did lose some dear members, of which we will always treasure the time we got to spend with them. Most did their best to help each other through this emotional roller coaster, with e-mail, phone calls, socially distant visits, cards, and letters. I for one am sure the majority of us are looking forward to gathering and returning to some sort of normalcy in the near future, let us pray it's sooner than later.

## Club Histories received for 2020

### Overall: Sunshine Valley

Class I      Sunshine Valley  
                  Artesia  
                  Santa Rosa

Class II      Petal Pushers  
                  Morning

Los Alamos  
Lincoln County

Class III High Desert Design

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – JJ Huddleston**

The 2019-2020 Annual Report was to be distributed at the 2020 Fall Board Meeting in Santa Fe. Officers, District Directors and Chairpersons were responsible for submitting reports covering the period June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020, which were incorporated into the 2019-2020 Annual Report. Due to Covid-19 and the cancellation of the Fall board meeting, the 2019-2020 Annual Report was posted on the NMGC, Inc. website. Printed reports were mailed to the NMGC, Inc. President and the Archives Chairperson.

Correspondence and emails, such as NGC, Inc. “Keeping in Touch” and the SCR newsletter “The Communicator” were sent as needed. I kept the Officers, Chairpersons, District Directors and Club Presidents list current.

**PARLIAMENTARIAN – Isabel Olsen**

As Parliamentarian, I provide guidance to President Christine Longthorp 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. I also prepare and disburse voting cards at these meetings. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and state mandates, we were not able to gather and have these meetings this last year. Instead, we had a virtual meeting via zoom in the spring with the executive committee.

Many clubs were faced with the challenge of not being able to gather and some conducted virtual meetings and webinars to conduct business and further educate. Throughout the year at the request of Club Parliamentarians, I assist with answering questions relating to procedures, the proper handling of voting and amending of bylaws. I have encouraged all to follow the Bylaws and Standing Rules of their club, district, and state. I use the NGC 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. I also submit articles for the New Mexico Gardener, to keep our members up to date. It is an honor to serve in this appointed office and to work with this NMGC administration of 2019-2021.

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT – Barbara Vance**

Nothing to report.

# DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS

## **DISTRICT I DIRECTOR – Sonia James**

There are seven active clubs in District 1: five in Albuquerque, one in the East mountains and one in Los Lunas.

### **High Desert Design Club – Shirley Tetreault, President**

The club started holding monthly meetings in January 2021. Each month, designs that will be in the New Mexico State Fair will be studied. There are presently 37 members, including the Council president, one National Flower Show design instructor, 2 Master Judges, 12 Master Gardeners. High Desert Design Club meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the Pinon Room at the Garden Center.

### **Uptown Garden Club – Mary Ann Moreno, President**

Uptown Garden Club did not meet from June 30, 2020 until January of 2021. They had 4 Zoom meetings and then in May 2021 held a perennial plant sale at the home of Mary Ann Moreno. They plan to have meetings at the Garden Center the rest of the year.

### **Valley Garden Club – Gigi Zacharias and Dorothy Duff, Co-Presidents**

In May 2021, Valley Garden Club held its first in-person meeting outside at the Garden Center for the installation of officers. Throughout most of 2020 and into 2021 they had Zoom meetings, often in conjunction with Uptown Garden Club. The Zoom meetings were a way to stay connected and also expand garden knowledge.

### **Petal Pushers Garden Club – Ginny Longbotham, President**

In July 2020, they held an installation of officers with masks and social distancing at the Garden Center. The state president, Christine Longthorp and Council president Shirley Tetreault did the honors. They held many zoom meetings and members kept in touch by phone calls and emails. In April 2021, they held a Welcome Back luncheon at the Garden Center.

### **El Jardin Encanto Garden Club – Adrienne David, President**

In September 2020, 10 members took a self-guided tour of the Rio Grand Nature Center State Park and then met for lunch. From then until May 2021, they held Zoom meetings. In May 2021, they held a luncheon at the home of member Debbie Hasse where 16 members attended.

## **DISTRICT II DIRECTOR – Position Vacant**

### **DISTRICT III DIRECTOR – Johnese Turri**

How wonderful to have garden club meetings again!! I have been to only one here in Angel Fire. It was soooo wonderful to see our gardeners!

