

# **NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**

## **2014 ANNUAL REPORT**



66th Annual Convention  
*Jewels of the Desert*  
March 25-27, 2015  
Silver City, NM  
Isabel Olsen, President

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## JUNIOR GARDEN CLUBS REPORTS

THE BLOOMING GARDENERS

## OFFICER REPORTS

### **PRESIDENT – Isabel Olsen**

As we began 2014 with the continuation of my theme of **Helping Gardeners Grow**, the progress is greatly noticeable; we have made *A World of Difference* for NMGC, Inc. My mission has been for us all to grow in three particular ways. First our knowledge of gardening through speakers and programs at meetings. Second, personal growth, by having workshops and breakout sessions to educate and prepare members for leadership roles. Third, growing our membership by gaining new members, and developing new clubs throughout New Mexico.

At the NMGC, Inc. 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention titled “Blue Water Blue Skies, Blue Hole” in Santa Rosa, we had four workshops for members to choose from and attend. The facilitators had handouts and information on The Role of a Club or State Chairman, How to be a Club President, The role of a Club or District Treasurer and How to Develop a Youth Garden Club. Many members felt this was very helpful and created an environment that they could ask questions and not be inhibited.

To help with our membership drive during this term, we had the assistance of “Blossom” the Bee who spread information on ways to increase our membership (we thank you Diane Peterson). Great news! We increased our membership again this year!! We formed three new clubs and for the year, gained 53 members. With the 22 members we gained last year, we increased our membership by 75 members for the 2013-2015 term. Our clubs and districts have worked hard, a huge congratulation to District I for their new clubs. Several of our clubs throughout the state had membership teas, luncheons, set up at local farmers markets, and other innovative ways to attract and welcome new members.

I attended the South Central Region 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention “Learning, Living, Leading to Texas” hosted by Texas Garden Club, Inc. in Addison, Texas. Touring the Dallas Arboretum was a highlight, but the biggest highlight for me and the other NMGC members that attended, was the exciting Awards Ceremony in which we received 23 awards and Home Garden Club received the Sweepstake Award. I also attended The National Garden Clubs 85<sup>th</sup> Convention hosted by Oklahoma, one of our sister states in South Central Region, and the National Fall Board Meeting in Des Moines, Iowa.

NMGC, Inc. has eight members serving on the NGC Board of Directors and eleven members serving on the SCR Board of Directors. All requests for information from NGC and SCR are answered promptly, as are questions and requested information from NMGC members. Electronically I provided our members the “Keeping In Touch” and other information from NGC

and SCR. I also wrote quarterly articles for the Communicator, our South Central Region publication.

As president I have supported our website by providing information regularly to Cindy Hill and responding to mail that we receive. Reminders were sent out to members to submit articles to the NM Gardener. We had a Symposium sponsored by the NMJC and 3 Flower Show Schools and one Environmental Study School II this year. Encouragement was offered to participate in projects and to apply for awards at all levels. I attended Spring and Fall District Meetings, special invitations from clubs and gave programs for The Trail Blazers, Petal Pushers and Flowering Desert.

To support the theme of our National President Linda Nelson, each district has chosen one of the five natural resources of AIR, WATER, FOREST, LAND and WILDLIFE, and they were the topic of each district Fall Board Meeting. Each district had very interesting and educational programs. We also learned the importance of Mason Bee pollination in our gardens, as well as protecting and conserving the natural resources of planet earth.

I presided over our NMGC, Inc. Fall Board Meeting, "Fall in Colorful Santa Fe" hosted by District II. We were honored to host NGC President, Linda Nelson and SCR Director Nancy Voyles. I would like to thank District III for hosting the Spring Convention and District II for hosting the Fall Board Meeting. The chairmen and committees did a phenomenal job with the details of these meetings.

This year Home Garden Club presented a Blue Star Memorial Rededication at the Chaves County Courthouse and also a Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication at the new General Douglas McBride Veteran's Cemetery. We were honored to have the National Chairman, Andrea Little attend this dedication along with our state Chairman, Shirley Tetreault and several garden club members from various clubs.

I have thoroughly enjoyed all of these experiences, and most importantly I have had the opportunity to spend time with many garden club members. I have worked and traveled closely with President-elect Suzy Andrego to prepare her for the next two years. I am honored to have served with such dedicated Officers, Chairmen and Club Presidents. In closing, thank you for your support and confidence in me. It has been an honor serving as your State President.

## **FIRST VICE PRESIDENT - Suzy Andrego**

WOW, another year has come and gone. What a busy year we had with New Mexico Garden Clubs.

We had a fantastic “Blue Water, Blue Skies, Blue Hole” convention in Santa Rosa with great programs and wonderful workshops. We had a “Colorful” fall board in Santa Fe with the National President, Linda Nelson attending. Santa Fe also hosted our South Central Regional Director, Nancy Voyles and alternate Director, Bobbi Verser for the Fall Board meeting and a great program on having Bees in New Mexico.

I have attended Environmental School II, and Flower Show Schools I and II in Albuquerque.

Our membership brochure for New Mexico Garden Clubs won a first place at South Central Region, and continues to keep the public informed and promote NM Garden Clubs and its members around the state. Membership has increased and we have a new design club and two new youth clubs.

I have traveled with our President, attending Spring and Fall District Meetings around the state, visiting with our garden clubs members, hearing about all the things garden club members do and being enlightened with new innovation programs and exciting projects they have done.

In April I attended the South Central Region convention in Dallas. During May, I attended the annual National Garden Clubs Convention in Norman, Oklahoma and in September, I attended National Garden Clubs Fall Board meeting in Des Moines Iowa. There is always lots of exciting news to bring home and share with the membership.

I have been planning for the next term, securing new chairman and preparing projects and ideas for the 2015-2017 term.

I look forward to another exciting year in 2015.

## SECOND VICE PRESIDENT - Nancy Ketchum

2014—NMGC, Inc.

Annual Membership Report

Spring Convention—March 25-27, 2015

<b>Club</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>Loss/Gain</b>	<b>% Increase</b>
<b>District I</b> (9 clubs and 4 youth clubs)				
El Jardin	14	13	-1	
High Desert Design	17	27	+10	58.8
KoShari	11	10	-1	
Moriarty	17	17		
New Mexico Floral Artists	0	19		
Petal Pushers	22	22		
Trailblazers	10	8	-2	
Uptown	52	50	-2	
Valley Gardeners	29	27	-2	
<b>Total Paid</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>+21</b>	<b>12.2</b>
Blooming Gardeners	14	16	+2	14.3
Double Eagle				
Elementary Diggers	53	51	-2	
Manzano Mesa				
Awesome Gardeners	--	21		
Petal Pushers Juniors	8	10	+2	25.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>+44</b>	<b>17.8</b>

**District II** (3 clubs)

Floral Designers	11	11		
Los Alamos	33	31	-2	
Summit	23	27	+4	17.4
<b>Total Paid</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>3.0</b>

**District III** (2 clubs and 1 youth club)

Angel Fire	61	52	-9	
Santa Rosa	14	15	+1	7.1
Total Paid	75	67		
Ponderosa Pines	--	8		
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>75</b>		

**District IV** (6 clubs)

Desert Daubers	16	16	--	
Evergreen	19	18	-1	
Flowering Desert	8	9	+1	12.5
Mesilla Valley	27	26	-1	
Socorro	14	16	+2	14.3
Sunshine Valley	23	20	-3	
<b>Total Paid</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>105</b>		

