



New Mexico Gardener

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Fall Issue



New Mexico Gardener

Bulletin of the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. (NMGC)

A Nonprofit Organization

www.newmexicogardenclubs.org

Organized 1950
26 Clubs

Incorporated August 5, 1952
569 Paid Memberships

NMGC, Inc. is a Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

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NMGC, Inc. President 2009-2011

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Theme: Our World-Educate-Communicate-Leave a Legacy

Projects: Gardening with Children/Blue Star Memorials/Golden Days

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Renee Blaschke, President

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Theme: The World Around Us-Love It-Beautify It-
Protect It

Project: Beautify Blight

South Central Region

Mary Ann Moreno, Director

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Theme: Reuse-Reduce-Recycle To Protect Our
Beautiful World

Project: Using the Three R's to Beautify
Blighted Areas

New Mexico Gardener

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer has been busy in many ways – filled with education and communication. We started off May 1-3 with Symposium 2009 sponsored by the New Mexico Judges Council. Julia Clevett, design instructor, showed us how to hide mechanics in floral designs. She created some of the “New Design Types” for discussion and study. James Schmidt, horticulture instructor, covered combination plantings in containers emphasizing thrillers, fillers, spillers. Both instructors were extremely knowledgeable and left everyone feeling revived and educated.



Texas Garden Clubs hosted the 2009 National Convention in Houston May 13-18. Renee Blaschke was installed as our new NGC President for 2009-2011. There were many wonderful programs: Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl, high school essay contest, Gold Days Daffodils, and a new on-line NGC certified Garden Studies Program. I have named only a few here. There is something for everyone – whether in gardening or design. May was also significant for me personally – I received my diploma and am now a “Certified National Design Instructor.”

Here in New Mexico our garden clubs have been busy working on programs of their own. Jean Digerness, President of Santa Rosa Garden Club is working on a youth program. Hopefully the initial efforts will blossom and the next generation of garden clubs will begin to form. Santa Rosa also held a beautiful flower show. Our very own Cynthia Shafer, Editor of *New Mexico Gardener*, publishes a newsletter for her garden club members. It contains a message from their president, member updates, and upcoming events. In the July/August issue there was an article on Lemon Balm (*Melissa officinalis*). Cynthia designed the newsletter with the Lincoln County Garden Club logo. Angel Fire Garden Club invited my husband and me to attend their annual garden tour. We were welcomed by the club members and made to feel very special during our time there. Penni Davey chaired the event and did a wonderful job of coordinating all of the activities. The Blue Star Memorial was very moving. Many of the ladies taking the tour and attending the luncheon were so impressed they expressed interest in joining the club.

Districts I and II are busy planning for the Fall Board Meeting scheduled for October 29-30 at the Courtyard Marriott in Journal Center. District IV has started plans for the 2010 State Convention.

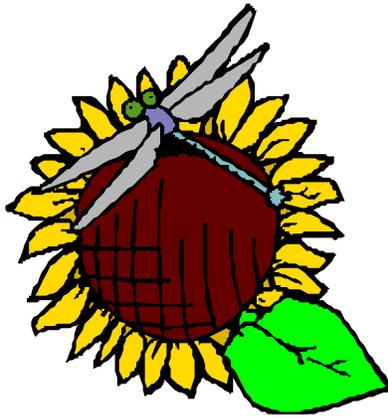
East Mountains Garden Club invited me to one of their events. We visited an organic garden in Chilili. Everyone was excited and happy to be on the tour. The members meet every other week just to hike up in the mountains and see the native plants. They have approximately 100 members who really enjoy being

together - gardening, designing and helping in their community. Their motto is:
“Just ask a friend and they will come!”

This is the first issue of the *New Mexico Gardener* being sent via e-mail.

My term is just beginning and it is very exciting and rewarding; it is my pleasure to serve as President of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. and carry out the theme – “Educate – Communicate – Leave a Legacy.”