Angel Fire Garden club just had their first in person meeting. They are busy working on their 3 signature gardens. Santa Rosa Garden Club has been meeting and Colleen tells me they are planting and growing in her green house. Amor de la Tierra is collaborating with Mainstreet de Las Vegas for a Community Garden. And I understand that the mosaic wall that we saw at the last district meeting will be put with this garden!!

We are so excited to have district meeting in Las Vegas on the 29th of September this year!!!

### **DISTRICT IV DIRECTOR – Ellie Nordgren**

District IV consists of six clubs: Desert Daubers-Las Cruces, Evergreen-Silver City, Flowering Desert-Alamogordo, Mesilla Valley-Las Cruces, Socorro-Socorro, and Sunshine Valley-Truth or Consequences. "We Make Dirt Look Good" is our theme.

Not much happened with the Garden Clubs due to the COVID-19, as many in-person meetings and programs were cancelled. However, "Zoom" meetings were conducted as a way of keeping in touch and conducting meetings. The Clubs continue to maintain their garden projects.

A few outdoor meetings did take place, such as in May 2020, members from Socorro Garden Club met at District IV Director, Ellie Nordgren's home in Hillsboro for a delightful tour of her beautiful garden. Sunshine Valley Garden Club met on April 24, 2021, at a member's home for a "Plant Exchange Party" (aka a *Pot Party*). A few Clubs had various garden tours in their area.

Mesilla Valley Garden Club celebrated 90 years in May 2020.

The District IV Spring Meeting, "Dabbling in Daffodils" on March 13, 2020, was postponed due to COVID-19. It is now scheduled for Friday, September 10, 2021, at Sierra del Rio Golf Course restaurant in Elephant Butte, and will be hosted by the Sunshine Valley Garden Club. The same program and materials from the March 2020 meeting will be used. The \$35 registration fees that were collected for that meeting will be applied towards this one. An Official Call and Registration will be sent. Confirmation of those who paid will be made and money refunded to those unable to attend this meeting.

The postponed combined NMGC Annual Convention and Fall Board meeting is now planned for the last week of October 2021 in Las Cruces. District IV is the host, and we will use the same resources saved from 2020.

### **DISTRICT V DIRECTOR – Renate Reisel**

Our district 5 Fall Board meeting was hosted by Artesia Garden club. No further district meetings were scheduled due to the NM State regulations on the Covid-19.

Artesia Garden club has 18 members. Artesia garden club members kept busy with retaining all their outdoor garden activities. Due to the virus no formal meetings were planned.

Home garden club has 27 members, no new members. The club president Jan Smith held a couple meetings by zoom and also are planning a Gardeners plant Sale. The club maintains a flower bed at Spring River Park and Zoo and at the wildlife Refuge.

Lincoln county garden club has 26 members and are currently waiting about a report on new members. No formal meetings but the club keeps calling members if they are doing okay or needing help. Club members maintain the flowerbeds at the Lincoln Library among many other outdoor events. Many activities are canceled due to restrictions.

Morning garden club has 20 members and 2 new members. Morning garden club planted a tree in Memory of Georgia Schoenecker at Peach Tree Retirement Home. Georgia was a very active and longtime member of Morning Garden club. The Garden club maintains 4 flower beds and also planting flowers in containers in different areas, decorating them for different holidays. Also, they were decorating the Historical Museum on the outside with pinecones and natural greenery.

# CHAIRPERSON REPORTS

## **ARCHIVES - Beulah Oyler and Becky Fuller**

During the year of the pandemic, the library at NMSU was closed. It has been open for appointments only since March 2021. I believe it should be back to business as usual soon.

## **AUDIT/FINANCE COMMITTEE – Norma Tech**

Nothing to report.

## **AWARDS – Nanette Tanner and Nancy Hartwick**

Fifty-six awards were submitted and will be presented at the 2021 Fall Board Meeting in Las Cruces.

## **BEES, BIRDS, BUTTERFLY GARDENING – Jan Smith**

Jan was the Bees, Birds, and Butterfly Gardening Chair for 2019 to 2021. Sadly, she passed away in June of 2021. In her honor, we are reprinting her article titled “Pollinators in Your Garden” that was published in the Fall 2020 New Mexico Gardener.