**District V** (5 clubs)

Artesia	16	15	-1	
Home	22	31	+9	41.0

Lincoln County	31	35	+4	12.9
Morning	29	26	-3	
Mountain	5	5	--	
Total Paid	103	112	+9	8.7
Home Garden Youth	1	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>+9</b>	<b>8.7</b>

**Membership Totals Annually**

**2009: 638**

**2010: 594 and 20 youth = 614**

**2011: 537 and 47 youth = 584**

**2012: 532 and 46 youth = 578**

**2013: 524 and 76 youth = 600**

**2014: 546 and 107 youth = 653**

## **RECORDING SECRETARY – Christine Longthorp**

**NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.  
Fall- EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014  
Lodge at Santa Fe, New Mexico  
“Fall in Colorful Santa Fe”**

**Attending:**

Isabel Olsen	(President)
Suzy Andrego	(First Vice President)
Nancy Ketchum	(Second Vice President)
Christine Longthorp	(Recording Secretary)
Debi Harrington	(Treasurer)
Diane Peterson	(Historian)
Peggy Voigt	(Corresponding Secretary)
Sally Warner	(Parliamentarian)
Shirley Tetreault	(Immediate Past President)

**District Directors Present:**

<b>District I:</b>	Betty Heisler
<b>District II:</b>	Barbara Vance
<b>District III:</b>	Penni Davey
<b>District IV:</b>	Becky Fuller (Assistant Director)
<b>District V:</b>	Rene McCoy

**Meeting was called to order by President Olsen at 2:00pm**

**Committee:** Penni Davey. Nancy Ketchum and Debi Harrington was appointed to approve the minutes from this NMGC Fall Board Executive meeting 2014

**Quorum:** Declared by Sally Warner (Parliamentarian)

**President:** Isabel Olsen reported that the contest continues for new Garden Clubs formed with a prize of \$50.00 or for the greatest increase in membership by percentage which will win \$200.00 and the District with the greatest increase with also win \$200.00 during the period from (9/1/2014 until 3/1/2015

**Report deferred to general meeting.**

**First Vice President:** Suzy Andrego. Report deferred to General meeting.

**Second Vice President:** Nancy Ketchum gave the Membership Report from the NMGC Annual Executive Board Meeting, dated March 18<sup>th</sup> 2014 which were read and corrected.

**Minutes:** Christine Longthorp read the minutes from the Spring Annual meeting (approved and filed)

**Treasurers Report:** Debi Harrington (report attached)

**Historian:** Diane Petersen gave a verbal report to request any information to help compile the history.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Peggy Voigt asked that reports be received by her before February 1<sup>st</sup> 2015.

**Parliamentarian:** Sally Warner (no report)

#### **District Directors Reports:**

**District I:** Betty Heisler: Two new design clubs, two youth clubs, 175 paid adult members and 94 youth (report attached)

**District II:** Barbara Vance (Report attached)

**District III:** Penni Davey Deferred report to General meeting.

**District IV:** Becky Fuller. Deferred report to General meeting.

**District V:** Rene McCoy. Deferred report to General meeting.

#### **Chairmen Reports:**

**Awards Chairman:** Sue Ferguson stated that the National chairman will address the General meeting

**Blue Star Memorial Gardens:** Shirley Tetreault (report deferred to General meeting)

**Flower Show Schools and Environmental School:** MaryAnn Moreno (report deferred to General meeting)

**New Mexico Judges Council:** Suzy Andrego. Report deferred to General meeting.

**Nominating Committee Report:** Beulah Oyler. This committee consisted of Beulah Oyler, Maggie Rubino, Peggy Voigt, Colleen Hinker and Shirley Tetreault.

**Nominations:**  
President: Suzy Andrego  
First VP: Barbara Vance  
Second VP: Jan Smith  
Recording Secretary: Carolyn Bedford.  
Treasurer: Laurie Hixson  
Historian: Becky Fuller

#### **Unfinished Business:**

**Past State Presidents' Medallion:** Estimates were received from the committee who were Colleen Hinker, Suzy Andrego and Shirley Tetreault. Report is attached and will be voted on at the General meeting.

**Board Recommendations:**

NMGC Executive Board made a recommendation to purchase 6 Presidents' medallions from Jewelers' Repair shop for a total of \$930.00 at \$155.00 each.

**New Business:** There are changes to the State Officers and Chairmen list. They are as follows:

**Roadside Beautification Chairman:** Debi Harrington

**NMGC Executive Board:** Made recommendation for the State Treasury to absorb the difference from the NGC increased dues as our current dues of \$8.00 are sufficient to cover the increase.

**Announcements:** Please be prompt for breakfast at 8am.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 3:10 PM

**Submitted By:**

Christine Longthorp  
Recording Secretary

**NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**  
**Fall General BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup> 2014**  
**The Lodge at Santa Fe, New Mexico**  
**“Fall in Colorful Santa Fe”**

**Meeting Called To Order:** 9:00 A.M. (President Olsen)

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Pete Peterson, Angel Fire Garden Club

**Welcome:** Barbara Vance (District II Director)

**Introductions:** President Olsen introduced and welcomed NGC President Linda Nelson: SCR Director, Nancy Voyles and SCR Alternate Director and NGC Awards chair, Bobbie Verser. Club Presidents and first time attendees were also introduced and welcomed.

**Credentials Report:** Juanita Ortega Registrar. 69 attending (report attached)

**Parliamentarian:** Sally Warner (Established a Quorum)

**Committee Appointed:** To approve the minutes consisting of Penni Davey, Nancy Ketchum and Debi Harrington

**Committee Report:** Appointed to approve minutes of 3/19/2014:

Rene McCoy, Betty Heisler and Doris Jackson

**Time Keepers:** Elaine Warden and Sue-Ellen De Beer

**Report (NGC President):** Linda Nelson discussed the increase of the national dues beginning in 2016 would go from 50 cents to 1 dollar.

**SCR Director (Nancy Voyles):** Nancy reported that Ames Tool factory since 1774, the oldest tool manufacturer in the nation has supplied NGC members with garden tools and was recently toured in Pennsylvania by a delegation of NGC members.

Nancy offered her services to the Scholarship Committee for the coming year for scholarships awarded to students in their Junior and Senior year in college.

**Official Reports:**

**President:** Isabel Olsen. Verbal report.

**First Vice President:** Suzy Andrego. Verbal report

**Second Vice President:** Nancy Ketchum (Membership report attached)  
611 members (517 adult and 94 youths)

- Recording Secretary:** Christine Longthorp read the minutes from the State Convention in March 2014
- Treasurers Report:** Debi Harrington (report attached)
- Historian:** Diane Peterson (report attached)
- Corresponding Secretary:** Peggy Voigt asked for reports be sent to her before Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 deadline.
- Parliamentarian:** Sally Warner (no report)

### **District Directors Reports.**

- District I:** Betty Heisler (report attached)  
**District II:** Barbara Vance (report attached)  
**District III:** Penni Davey (report attached)  
**District IV:** Becky Fuller (report attached)  
**District V:** Rene McCoy (report attached)

### **Chairman Reports.**

- NMGC Awards Chairman:** Sue Ferguson and NGC Awards chairman Bobbie (SCR) reminded members to apply to NGC for #25 (Standard of Excellence Award)
- Blue Star Memorial Garden:** Shirley Tetreault (report attached)
- Flower Show & Environmental School:** Mary Ann Moreno (report attached)
- Judges Council:** Suzy Andrego presented appreciation ribbons to all of the State Fair chairman.
- NMGC Website:** Cindy Hill reminded us to use the Flickr resource tab.
- Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl:** Colleen Hinker asked that clubs pick up all her packets and resource materials for the Poster competition.
- Nominating Committee Chairman:** Beulah Oyler explained that Debi Harrington State treasurer has agreed to step down to allow the new board to have members from all districts. The list of nomination was read.