Shirley Tetreault



NM JUDGES COUNCIL (Not in package plan)

Tuesday, October 29, 2009

NM Judges Council Dinner/Program

Dinner Program Judges Fee \$30.00 _____

Dinner/Program Non-Judges Fee \$35.00 _____

Program Only \$ 5.00 _____

NOTE: All NMGC Members and Guests are welcome to attend the NM Judges Council Dinner and Program.

PART-TIME REGISTRATION

Friday, October 30, 2009

Registration Fee \$25.00 _____

NMGC, Inc. Breakfast Buffet \$16.00 _____

NMGC, Inc. Lunch/Program & Workshop \$25.00 _____

Workshop Only \$15.00 _____

Special Dietary Needs: Please contact Shirley Tetreault
ammasangels@comcast.net

HOTEL: Courtyard by Marriott Journal Center
5151 Journal Center Blvd., Albuquerque, NM 87109, (505) 823-1919. Single or
Double Rate: \$80.00 (plus tax)

When making your reservations use the name: **New Mexico Garden Clubs Fall Board.**

Deadline for special rate reservations is October 5, 2009.

Please make checks payable to: District I, NMGC 2009 Fall Board and mail to:
Charlotte Williams, 7201 San Benito NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120, (505) 836-
2702, e-mail: 3laudate3@q.com

OFFICER/CHAIRMAN REPORTS

Awards – Sue Ferguson

I'm looking forward to our Awards Workshop at the Fall Board Meeting. It will be a great opportunity to spend some time together to make the process of applying for awards easy and very worthwhile.

All club presidents, NMGC Inc. officers and committee members have copies of our latest Awards Handbook. It can also be found on the NMGC, Inc., website, www.newmexicogardenclubs.org, and from me.

This is the perfect time to take photos for the “Birds, Butterfly Gardening, Food Gardening, Herbs, and Wildflower Awards.” There is also “The Photographic Print of the Year Award,” where each entrant may submit up to four 4” x 6” photos of a landscape, floral design, or horticulture specimen.

I hope I have whetted your appetite. See you soon.

Awards Presented at the National Garden Clubs, Inc., 2009 Convention Houston, Texas:

A Standard Flower Show Achievement Award to the Flowering Desert Garden Club for their flower show, “Celebrate 50 Years”

The Tommy Donnan Certificate of Merit to New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., for the 2008 Revision of the Awards Handbook

Blue Star Memorials – Donna Turney

Are you considering placing a Blue Star Memorial or marker? Perhaps you would be interested in the genesis of this program? According to a press release on October 7, 1998 announcing the 50 year anniversary of the Blue Star Drive on what is now Route 22 in New Jersey, the program was initiated in the spring of 1944 when General Eisenhower was massing troops for the invasion on the beaches of Normandy. Many of the troops were leaving from New Jersey and were evident everywhere one looked

New Jersey Garden Clubs president, Mrs. Lewis Hull, along with others, came up with the idea of a living memorial to the armed forces. In June 1944 the program was launched with the slogan, “A dollar plants a tree on the Blue Star Drive” which culminated in a five mile stretch of flowering dogwoods along the highway. The Blue Star originated, of course, from the service flags seen in windows all over America. More details are readily available on the Internet.

In New Mexico 12 memorials and markers have been located. There are two to be installed and dedicated. The chairman has all the information necessary for planning a Blue Star program which has gained much support all over the USA.

Clubs have incorporated the markers into existing gardens. Others have installed the memorials along with appropriate plantings along prominent highways.

Contact Donna Turney at donnalomr@gmail.com for complete information.

South Central Region Intermediate Youth Essay Contest – Jennifer Moreno

2009-10 Theme: The Osage Orange Tree

Purpose: Through research students will learn about the tree and organize the information into an essay. **Contest Rules:**

1. Double spaced, typed or hand written on standard sheet of paper (8 ½ x 11")
Place name, phone number, grade, school and sponsoring club on the **BACK OF PAPER IN THE UPPER RIGHT HAND CORNER.**
2. Essay should contain 500-600 words.
3. Last page should contain a bibliography (names of sources of information such as magazines, books, brochures, interviews, other resources). There should be a minimum of three (3) sources.
4. Cover sheet provided by sponsoring club containing the following: title of essay, sponsoring club, president of club, address, phone number and the date federation dues paid.