### **Pollinators in your garden**

It has been hot and if you are like me, I take this time to rethink my garden. What plants need to be moved, what needs to come out and what new plants to put in the garden next year.

If you are doing the same, why not put some thought into including plants that bees and other pollinators prefer. Diversifying of blooms help sustain the pollinators throughout the season. A flower’s color, shape, size, timing, and pollen or nectar increase or decrease the number of visits by specific pollinators. There are several ways plants invite pollinators to visit – Ultraviolet – bees can see ultraviolet light but not red light; Color Phases – many flowers change colors at different stages of development; Nectar Guides – contrasting patterns of flower shades direct pollinators toward floral rewards; and Fragrance – attracts pollinators over long distances. And lastly flower shape together with color and odor attract particular pollinators.

I recently ran across a book called *Feed the Bees*, by Xerxes Society. They list 100 plants that attack bees. It is always best to choose native plants. I have pared down the list to some of those that will grow in our climate. Native wild-flowers include – Hyssop (Agastache), Aster (Symphyotrichum), Black Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia), Golden Rod (Solidago), Milkweed (Asclepias), Purple Coneflower

(Echinacea). Trees and shrubs include – Mesquite (Prosopis), Rabbitbrush (Chrysothamnus), Rose, and Wild Lilac (Ceanothus). Some non-native plants that attract pollinators are – Catnip (Nepeta), Coriander (Coriandrum sativum); Cosmos (Cosmos bipinnatus), Lavender (Lavandula), Russian Sage (Perovskia atriplicifolia).

I hope you will consider adding a few of these pollinator friendly plants to your garden next time you have a bare spot that needs filling in.

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

As your Blue Star Memorial Chair, I have spent several years concentrating on new dedications throughout our state. We have several beautiful markers and I have enjoyed the dedications honoring our veterans. As we move towards Memorial Day, we should take the time to make sure that our markers are clean, planted, and in immaculate condition to honor our Veterans. I am currently on a newly formed committee with the city of Albuquerque to rework the Blue Star located at Louisiana and Gibson. This marker is seen entering the VA memorial garden and exiting as well. It was dedicated in 2011, funded by NMGC and Uptown Garden Club and New Mexico Garden Club. Uptown Garden Club has maintained the marker since 2011. Our new committee has taken out all of the Russian Sage, bark, and we are working on the watering system, and replacing the soil. The completed garden will have plant material that is (red, white and blue) most of the seasons. We will continue using Iris, Daffodils, Tulips for their color or their patriotic name. We are also working on placing a marker that was purchased many years ago by Las Sembradoras Garden Club. The club is no longer in existence, however, will be remembered by the contribution of the Blue Star Marker. This marker will be in District II. Send me pictures of your markers and what you have accomplished this year. This is a great project to get you out of the house and working on a very special project. Below is a history of our Blue Star Marker.



#### **HISTORY OF BANNER**

Displayed in front window of home.  
Family member serving in Armed Forces.  
Also known as "Service Flag"

#### **COLOR OF STAR**

**BLUE** – Hope & Pride

**GOLD** – Lost Life

**SILVER** – Wounded, ill and injured (May 1st is Silver Star Day)

Since **WWI** a Blue Star banner displayed in the front window of a home told others that a family member was serving in the Armed Forces. Captain Robert B. Quiesser, an Ohio National Guard veteran of the Mexican Border, (1916) is credited with designing the original flag. In 1917 the congressional record stated: **“The world should know of those who give so much for liberty. The dearest thing in all the world to a father and mother – their children”**.

Also known as the Service Flag, the blue stands for hope and pride. When service members lost their lives, the blue star was replaced with a gold one representing the sacrifice. A silver star stood for someone invalided home for wounds sustained overseas.

**World War II** - The flag made its appearance again. On **October 17, 1943** - Congress authorized the flag - approved as an official design.

Although the service flags virtually vanished during the Korean and Vietnam wars, they appeared again during the Persian Gulf War in 1991, the Iraq War and the War on Terror.

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

No report received.

### **EDUCATIONAL SCHOOLS**

#### ***State Sponsored***

- **GARDENING SCHOOL – Debi Harrington**

Nothing to report.