**Spring State Convention Report:** Colleen Hinker (report attached)

### **Unfinished Business:**

Past State Presidents' medallions: estimates were given from the committee of Colleen Hinker, Shirley Tetreault and Suzy Andrego. Membership vote to follow.

### **New Business:**

Changes to State Officers and Chairmen list. Debi Harrington is now the Roadside Beautification.

Executive Board made two recommendations which were read by Christine Longthorp Recording Secretary for the Executive Board and are as follows:

Executive board made a recommendation to purchase 6 Past Presidents medallion from Jewelers Repair shop for a total of \$930.00 at \$155.00 each.

This required a written ballot which passed with one vote opposed.

Executive board made a recommendation for the State treasury to absorb the .50 cent increase of National dues that will begin in 2016. The \$8.00 that is collected for each member is sufficient to cover the increase.

This recommendation did not require a vote.

**Announcements:**

SCR Convention (Tulsa, Oklahoma) – April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> 2015

**Meeting Adjourned:** 11:15 A.M.

**Submitted By:**

Christine Longthorp (Recording Secretary)

## **HISTORIAN – Diane Peterson**

Another wonderful year and the Garden Clubs in New Mexico are active and well. I received 13 applicants for awards. I decided to list participation by district. District 1: 7 clubs/3 histories; District 2: 3 clubs/3 histories; District 3: 2 clubs/2 histories; District 4: 6 clubs/3 histories; and District 5: 5 clubs/2 histories. Remember next year to submit your Club history! It does not have to be for an award, we want to hear from you, your activities and things you are creating!

I love that we have grown this year! Thanks to our President, Isabel Olsen, and could our membership Bee, Blossom, have helped? It not, she provided a few laughs! I also may add our willingness to donate and add beauty to any place we walk or see, absolutely amazing! How about our youth! Instilling, teaching and inspiring them. We say as gardeners pass it along. I admire the creative themes of each club, and the achievements earned while having a good time and making great friends. Splendid! Let me say congratulations New Mexico Garden Clubs! You are the best and it has been my pleasure to serve as your State Historian for the last two years.

## **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – Peggy Voigt**

Information for the 2014 New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Report has been gathered, compiled, edited and printed, to be distributed at the Spring Convention to be held in Silver City, March 25-27, 2015.

## **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - Shirley Tetreault (2009-2013)**

What a great experience it was to serve four consecutive years as President of New Mexico Garden Clubs Inc. It was a pleasure to work with Isabel Olsen, our current President, attending District meetings around the state. Isabel was willing to learn fast and hit the ground a running with great new ideas of her own. Her friendship has been a special blessing and New Mexico has been "Helping Gardeners Grow".

As I left office, I still had several projects of my own. I continue as a Design Instructor in New Mexico and will be teaching in Arkansas in October 2015. At the Instructor's Symposium in Las Vegas I was advanced and I may now teach at the Symposium level. All members of the FSS committee must vote unanimously for this to occur. Thank you New Mexico for being a great support to me.

In May, I will be installed as the National Secretary in Louisville, Kentucky. I am looking forward to this opportunity and will work hard to make New Mexico proud.

## **DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS**

### **DISTRICT I – Betty Heisler, Director**

District I has 9 clubs with 15 members and 4 youth clubs with 91 members, making a total of 266 members. 1 club in Los Lunas; 1 in Moriarty; 1 in Farmington; and 6 in Albuquerque – with 4 youth clubs in Albuquerque (1 sponsored by Uptown Garden Club; 1 by Petal Pushers Garden Club; and 2 by Valley Gardeners Club). Our District Meetings for 2014 were presentations by Cindy Davies, Home Economist, Bernalillo County Extension Office on “Who Gets Grandma’s Yellow Pie Plate” and by Colleen and Fred Hinker, Santa Rosa Garden Club, organic ranchers and are experts on the subject of “Land-Organic Gardening & Farming”.

Our clubs have remained active over the year and had programs on National Parks in Washington and other areas; visited museums and gardens in other states; visited local ruins, local botanic gardens in Albuquerque and Santa Fe. We had floats in local parades promoting our local garden clubs; met with local officials to get support in getting grants from Keep New Mexico Beautiful to continue maintenance of plantings in our towns and cities. We chaired Council’s Flower Show at the Botanic Gardens; hosted the Nob Hill Area Garden Tour; and all District Clubs visited gardens maintained by their members. We made floral bouquets for nursing homes for their residents; entered the Dahlia Show, Daylily Show and the Rose Show held at the Albuquerque Garden Center. We sponsored County Flower Shows in San Juan, Torrance, and Valencia Counties; and the NM State Fair’s 4 adult and 2 youth shows. Members served in many positions at the shows and had many entries in both horticulture and design and won many ribbons at each. Our new design clubs studied various types of designs throughout the year. We had programs on container gardening, decorative grasses, floral designs, wildlife and many more too numerous to mention. We supported our youth clubs by providing interesting programs and work days for their members. We maintained our Blue Star Markers during the year with clean-ups and planting flowers and bulbs. We held yard sales to enhance our own treasuries. We continue to support Council and the Garden Center throughout the year with clean-up work days in the gardens. We chaired the Rummage Sale in February and made a profit of over \$10,000; chaired the Spring Plant Sale in April and made over \$9,000; chaired the Harvest Fair in September and October (the amount of profit made has not been given as yet); and worked at the Holiday Fair and Plant Sale in December (profits made have not been given as we are still collecting money from various booths participating in the event). All money-making sales, etc. are what keeps the Garden Center up and running. Several District members attended the NMGC convention in Santa Rosa and the NMGC Fall Board Meeting in Santa Fe, as well as NGC Meetings and Conventions in other states. Several attended the SCR Convention as well. Many members hold offices in all these organizations. Several members hold offices in these other organizations. We continue to sponsor flower show schools and symposiums throughout the year and District I has many NGC accredited flower show judges. We have the NGC instructor who gives programs in New Mexico and other states throughout the year. She teaches

design classes at the Garden Center each January, enabling us to attract more new designers and members each year.

District I had a very busy year in 2014 and has started off 2015 with a bang! Way to go District I.