Scale of Points:

Content - 65

Knowledge of subject – 15

Organization of material for clarity – 25

Originality – 15

Conformance to length - 10

Composition – 25

Vocabulary – 15

Grammar – 10

Manuscript – 10

Neatness and legibility -5

Required information -5

All essays are due to state chairman by December 1, 2009 where all three age groups will be judged together and the best of the group sent to SCR Chairman Donna Turney, PO Box 49, Alamogordo, NM 88311-0049 by January 1, 2010

Awards: \$25.00 to first place overall winner; \$15.00 to second and \$10.00 to third place

GARDEN CLUBS NEWS

District I

The members of **Petal Pushers Garden Club** met at the Garden Center in May. Lois Byron and Carol Stomp served as hostesses. Jim Sais gave an informative, entertaining, and often hilarious program about his career as Bernalillo County Extension Agent in the 1960's, 1970's, and 1980's. Mr. Sais shared some of the challenging questions and funny telephone calls his office received. The members responded with much laughter.

John Atlee hosted the June meeting at his home. Mr. Atlee graciously showed the members his garden and demonstrated his unique style of pond gardening.

Many club members volunteered at the spring plant sale which was a big success. During the May 30th Garden Tour, Nancy Kanthack, Millie Ewing and Susan Olinger worked at the Florentino garden. As always, a group of hardy volunteers maintain the courtyard garden at the Garden Center. Each Monday morning Georgia Allen, Grace Barnes, Millie Ewing, Jackie Fallis, Nancy Kanthack and Cheryl McCammon meet to keep the garden in terrific shape.

The **Trailblazers Garden Club** in Farmington has been busy learning this quarter. In May, Susan Lauderback presented a program on World Gardening Projects which was very interesting.

We toured the NMSU Experimental Garden in June. What a resource! We learned how plants grow with four different amounts of irrigation. All plants will survive here and some do better than others depending on amount of drip irrigation they receive.

In July we learned about small arrangements from Shirley Tetrault. It was very informative and we enjoyed getting to know Shirley.

The August meeting was held in late July due to the calendar conflict of the San Juan County Fair. Several of our knowledgeable members demonstrated making arrangements at the fair.

All this learning makes our heads swim, but we have gained a lot of knowledge!

District II

Angel Fire Garden Club installed their new officers at the May meeting. Incoming officers are very excited about upcoming projects. Outgoing officers were thanked for their contributions. The meeting consisted of planning our 8th annual garden tour and luncheon. We had a good turn out to weed and welcome spring to the Vietnam Memorial State Park, our Blue Star Garden, in time

for the annual Ride to The Wall and the Memorial Day Service. In June, the meeting was held at the home of Stephanie Hamilton. A professional floral designer, she gave the most fantastic program, giving us great hints. She made it look so easy! Horticulture of the Month was presented by President Fannie Mackie on the club flower, the Columbine. At the July meeting, we were honored to have Max Pacheco, the owner of Pacheco's High Country Nursery, as our guest speaker. Horticulture of the Month was presented by Diane Peterson on the Bleeding Heart. We are really excited about the up coming garden tour and luncheon. We added a special floral display this year, to be held in the home of Karin Jimenez. The luncheon and silent auction will be held in Karin's award winning Garden of the Year 2005. The new and updated garden book "Nature Has It's Way!" will be released in August. Plan now to reserve your copy.



DJ Geoffroy (Treasurer), Linda Gemoets (Secretary), Shirley Tetreaut (State President of NM Garden Clubs), Fannie Mackie (President), Judy "JJ" Huddleston (1st Vice President) at Angel Fire Tour of Gardens

Floral Designers Garden Club President, Shelby Green, reports at regular meetings members study and critique a different design at each session.