- **ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL - Suzy Andrego**

No schools were held during this reporting period in New Mexico. We had one student continue her education and credentials via Zoom meetings during this period. She has advanced a level and will receive her acknowledgement at the Annual Convention.

- **LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL – Suzy Andrego**

No schools were held during this reporting period. One student did refresh in another state.

#### ***Judges’ Council Sponsored***

- **FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL - Suzy Andrego**

No schools were held during this reporting period in New Mexico. We had one student continue her education and credentials via Zoom meetings during this period. She has advanced a level and will receive her acknowledgement at the Annual Convention.

- **SYMPOSIUMS - Christine Longthorp**

Nothing to report.

- **FLOWER SHOW CREDENTIALS – Mary Gilliam**

Judges:

As of June 2021, New Mexico has 30 Accredited Judges.

17 Master Judges

2 Life Judges

11 Accredited Judges

As of June 2021, there are two students who will need to complete FSS Courses to be eligible to continue as students.

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

Nothing to report.

**FOOD/HERB GARDENING – Colleen Hinker**

I sent in an article to the Gardener last April. Since then I have had no communications, just general discussions, with members of our state group. I think that the restrictions imposed upon us through the Covid virus pandemic has put a damper on our projects.

**GARDEN THERAPY – Michele Ann Tart**

Nothing to report.

**HORTICULTURE - Ellen Reed**

Nothing to report.

**LITTER CONTROL & RECYCLING – Julie Foster**

Awards:

Only 1 application was received this year: Pecos Valley Youth Gardeners.

**NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK – Peggy Voigt**

National Garden Week is held the first week of June each year to observe and acknowledge the importance of gardening and to promote knowledge of gardening. Reminders were sent to all District Directors about National Garden Week otherwise nothing to report.

**NEW MEXICO GARDENER – EDITOR – Suzy Andrego**

We continue to publish four issues of the NM Gardener annually. As of the June 2021 issue, the NM Gardner will no longer be emailed to each member but rather

a link taking each member directly to our website and the most current issue will be distributed through email. We have only had about 20 returned emails per issue during this reporting period.

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Doris Jackson, Chair**

The Executive Officers for the 2021-2023 Administration will be the same as the last 2 years:

President	Christine Longthorp
1st Vice President	Debra Sorrell
2nd Vice President	Joyce Zaugg
Recording Secretary	Dorothy Duff
Treasurer	Laurie Hixson
Historian	Julie Foster
Corresponding Secretary	To be appointed
Parliamentarian	Isabel Olsen
Immed. Past President	Barbara Vance

**PENNY PINES – Mary Ann Moreno**

Penny Pines is sadly reporting only three Clubs submitting a Penny Pine request to National Garden Clubs. On the good side, six hundred seedlings will be planted in New Mexico. The Penny Pine Jar will be passed at our October Fall Board Meeting in Las Cruces, so have your big bucks ready for the appeal for Penny Pines donations. Yours in trees. Mary Ann

**PERSONNEL – Carol Stomp**

There is no change in the Personnel Chairperson Report from June 2020 to May 2021. Last year’s report is reprinted below.

My job as Chairperson of the Personnel Committee is to get information to the Nominating Committee so they can start working on a slate of Officers for the 2020 - 2021 terms. I sent an email & spread sheet on August 1, 2019 to the 5 NMGC District Directors explaining the requirements to be eligible to be NMGC President or First Vice President. These two positions require a minimum of 2 years being on the Executive Board in an elected capacity plus an additional 2 years on the NMGC Board of Directors by the time of the elections. They must have attended 2 of the 3 last annual State Conventions.

To be eligible for nomination for 2nd Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer or Historian a member must have served on the Board of Directors a minimum of 2 years by the time of elections.

The Executive Committee is composed of President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Corresponding Secretary, Parliamentarian, District Directors & immediate past State President.

The BOD consists of all the positions stated in the last paragraph plus all the NMGC past Presidents, Chairpersons of the Standing Committees, resident Chairperson of the National Garden Clubs, elected Presidents of the Judges Councils & member Garden Club Presidents.

I contacted the District Directors & they in turn contacted their Club Presidents to see if any Club members are eligible, willing & qualified to serve as a NMGC Officer for the 2021 to 2023 term. The District Directors send the information they receive from their Club Presidents & get that information to me. I then compile this information from all 5 District Directors & verify this information & present it to the Nominating Chairperson.