## **DISTRICT II - Barbara Vance, Director**

### DISTRICT II – THEME: “GROWING A GREEN COUNTRY” – 64 Members in the District

We have three garden clubs: Floral Designers in Santa Fe, Los Alamos and Summit Garden Clubs in Los Alamos. We close out this term of office with a sense of accomplishment. We approved the updated District II Bylaws in 2014 and added newly listed Standing Rules. The District II Scholarship Fund was rewritten and now operational. This past year we had two very interesting District Meetings. At the Spring Meeting the theme was Recycle and we published a booklet: Reduce – Reuse – Recycle which was the basis for a design program “RECYCLE INTO A NEW LOOK” - floral designs – using recycled materials - presented by members of Floral Designers Garden Club. The Fall Meeting had a theme “AIR Quality” with a booklet on Air Pollution and Top 10 Air-Purifying Houseplants. This was emphasized in a program about protecting and preserving the quality of air in our environment. All clubs planned and participated in the NMGC Fall Board Meeting – “Fall in Colorful Santa Fe”. The weather was sunny and cool and the aspen trees had turned a golden hue. Our special guests – NGC President, Linda Nelson, SCR Director, Nancy Voyles and NGC Awards Chairman, Bobbie Verser told us about the latest happenings/activities from National and the Region. The luncheon program was given by a local beekeeper, “What’s the Buzz” – “The Importance of Bees in the Garden”. Very informative.

### FLORAL DESIGNERS GARDEN CLUB – Theme: “Gardening for Designs” – 11 members.

The object of the club is to stimulate interest in, and give knowledge of, the different forms of floral design and floral arranging. Programs continue to be based on the design types from the NGC book “Designing by Types”. At monthly meetings each member brings in the design selected for study and judging based on the NGC Handbook. We share information on mechanics, where to obtain flowers and other materials. We studied a variety of designs: OP ART “Eye Dazzling”; Panel Design “A third Dimension”; Parallel Design “1-2-3 Stand Up Straight”; Pot ‘et Fleur “All Together”; Reflective design “See the Light” and Sculptural Form Design. No meetings in November and December. January was a study of a Small Design – “It is a Small, Small World.” followed by a soup luncheon at the home of one of the members. February the design will be a Spatial Thrust.

LOS ALAMOS GARDEN CLUB – Theme: “Garden Wisely – Choices Matter” – 31 members.

The club celebrated National Garden Week in June by distributing book markers in Mesa Library. The markers contained information on houseplants. The annual plant sale was held and was very profitable.

No business meetings are held during the summer. Activities during that time: a trip to Santa Fe Botanical Garden followed by lunch at a local restaurant. A meeting at a member's home followed by a Tour of Shidoni Foundry. Another garden visit in September – a new Sensory Garden. – followed by a potluck luncheon. September – back to business and programs. A guest speaker on Community Supported Agriculture and a program on Bird Feeders with each member making one. October was a presentation on a Holiday Craft and the Ingathering Project - Tea Cup Bird Feeders. November was a program on making Potpourri – using collected rose petals for the presenter's garden. All members participated in mixing the potpourri and filling organza bags. The annual “Gently used Ornament Sale” was held at the senior center in conjunction with the “Festival of Trees” – an annual fund raiser. Members traveled up to the Jemez Mountain (with a permit from the Forest Service) cut boughs to make fresh green wreaths. Then a workshop to learn to wire pine cones for the wreaths to be made at another workshop. The sale was at the Los Alamos National Bank Lobby on December 4. Over half of the wreaths were sold prior to the sale, all proceeds go into the Scholarship Fund. December activities: Holiday Social in a member's home, a speaker from the Nature Conservancy on Water Supply and Conservation in the Rio Grande Valley and the Jemez Mountains. The Ingathering Activity was Homemade Seed Tapes. A Los Alamos County Extension agent spoke on “Greening Your Garden. The Ingathering Activity was Plantable Valentines. Los Alamos Garden Club will be the host group for the District II Spring Meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> at Fuller Lodge. March will be a program to guide the members through the New Mexico Consortium. There has been a lot of curiosity about the building behind the Holiday Inn. New officers will be installed at the April Meeting following by a potluck luncheon.

SUMMIT GARDEN CLUB – Theme: “Sharing the Wealth” – 22 members.

Summit had a very busy and exciting year. Programs covered landscape design, weed and pest identification and control; a workshop on pounding fresh wildflower cards, a tour of the Santa Fe Botanical Gardens. At least twice a year members get together for social events – summer and winter. The summer social was focused on the many ways to be “green”; recycled or composted everything from the event. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food people shared from their gardens. The winter social was the Annual Cookie Exchange. One of the highlights this year was a tour of a Santa Fe Rose Garden. The club is busy with Civic Development and Beautification. They continue to maintain Mrs. Frey's Garden at Bandelier National monument. This year they started caring for several of the planting areas and courtyards around the Visitor's Center at Bandelier. In conjunction with the Bandelier staff, the “Snack Bar Courtyard” was redesigned and several other planting areas around the Visitor's Center. Weekly ventures include: watering existing shrubs/plants, pruning shrubs and grape vines, weeding, and clearing

flower beds in preparation for planting. Last fall they planted many shrubs in several of the planting areas. Come Spring they will plant the remaining perennials. Park personnel have asked that other courtyards be included. The White Rock Community Garden blossomed this year. The area is now officially a garden – complete with gophers, grubs and butterflies. A few of the beds are still fallow with plans to fill them in the coming years. The three beds that have been planted are looking splendid. The garden web page can be found on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/wrcgnm](http://www.facebook.com/wrcgnm).

### **DISTRICT III – Penni Davey, Director**

District III consists of three garden clubs – Angel Fire Garden Club has 59 members, Santa Rosa Garden Club has 16 members and Ponderosa Pines Junior Garden Club. The District continues to work on two more garden clubs in Las Vegas and an evening club in Angel Fire. Angel Fire Garden Club joined District III in the spring of 2013 from District II.

I attended the District III spring meeting in Santa Rosa to discover that our District Director Jean Digerness would be moving and resigning after the state convention. I was nominated and agreed to take over as the interim director for the balance of her term.

Our main focus for District III was the State Convention held in Santa Rosa, March 19-21, 2014. It was well attended and a major success. Our Fall Board Meeting was held on October 10, 2014 at the Salmon Raspberry Farms in Mora. Following the business meeting, the speaker was Shannon Atencio from New Mexico State Forestry. Shannon brought valuable information on how we can become a fire-wise community.

Elections were held at the Fall Board meeting. Colleen Hinker, Director; Jo Ann Layden, Assistant Director; Penni Davey, Secretary; Carolyn Bedford, Treasurer. Installation of officers will be at the March 2, 2015 spring meeting hosted by Angel Fire Garden Club.

The State President, Isabel Olsen, and President-elect, Suzy Andrego, attended the fall board meeting and will be attending the spring meeting March 2, 2015.

### **DISTRICT IV – Barbara Peters, Director**

With 105 garden club members and six clubs it is amazing how many worthwhile activities we have begun and completed. The clubs in District IV are as follows; Desert Daubers, Evergreen, Flowering Desert, Mesilla Valley, Socorro and Sunshine.

District IV had two outstanding district meetings. The fall meeting, hosted by Desert Daubers, was at the Double Eagle Restaurant. The program was “Wildlife On White Sands Missile

Range” by Wildlife Biologist, Doug Burkett. The program was enjoyed by 28 members and several guests. The District Director closed the incentive program for bringing in new members by October 1, 2014; we are so pleased to have five new members and each club president receives \$10 for her club per paid new member.

The Spring District meeting held at Savor, in Mesilla, NM, discussed the convention to be held in Silver City. Chairperson is Lequita Lett for the convention, and final plans are moving swiftly under her capable leadership. The program by Jackye Meineke was “Create an Enchanted Garden” and excited everyone to take a new look at their gardens thru Ms. Meineke’s eyes. Host Club was Mesilla Valley Garden Club.