Los Alamos Garden Club organized several field trips. In July, the club toured Pajarito Environmental Education Center in Los Alamos. We learned about local plants and some newly discovered species. In August, we lunched at Ice's Tea Room in Alcalde; the restaurant features home grown herbs and produce. Original bookmarks were distributed to note National Garden Week. Throughout summer, despite deer and hail, gardens were tended in the local historical area.

District III

Santa Rosa Garden Club members decided not to have their annual BBQ fundraiser this year. Instead, they're going to help Colleen Hinker prepare food for the upcoming Environmental Studies Workshop at her ranch sometime in August.

In May, Barbara White and Rita Ferrell presented scholarships to two high school graduates of \$250 each. The recipients were Katherine Insuate and Ricky Flores.

For Garden Week, SRGC president, Jean Digerness, and new member, Carolyn Green, made half a dozen flower arrangements and distributed them to banks, the library and the Santa Rosa Campground.

Jean also contacted current state president, Shirley Tetreault, concerning the "Youth Out-Reach Program." The first session with the middle school summer class talked about and identified the different plants found locally. The students will probably put together some horticulture and flower designs for the county fair under the junior level. They plan to have the second session soon.

Meanwhile, Betty Eastland and Peggy Sulteimeir transplanted half a dozen roses at the nursing home. The roses were donated by the Driggers' family in honor of the late life-time member, Billy Driggers.

Members met twice in July. We had a membership tea party at the library in hope of recruiting new members. Publicity for the event was in local newspapers, the radio and flyers were distributed. Colleen discussed several topics of what garden club is all about. Afterward a sumptuous brunch was served!

Later in the month, the members gathered again --- this time for a flower show workshop. This year's theme is, "It's About Time to....." This covers a wide range of subjects from "Going Green," "Protecting Our Wildlife," "Recycling," "Joining the Circus." A flower show is set for July 31, August 1 - 2 at the county fair.

Nara Visa Garden Club is laying low since the death of one of their most active members, Mary Frances Bolz. Also, Travis Nelson is a little bit under the weather and jobs occupy Karen Bell, Kay Irwin and Liz Burns. They very badly need some help from other garden clubs and from the community as a whole. They will be hosting the Fall District Meeting in early August. For certain, recruiting membership will be a hot topic.

District V

In May, **Home Garden Club** members traveled to the Hondo Iris Farm for a personal tour of the farm by owner, Alice Seely. They then were given a tour of the beautiful studio and home of artist Dr. John Kiker, followed by a luncheon in the wonderful garden of member Dorothy Torrez whose home is near San

Patricio. Mayor of Roswell, Sam LaGrone, issued a proclamation in June setting forth National Garden Week. The proclamation was read at a Home Garden Club meeting held at the northwest corner of Spring River Park and Zoo near a flower bed which is maintained by the members. Home GC participated in the Home and Garden Show held in Roswell. Plans are being made to participate in the Dragon Fly Festival in September, and members are eagerly looking forward to programs and meetings which will begin in the fall.

The **Lincoln County Garden Club** met in May at the charming Dolan House in the historic town of Lincoln for the installation of officers and a lovely luncheon. We dressed up a bit for the occasion and enjoyed the 19th century atmosphere of the old restaurant/home filled with antique furniture and quaint knick-knacks. “Annuals and Perennials” was the topic for the June meeting presented by Maria Lerma of Season’s Nursery of Ruidoso. Maria is very knowledgeable and known by many members who depend on her for gardening advice.

The Lincoln County Fair was held in Capitan on August 3 – 8. A number of our members conducted and judged a flower show. Our own Cynthia Shafer, publisher of the *New Mexico Gardener*, won Reserve Champion for her Rose of Sharon blossom. Great job, Cynthia! Member Leila Adams won 2nd place for her Russian Sage and 4th place for her Verbena. Good job to you too, Leila.