I keep records of the attendees of the following conventions - the April 2019 NMGC Spring Convention held in Las Vegas, the NMGC October 2019 Fall Board meeting held in Albuquerque plus the upcoming 2020 NMGC Spring Convention to be held in Las Cruces, etc.

I gave all the needed information to Doris Jackson, Nominating Committee Chairperson for the 2021 to 2023 NMGC at the NMGC October 2019 Fall Board Meeting held in Albuquerque. I will update Doris of any changes or answer any questions she may have pertaining to the Personnel lists.

### **PHOTOGRAPHY – Debra Sorrell**

Even though there were not many regular garden club meetings around the state for the last year, our members still came through with their wonderful photographs. The total numbers were down overall but there were plenty of entries in each category to give our judges great choices. There will be a Photography Book on the NMGC website containing all the photographs received for this year's competition.

### **PROTOCOL – Judy Laird**

Nothing to report.

### **RESOLUTIONS – Johnese Turri**

Nothing to report.

### **SCHOLARSHIP/LIFE MEMBER – Sue Ferguson**

The New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., 2020 \$2,500 Scholarship has been awarded to Laney E. White, a Junior attending New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, majoring in Ag Business and Economics. Laney's goal is to receive a master's degree in Ag Business with a concentration on Natural Resources from NMSU. As a lifelong rural resident of New Mexico and a farming community, she appreciates the everyday contributions that small community farms make. Last summer, she received an internship to work at a ranch in Santa Fe County and learned a lot about corn silage and the struggles (weather and field crop pests) that small farms can have getting their crops to harvest. Laney plans to use her degree to help small farmers and ranchers gain access to the most up-to-date programs in order to keep their operations successful for themselves and future generations of their families. As New Mexico's nominee, Laney was also a recipient of a National Garden Clubs \$4,000 Scholarship.

**SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL – Jennifer Moreno**

We did not have any NM submissions this time around unfortunately. This was likely due to Covid and the schools being closed in NM last year.

**TREES & SHRUBS – Sonia James**

Nothing to report.

**WATER CONSERVATION – Fred Hinker**

No report received.

**WAYS & MEANS – Kathleen Flanders**

Nothing to report.

**WEBSITE – Cindy Hills**

Nothing new to report.

**WILDFLOWERS/NATIVE PLANTS – Position Vacant**

**WORLD GARDENING – Carolyn Bucklen**

No report received.

**YEARBOOKS – Doris Jackson**

The Yearbooks were creative and interesting this year. I only had two entries. Hopefully, there will be more entries next year. Please read the requirements and scale of points in the Awards Book that is on the NMGC website. Before entering make sure your yearbook meets all the criteria and Guidelines for Club Yearbooks. There were no entries in Class 2 and Class 4. The committee judged the two books carefully. They enjoyed learning about the projects, programs, and various activities that the clubs are committed to promoting in New Mexico.

**CLASS I**

2nd Place                      Petal Pushers Garden Club

**CLASS II**

No entries

**CLASS III**

1st Place                      Lincoln County Garden Club

**CLASS IV**

No entries

**PAT EDMONDS Memorial Monetary Award  
Club**

**Lincoln County Garden**

Presented by Summit Garden Club to the Club whose yearbook scores the highest.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES – Lynnette Walker**

Our New Mexico Youth Activities for June 2020 through May 2021 were for the most part (due to Covid-19) halted. With that in mind, I have only three items to report.

1. A youth club was given an award after a conversation with Maple Levin because they submitted it to her. (Not sure of the details).
2. Suzy Andrego suggested to include one of the NGC awards #playoutside in our state competition. (It is currently in the works to present to President Longthorp).
3. It is also a suggestion to include the essay contest in our state competition because of the confusion we had this fall.

**YOUTH CLUBS – Renate Reisel**

Pecos Valley youth garden club  
Senior Club Home garden club

Our clubs have not been holding any formal meetings but I work with individual families due to restrictions to the Corona virus.

Pecos Valley Youth Garden Club was busy cleaning up the butterfly garden and the small bird sanctuary adding new plants to both areas. At a later day, we will be adding the hummingbird feeder. Two other youth members added plants to the containers at our local Historical society museum.

Youth Members 20