Some of the continued projects included, Historic museum landscape, Hospital grounds, community gardens, Memorial Rose Garden, County Fair Flower Shows and many more activities. Programs were educational and fun, just to mention a few: programs on conservation, flower arrangements, hardscape, care for trees, wildlife, native plants and many more interesting programs.

It has been a great two years for me and words cannot express my appreciation to the members that have made this such a great experience. I have enjoyed continuing the legacy of my mother, Martha Little, and hope this legacy will continue with future young members coming in to help encourage gardening and conservation in our District.

## **DISTRICT V - Rene McCoy, Director**

District V includes five garden clubs located in the southeast part of the state: Artesia, Home, Lincoln County, Morning and Mountain. State President Isabel Olsen, is a member of Home Garden Club. Total District V membership is currently 113 member strong and one youth member. All of the District V clubs have solicited new members as one of their top priorities. The Artesia club has 15 members, Home has 31 members and 1 youth member, Lincoln has 35 members, Morning has 26 members and Mountain has 5 members. The District V Garden Clubs are very active in their communities. As this is my last report as District V Director, I want to thank the club presidents and their members for their support and helping to make it a fun and educational term. I made some wonderful friendships and enjoyed the fellowship at their meetings. The District V clubs continue to promote the National Garden Club, Inc.’s Mission to educate, provide resources and networking for its members and to promote the love of gardening, floral design and civic and environmental responsibility in their monthly programs and you can see below that they take the National Garden Club, Inc.’s Pledge to heart by their work in their communities, their club projects and with their monthly programs.

### **ARTESIA GARDEN CLUB**

President, Julie Foster is attending flower show school and I know she will do you proud as a judge once she completes her schooling. The club began their year hosting a flower and horticulture show at the Eddy County Fair. The club members also hosted the Fall District V meeting. They had an informative program on water conservation and decorated the tables with floral filled glass fish bowls to carry out the water conservation theme. Their monthly meetings included programs on medicinal herbs, soil, and succulents. They will take a tour of the Hondo Iris farm in the spring.

### **HOME GARDEN CLUB**

The club began its year with a welcome back meeting, handing out yearbooks, refresher on the Eastern NM Flower show and general fellowship. Together with Morning Garden Club, members helped worked at the flower show and several members' entries won ribbons. Their next meetings included programs on soil and additives, growing herbs, blooming holiday tablescapes, a membership tea, growing iris and understanding horticulture in Roswell. The club members are busy planning and will host the District V Spring meeting with a butterfly program and I hear some special table decorations and homemade desserts. Thank you Home Garden Club for hosting my last meeting as your Director.

### **LINCOLN COUNTY GARDEN CLUB**

The members of Lincoln are so active in their community and encourage community beautification and conservation with their monthly programs. Monthly they promote being waterwise. They also publish and promote their High Altitude Gardening book with additional hints on high altitude cooking. They are currently preparing for a booth at the Ruidoso Home and Garden Show where they hand out brochures on plants that grow well in high desert altitudes, living with wildlife, and membership information. Their first meeting begins with knowing your forest health and signs of tree disease, and continues with becoming an eco-servant, hosting a flower show at the Lincoln County Fair, water harvesting, garden tour and how to grow gourds, a trip and tour to explore the natural world at Bitter Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, their annual holiday fellowship tablescapes luncheon with a program on natural wreath making, learning about hawks and promoting and protecting pollinators. They actively demonstrate waterwise conservation at the Ruidoso Public Library, maintain a serenity garden at the hospital, and maintain a floral planter at the Capitan Public Library.

### **MORNING GARDEN CLUB**

Led by President Renate Reisel's youth and beautification projects, members are kept busy maintaining the Alena Garden at the SENM Historical Archive Building, planting bulbs and rhizomes with the boy scouts at Cahoon Park, demonstrating and showing youth how to plant and maintain a terrarium and hosting a membership tea. Together with Home Garden Club they worked at the Eastern New Mexico State Fair with a number of members having award winning entries. Their informative meetings began with preparation for showing their flowers and

horticulture at the fair, a program by a dermatologist on preventing skin cancer and sun damage, floral creations for the holidays, members planned and decorated with a vintage theme the SENM Historical Home, watched a demonstration on making a lasagna bulb container garden and how to plan a lasagna bed in their garden, learned the correct time and best way to prune shrubs and trees and how to create and maintain a professional looking landscape. Each month the club members recycle home batteries and tin cans and they donate personal hygiene products to the Roswell Refuge for Battered Adults. The club purchases garden tools, plants a tree and shrubs for the Habitat for Humanity homes in Roswell.

### **MOUNTAIN GARDEN CLUB**

The club is five members strong and their president, Esther Davis continues to give outstanding programs on floral decorating. They are working with the Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Cloudcroft on summer beautification projects. I appreciate Esther Davis in keeping one of the oldest clubs in New Mexico viable and active to support New Mexico Garden Club, Inc.

## **CHAIRMEN REPORTS**

### **ARCHIVES – Beulah Oyler and Becky Fuller, Chairmen**

We took several boxes of items to be archived to the NM State University. They are working to get them catalogued, and they will be available to anyone who would like to look up anything.

### **AWARDS – Sue Ferguson, Chairman**

I have written articles for each NM Gardener giving award information.

I have kept in touch with club presidents, and state chairmen, and have stressed that I am always available to help with award applications, and to answer their questions.

I have tried to become familiar with all the different National and Regional awards, and have shared this information with our clubs.

Many clubs, and one individual club member, took the time and opportunity to apply for National Garden Clubs, and South Central Region awards. As per my job description, these applications are routed through me, and I forward them to the National, and Regional, chairmen.

### **BeeGAP – Rene McCoy, Chairman**

National Garden Club partnered with Crown Bees, an education and pollination company in Washington State. I volunteered to be the “BeeGAP” (Gardeners Adding Pollinators Program) chairperson. Crown Bees offers discounts to clubs and their members helping us to Make a Difference in keeping with National Garden Club President, Linda G. Nelson’s theme. Through this partnership, as chairperson, I have given programs to schools, clubs and given handouts to Master Gardeners and agriculture leaders in several communities, and placed posters and literature at the State Garden Club Fall Board Meeting, at libraries, nurseries and county fairs. The whole purpose is to invite bees into your gardens, farms and backyards by planting native plants and heirloom varieties of herbs and perennials for forage for pollinators. Research has shown that native plants are four times more attractive to native bees. There are 4000 different native bee species and more than 130 species of native mason bees in North America. Use little or no pesticides and provide an appropriate bee habitat is the most important consideration for aiding pollinators to venture into your yard, neighborhood or community. Crown Bees encourages purchasing the Mason Bees because they are non-invasive, non-threatening to honey bees and they close the gap created by the decline of the honey bee. The mason bees are efficient and they result in about 99.7% pollination of vegetables, fruits, nuts and flowering plants. Without pollination, food producing plants will not provide food! You can sign up for Bee-mail at [www.crownbees.com](http://www.crownbees.com) to receive more information.