At the July meeting, we were privileged to have Dr. Curtis Smith conduct a Power-Point presentation on “Xeriscaping with Native Plants.” Dr. Smith is a horticulture specialist with the Cooperative Extension Service of New Mexico State University and gave us an excellent lecture on the special needs of our mountainous area.

Club members continue to maintain the enclosed garden at the Lincoln County Hospital and the xeriscape garden at the Ruidoso Public Library. In addition to working at the two gardens mentioned previously, our gracious member, Joyce Davies, continues to drive to Fort Stanton to maintain the garden originally established by the club.

Of course, all club members enjoy the stimulation of learning and spreading the word about the joys of gardening, however we especially love the camaraderie of meeting with friends who have a common interest.

Morning Garden Club met at the beautiful home of Pegi Naranjo in May for our last meeting of the 2008/2009 year. We enjoyed a wonderful pot-luck salad luncheon on Pegi’s patio where her gardens are in full view. LaVerne Smith installed officers for the 2009/2010 club year but was somewhat upstaged by one of Pegi’s turtles who crawled around, inspecting and trying to nibble on pretty toes which were exposed in sandals on a lovely warm spring day. Installed officers are: Zelma Wilcox, President; Martha Morris, First Vice President; Deana Bozarth,

Second Vice President; Lenora Rogers, Recording Secretary; MaryAnn Schrank, Treasurer; Dru Cieszinski, Corresponding Secretary; Sue Ferguson, Historian; and Georgia Schoenecker, Parliamentarian.

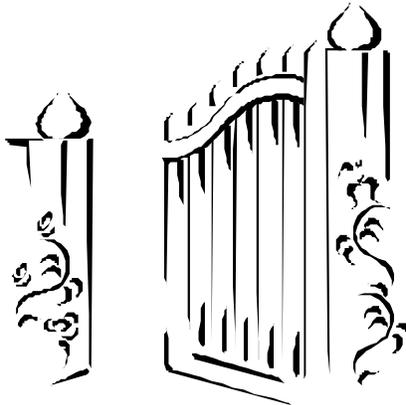
National Gardening Week was recognized by placing a poster and club information leaflets on the bulletin board at the Senior Circle Building. This facility has very high traffic of active senior adults.

Club members have enjoyed the summer break to attend to their gardens and other pursuits but will be happy to see each other at our first meeting in September when we'll launch a new year of activities.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept 4	Full Corn Moon
Sept 11 – 27	New Mexico State Fair & Flower Show, Albuquerque
Sep 29 – Oct 3	NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
Oct 4	Full Harvest Moon
Oct 5	District I Fall Board Meeting, Albuquerque Garden Center
Oct 15	District II Fall Board Meeting, Los Alamos
Oct 19	District V Fall Board Meeting, Roswell
Oct 29 – 30	NMGC, Inc. Fall Board Meeting, Courtyard Marriott Journal Center, Albuquerque
Nov 1	Daylight Saving Time Ends
Nov 2	Full Hunter's Moon
2010	
Jan 1	NGC Awards Deadline
Feb 1	State Awards Deadline
Mar 25 – 26	NMGC, Inc. State Convention, Best Western Socorro
May 24 – 16	NGC Convention, Atlanta, GA



GUIDELINES FOR PUBLICATION IN THE *New Mexico Gardener*

The *New Mexico Gardener* is published quarterly: March, June, September and December. The Editors reserve the right to edit any copy for clarity, accuracy, or space requirements. It is the responsibility of the article writer to ensure that names are spelled correctly. All articles need to be submitted as a Word document (unformatted). **Photos must be sent as .jpg files; please do not include in Word documents.** Photos that are submitted with the photographer's name will receive photo credit. **Note:** If you would like photos returned, please include a self-addressed envelope, including correct postage, with your name and address.

Deadline Dates

Spring	February 1
Summer	May 1
Fall	August 1
Winter	November 1

Articles/Photos for the next *Gardener* must be submitted by November 1, 2009 to:

Cynthia Shafer, Editor
E-mail: mshafer@valornet.com
Phone: #575-336-1989