## **BIRD AND BUTTERFLY GARDEN – Judy Preston, Chairman**

I have received three applications for the category “Birds” from the following:

Renate Reisel – Morning Garden Club of Roswell

Shelby Redondo – Summit Garden Club of Los Alamos

Debi Harrington – Valley Garden Club of Albuquerque

I have received application for the “Butterfly” category from:

Jo Ann Layden – Angel Fire Garden Club of Angel Fire

There is no further information at this time.

## **BLUE STAR MEMORIAL GARDENS - Shirley Tetreault, Chairman**

2014 was a great year for honoring our veterans with our Blue Star Markers. Two Markers were dedicated in Roswell and many exciting stories took on a life of their own. Alicia Berroteran of Home Garden Club took on the difficult task of locating a misplaced marker, requesting a new location and having a rededication. Jan Smith dedicated her time on a new marker located at Gen. Douglas L. McBride Veteran's Cemetery. Andrea Little, National Blue Star Chair was in attendance for this dedication.

In January I was asked by Maple Levine to do a presentation for the Kiwanis Club of Corrales. What a fantastic experience that turned out to be. We had an early breakfast with positive discussion. Afterwards each member put a dollar into a basket and told what they were thankful for that day. Their club made a few dollars that morning and it was sure nice to hear that there were some wonderful blessings occurring in New Mexico.

After my program, they presented me with a beautiful framed certificate and asked for information to purchase a Blue Star Marker. Wow! How wonderful is it that one of their members has offered to purchase a small marker for their memorial garden! I look forward to receiving their application.

Below is a list of our current markers and the location:

2014 Home GC - Roswell - Gen. Douglas L. McBride Roswell Veteran's Cemetery

2014 Home GC - Roswell - Court House lawn in Roswell (originally 2002)

2012 Uptown GC - Albuquerque - Veteran's Memorial Garden on Louisiana

2011 Uptown GC - Albuquerque Garden Center

2011 Socorro GC - Isidro Baca Veteran's Park

2010 Santa Rosa GC - Park at Guadalupe County Court House  
2008 District III, NMGC Inc. - State Highway 60/84 Visitor Center, Texico  
2007 Los Alamos GC - The Lodge Memorial Rose Garden  
2006 Sunshine Valley GC - Veterans Memorial Park,  
2004 Mesilla Valley GC - Veterans Park, Roadrunner Parkway  
2002 Angel Fire GC - DAV Vietnam Memorial in Angel Fire  
1997 Mountain GC - Library Garden, Cloudcroft  
1996 Robledo Mountains Vista GC - Ft. Selden Cemetery, Radium Springs  
1986 Desert Planters GC - Memorial Rose Garden - Aztec  
1986 Sunshine Valley GC - Memorial Highway, Highway 80  
1986 Town & Country GC - Gough Park in Silver City, NM  
1962 Trailblazers GC - Salmon Ruins, Hiway 64 San Juan County Archaeological Ctr

We are a small state, however, we still have room for more markers to honor our veterans.

#### **CIVIC DEVELOPMENT/HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Jan Smith, Chairman**

An article was written for the New Mexico Gardener encouraging clubs to contact their local Habitat for Humanity organization. The article included a listing of all of New Mexico H4H organizations and their contact numbers. Morning Garden Club and Home Garden Club contributed to Habitat for Humanity in Roswell.

#### **ENVIRONMENT AND FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS – Mary Ann Moreno, Chairman**

##### **Flower Show Schools II and III**

Flower Show School II was held at the Albuquerque Garden Center on August 22-24, 2014. Twenty people registered for the school. Ten were full time students, four were part time and six judges were in attendance. Two of the students were from Texas and three came from Arizona. Our National Garden Club instructors were Shirley Tetreault from Albuquerque, who taught Design, and Pam Braum from Tennessee, who taught Flower Show Procedure and Horticulture. Debra Sorrell served as the Registrar, and Debi Harrington manned the kitchen. Our next Flower Show School III is scheduled for January 2015.

Flower Show School III was held January 9-11, 2015, at the Albuquerque Garden Center. Our National Garden instructors were Jo Krallman from Arkansas, who taught Design, and Judy

Newman from Wisconsin, who taught Flower Show Procedure and Horticulture. Twenty registered for the school, ten were full time and three were part time. Two full time students were from Texas, and one full time student was from Arizona. Debra Sorrell served as Registrar and Suzy Andrego manned the kitchen. A big Thank you for everyone who donated food, flowers and came to support our Flower Show Schools. Many students and judges made Designs to be critiqued and for the point scoring tests for both FSS II and III. Mary Ann Moreno, Suzy Andrego and others brought in Horticulture for both Schools.

Many thanks go to the Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs for their generosity in letting us use the Garden Center for our Flower Show Schools. We will continue our series with FSS IV on July 10-12, 2015, at the Albuquerque Garden Center. Come and join us!

### **Environmental Studies School II**

Environmental Studies School II was held at the Albuquerque Garden Center on August 3-4, 2014. The curriculum included the study of Land and Forests, and Environmental problems, in the Southwest and New Mexico. Some of the presenters were Mary Ann Moreno, John Garlish, Horticulturist from the Bernalillo County Extension Agency, West Brittebham from “Plants of the Southwest”, John Sorrell, Hydrologist and Geologist, Debra Sorrell, Horticulturist, Debi Harrington, teacher and lecturer at UNM Continuing Education on Horticulture, and Jennifer Moreno, Diagnostician with the Public Schools and “Worm Composter”. Our Field Trip took us down to the North Valley in Albuquerque where we visited the nursery of Plants of the Southwest. We all enjoyed the tour, bought wonderful water wise native plants, and enjoyed a great lunch.

The next Environmental Studies School III will be in Santa Rosa. Dates will be announced.

### **STATE CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN – Barbara Vance**

#### **NEW MEXICO FLOWER SHOW JUDGES**

Report date: 2/1/15

The list is updated periodically to show Good Standing of each judge and student. ONLY judges in Good Standing are eligible to judge shows. “To remain in good standing, the Handbook for Flower Shows, page 265, requires all Accredited Judges to attend a refresher at least every three years.” (The National Gardener – Summer 2014 pg. 35.) An individual file is maintained for each judge and student. The file is updated when they attend, meet the requirements of a Symposium or school. Distribution numbers change as judges move up a level, go Emeritus or drop out of the program.

<u>Distribution of Judges:</u>	<u>2/1/15</u>	<u>2/1/14</u>	<u>3/1/13:</u>	<u>4/11/12</u>
Accredited-Master Judge	23	24	24	22
Accredited-Life Judge	3	4	5	10
Accredited Judge	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
Total Judges	33	36	34	38
Students	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14</u>
TOTAL	43	44	48	52

**FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS: FSS 2010-2011 & FSS 2012-2013 – FSS 2014-2015:**

There are 10 students at various levels in the FSS series: Student, Student Exhibitor, or Student Judge. After FSS III in January 2015 there are 2 student Exhibitors and 7 Student Judges and

1 student ready to take the NGC Handbook Exam. Three students will be writing the required Flower Show Schedule. Please use student judges in your flower shows to give them a chance to earn judging credits prior to taking the Handbook exam. A student's eligibility to judge may be checked by contacting me: e-mail: [d-bvance@comcast.net](mailto:d-bvance@comcast.net) Phone: 1(505)983-6000.

**FOOD/HERB GARDENING – Rosemary Maddox, Chairman**

Two of my passions are food gardening and cooking with vegetables and herbs I grow, and I have enjoyed the opportunity to write about these things for The Gardener. Editor Cynthia Shafer has been kind enough to print every one of my efforts, although I always say to her "use it only if it fits your needs."

My community service has been restricted by health problems, but I supply transplants from my garden to St. Luke's Health Care Center at the Community of Hope Campus here in Las Cruces. St. Luke's has some raised garden beds in which vegetables, mostly greens, are grown for the diabetic diet program. I also supply St. Luke's with Jerusalem artichokes, which take the place of potatoes in the diabetic diet.

In December I gave a program for Desert Daubers Garden Club on culinary herbs. I took a branch from my bay tree which I had to cut into pieces to fit in the car. I mention this because several nursery people in Las Cruces have told me that a bay tree (it's more like a very tall bush) will not winter over here. Mine is about ten years old, and I have no idea why it has survived.

One of my duties is to judge the entries for Herb/Vegetable Gardener of the Year. Last year I received one entry, and it was worthy of the award. This year I have received seven entries, so I have appointed a committee from Mesilla Valley to work with me on this project. I don't look forward to this--all seven look like First Prize winners to me.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my term as Herb and Vegetable Gardening Chairman.

### **GARDEN THERAPY - Helen Moser, Chairman**

As we begin a New Year in our gardens, I would like to highlight what “garden therapy” can mean for all of us. Over last year I have heard of activities that some of our clubs and members are doing. The involvement of our members lifts the spirits and makes the days brighter for people living in retirement villages. Planting hospital gardens inside and outdoors, showing children the miracle of a seed and personal garden therapy to help heal after a major health crisis, then sharing the garden with others. These are fine examples of garden therapy. All of these activities help each person retrieve memories and create healing. Look out the window on a late winter day, perhaps seeing daffodils pushing up or seeing fruit tree buds swelling and an early returning robin flitting around in the pyracantha bush. Share these observations with others.

A big “thank you” to the clubs who submitted award applications for a GARDEN THERAPY project award.

### **GENERAL HORTICULTURE - Daina Blount, Chairman**

As chairman of the General Horticulture Committee it has been my pleasure to be available to answer any Horticulture questions for the past two years.

One way our club has promoted improved horticulture is with programs specifically on Soil and Soil Additives. One important soil additive is soil sulfur. This increases the acidity of the soil in our very alkaline soils and salty water areas. The use of soil sulfur at regular intervals as a soil amendment makes it possible to grow acid loving plants that otherwise would not grow in many areas.

### **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES/MERCHANDISE – Kathy Brown, Chairman**

As Membership Services Chairman I am responsible for selling merchandise at meetings and conventions. The merchandise includes educational material and gift items. The members attending the meeting enjoyed the convenience of having items available to look at take home with them.

### **NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK - Donna Turney, Chairman**

The following paragraphs constitute this Chair's “Swan Song”. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve during this term.

While tours of gardens, large and small, along with other activities call attention to our ‘good’ works around the state, National Garden Clubs established the first full week in June each year to remind us that we are all engaged in gardening in some form.

I have received, one way or another, reports of happenings around the state describing some of the ways that National Garden Week has been shared with local communities. There have been other happenings that I did not hear about. I do hope that you will make this an important week wherever you live and will share the details with the next chairman so she can write the report to share your ideas with others.

Remember the **FIRST FULL WEEK IN JUNE** and start planning now. The posters distributed last year are still good for this year. You can copy these if needed or you may order more from National Headquarters in Missouri. The addresses are in the front of the *National Gardener*. Best wishes to all who read this .....and those who don’t!!

**NEW MEXICO GARDENER – Cynthia Shafer, Editor & Sue Ferguson, Circulation**

We started mailing the hard copies in an envelope in order to prevent damage to the Gardener. Also, by enclosing in an envelope, we are not charged \$.45 for returned copies.

**Printing charges for the past year:**

Issue	# of Pages	# of Copies Printed	Cost
Summer 2014	44	169	\$682.61
Fall 2014	35	147	\$348.94
Winter 2014/15	40	145	\$464.00
Spring 2015***	25	148	\$440.12

(When an e-mail copy fails more than once for unknown reason, member will be transferred to hard copy distribution.)

**Mailing charges for the past year:**

Issue	# of Copies Mailed	Cost
Summer 2014	166	\$151.06
Fall 2014	147	\$132.02
Winter 2014/15	140	\$127.40

Spring 2015***	143	\$100.10
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All articles need to be submitted as an e-mail message or a Word document attached to an e-mail. Please do not format any articles or forms. All photos must be sent as separate .jpg files attached to an e-mail. Any photos sent imbedded in a document or other than .jpg will be returned. Poor quality photos will not be used (i.e. such as out of focus or grainy.) Please see the Winter 2013/14 issue of the New Mexico Gardener report on how to take photos for publication.

Starting with the Summer 2015 issue, please submit your articles and photos to Linnea Egbert via e-mail [linneanjce@aol.com](mailto:linneanjce@aol.com)

\*\*\*At the time of printing the Annual Report, the Spring 2015 invoice had not been received.

**PROTOCOL – Jan Smith, Chairman**

Protocol worked on the seating for the NMGC Spring meeting held in Santa Rosa, which included the NMGC Board meeting, a breakfast gathering, business meeting and a luncheon.

I have found that making several permanent place cards for State and district officers has been a great benefit.

Seating for the Spring luncheon was by choosing a card from a box. Several current and past officers hosted the tables which had a flower theme. Attending members drew a card from the box, and sat at the appropriate table. This allowed people to mingle with members from other clubs.

The Fall Board meeting was held in Santa Fe, and seating charts were created for the NMGC board meeting, the business meeting and the head table at lunch. The National Garden Club President, the SCR Director and the Assistant SCR director were also in attendance.

**RECYCLE/LITTER CLEANUP – John Sorrell, Chairman**

The Morning Garden Club of Roswell initiated a Recycle and Litter Clean-up project in October 2014. The club established a program wherein battery and light bulb type recyclables were collected and taken to the Roswell City Recycle center. Printer ink cartridges were taken to Office Max and aluminum was turned into money to support the Chaves County Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA) program. Additional collections of toiletries were gathered for the local Refuge for Battered Adults.

This humble and generous effort by the Morning Garden Club has positively impacted the lives of people in their community. Let us use this effort as an example of how a small, focused effort of litter clean-up and recycling can produce positive and beneficial capital from a community of generous gardeners throughout New Mexico.

I want to thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Litter Clean-up and Recycle program as chairman. I encourage all clubs to take a small amount of time at each meeting to figure out what might be done recycling to benefit their community. Please let me know about your clubs on-going recycling and litter clean-up efforts. Email your ideas, notes and summaries to [geodejohn@gmail.com](mailto:geodejohn@gmail.com) and thank you very much!

### **SCHOLARSHIP/LIFE MEMBER – Georgia Schoenecker**

During my 15 years as Scholarship/Life Membership chairman, New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. has provided fifteen (15) students with \$2000/2500 scholarships and five (5) Georgia B. Schoenecker \$1000 scholarships to second place applications. We received seven (7) National Garden Clubs, Inc. \$3500/4000 and two (2) South Central Region scholarships for students studying at NMSU Las Cruces and UNM Albuquerque. One of those students is now a PHD Professor of Horticulture at NMSU.

The 2015/16 scholarship was awarded to Derek Barchenger, a Plant & Environmental Sciences student at NMSU. His resume was submitted to the South Central Region Chairman for consideration of their scholarship.

Scholarship awards were earned in many areas of study: Landscape Design, Wildlife Science, Conservation-Ecology, Biology, Agronomy, Horticulture, Plant & Environmental Science and Plant & Animal Sciences to name just a few. The student must maintain a GPA of 3.5/4.0 average, be a resident of New Mexico, starting their Junior year. Financial need is a factor. Application forms for both NGC and NMGC are sent to each University in October for posting with Financial Aid Officers and Professors.

Under the guidance of Sally Warner, President (2000-03) and the Executive Board, we designed and had made 200 Life Member pins. We now have a total of 436 registered Life Members benefiting the Scholarship program with their \$40 memberships. Club contributions are always welcome and Valley Garden Club recently made a very generous contribution. The Book of Memory was updated and sadly many entries were made over the years. This year the names of Martha Morris, Bertha Graham and Dorothy Egan were added. Sympathy notes were sent to the donors.

For information regarding any of these NMGC programs, please contact the new chairman. All files, books and materials have been remitted.

I have enjoyed serving in this chairmanship and wish my successor pleasure.

### **SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL – Colleen Hinker**

I attended the National Convention in Norman, Oklahoma this spring and collected lots of give aways, prizes and information sheets from the Forest Service booth (half a carload). With great enthusiasm, I carted the coloring books, info flipbooks, name slips, color cards, poster rules, etc.,

to our October fall board meeting and set up a booth. Everyone seemed very enthusiastic with my rah-rah speech. All my materials were passed out and taken away. I called many of the members that were interested, but the reaction was disheartening. As of the deadline, I received only one other groups posters. Our school, who has been participating for years, handed in 181 posters for our club to judge, and they are getting very good at it. I am estimating at least a dozen schools were contacted, but because of new regulations and lack of interest, few of those were from other clubs. I list the 2015 winners below.

First Grade - Jonathan Gonzales – Santa Rosa Garden Club

Second Grade - Maliya Morrison – Angel Fire Garden Club

Third Grade – Kayla Holbrook – Santa Rosa Garden Club

Fourth Grade – Madalene Ross – Santa Rosa Garden Club

Fifth Grade - Anica Lucero – Santa Rosa Garden Club

These winning posters have been sent to the Regional SmokeyBear/Woodsy Owl chair for further judging.

### **TREES and SHRUBS – J. J. Huddleston, Chairman**

One request for information or assistance was received in 2014. Santa Rosa Garden Club (SRGC) requested a list of potential trees to be planted between the Blue Hole and the Convention Center. A total of 9 trees were suggested that met the criteria set forth by SRGC and the Park Service. The planting was in association with the State Park and completed during the 2014 State Convention.

One article was published in the Spring 2014 New Mexico Gardener: “Arbor Day is Coming”. One article was published in the Winter 2014 New Mexico Gardener: “From the ‘Tree Hugger’”.

Four tree awards were received for 2013. Winners were:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Morning Garden Club	94 trees and shrubs
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Angel Fire Garden Club	28 trees and shrubs
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Helen Moser of Mesilla Valley GC	23 trees and shrubs
H.M.	Joan Higgs of Petal Pushers GC	1 tree

Awards were presented at the 2014 State Convention held in Santa Rosa, NM.

As of 31 January 2015, 3 submissions for the 2014 Tree Award have been received.

## **WATER CONSERVATION – Penni Davey, Chairman**

We have been conserving water all over the state, although I have only heard from Angel Fire Garden Club in District III. Hopefully many more of you are putting barrels on the deck to collect rain water for your pots. Collecting water is easy and will lower your financial cost. If I can help, please let me know as I have a 1600 gallon cistern and it connects to my sprinkler system. I hope you will try it soon, if you haven't already had a system put in.

## **WEBSITE – Cindy Hills, Chairman**

The NMGC, Inc. website, <http://newmexicogardenclubs.org>, continues to get inquiries about available garden clubs in New Mexico, questions from groups in New Mexico promoting gardens, and periodic questions from NGC, Inc. members from other states.

Information for the website is normally posted within 24 hours of receipt, if not sooner.

The “Members Only” area contains

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

Club members are encouraged to send information and photos promoting their club's activities. Send e-mail to either [nmgc@newmexicogardenclubs.org](mailto:nmgc@newmexicogardenclubs.org) or [cinzh@aol.com](mailto:cinzh@aol.com). One of our members currently submitted an article about her sensory garden, which is available under “Resources & Links.”

## **WILD FLOWERS/NATIVE PLANTS – Carolyn Bedford, Chairman**

Wild flowers and native plants continue to be popular in New Mexico. Several club members plant native plants in their gardens. The Angel Fire Garden Tour held in July, 2013 emphasized native plants. The New Mexico State Garden Club convention held in March used native plants in their hallway displays. A state award for Wild Flowers & Native Plants will be awarded at the State Convention in Silver City.

## **WORLD GARDENING – Virginia Podmenik, Chairman**

During the past year, three articles were written for the “New Mexico Gardener”: The Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, Hampton Court, Palace Flower Show, both being in London, England, and an article on Global Partners Running Water, a charity supported by National Garden Clubs. A list of those clubs who have participated in World Gardening Charitable Contributions has been forwarded to New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. Awards Chairman for award certification.

## **YEARBOOK – Julie Foster, Chairman**

There are 17 entries this year. I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity of being yearbook chair the past two years. I have learned so very much about our lovely state and the beautiful people that live here. One thing I do have to mention to all clubs, you know your area, but you need to put a street address on the locations of your meetings. If you are meeting in a park or business, the street tells us what entrance of the park or what branch of the business. Artesia has one park that runs east/west through the entire town, it has at least 8 intersections through it. That is the biggest detail overlooked in club yearbooks. I also think we need to add a 5<sup>th</sup> class for other club types, such as judges and design. Thank you all very much for entering.

## **JUNIOR GARDEN CLUB REPORTS**

### **THE BLOOMING GARDENERS CLUB**

**50 Members**

1. Continuing project since 2009.
2. Brief summary and objectives of project: Every Spring The Blooming Gardeners begin planting/educational meeting at the New Mexico State Fair in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The youth range in age from 2 years to 15 years and when digging in the dirt, there is no age difference at all. They plant corn, tomatoes, chili, day lilies, snap dragons, egg plant etc. There are several objectives to this project. They learn that we start with a seed, plant, bloom, fruit and then to the table with discussion along the way.  
  
In 2014 Egg Plant was new to all members. The older members were given an assignment to make Egg Plant Parmesan for tasting purposes. All members loved the taste with the exception of one. He did not like the name of it. In September, people come from all over the state to see their gardens and learn how they are grown. This young garden club is responsible for educating many people in our state regarding horticulture.
3. Parents and youth are active in this program so it continues to be a learning experience for everyone. Each week the children are given plants or seeds to take home and plant in their own garden. They share their own experiences each week with the club. Some have great success and others do not. We discuss the pros and cons of the soil, water, light etc.
4. Uptown Garden Club is our sponsor, however, Shirley Tetreault and Connie Elmore fund the majority of the activities. Each member has a notebook, pen and various materials for gardening. Occasionally we receive small donations from individuals or award money if possible.

