



New Mexico Gardener

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New Mexico Gardener

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

A Nonprofit Organization

www.newmexicogardenclubs.org

Organized 1950
25 Clubs

Incorporated August 5, 1952
638 Paid Memberships

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

4401 Magnolia Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63110

NMGC, Inc. President 2009-2011

Shirley Tetreault

Albuquerque, NM

Phone: 505-294-4331

E-mail: ammasangels@comcast.net

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

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

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Renee Blaschke, President

E-mail: renee_blaschke@juno.com

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

Project: Beautify Blight

South Central Region

Mary Ann Moreno, Director

E-mail: jbmamoreno@gmail.com

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

“Educate, Communicate and Leave a Legacy!”

Children Gardening's Future!

Sally Warner's little 3-year old granddaughter, Layla, becomes either a princess or “Tesa” when she puts on her Disney outfits. If she wears shorts and a t-shirt she becomes “Fred”. Early this morning my oldest granddaughter Brooke, made blueberry muffins. After breakfast, Kellen and Brooke made pinecone birdfeeders with peanut butter and hung them in the tree. Miranda Andrego made scones for me for our fall board meeting in October. She also attends all of my design classes at the Albuquerque Garden Center. Brooke says she wants to be a teacher (just like me) when she grows up. How special is it that we have these wonderful little people in our lives? They are the future of our garden clubs. It is so important to take this very precious time now to educate them and communicate with them. They give you unconditional love all the time and will never let you down. Have you ever gone into a classroom and planted one seed in a cup with the children? In a few days, when the seed starts to sprout their faces are filled with joy. It just doesn't get any better than that and we can make a big difference in this world if we give our childrenTIME!



December was extremely busy as I chaired the Holiday Fair at the Albuquerque Garden Center. There were centerpieces, crafters, food, wreaths, poinsettias and Santa! Everyone jumps in and plays a valuable part for the fair. My husband, Al, and I were invited to a Christmas party in Los Alamos held at the home of Joyce & Howard Cady. That week the Los Alamos Garden Club had collected greens, made and sold 50 wreaths for their community. What a great ways and means project. I also had the pleasure of having lunch with the Petal Pushers Garden Club at a very nice restaurant in Albuquerque. During this time period I attended meetings/luncheons with the Rose Society, Uptown Garden Club and started teaching a seven-week beginning design class in hope of attracting new members to our organization. I have given several design programs and I am optimistic that I will be able to travel to other clubs throughout the state as time permits.

We will have a full plate at the 61st Annual Convention in Las Cruces. District IV is working hard to make this a special event on March 24 through the 26th at the Hotel Encanto. If you have never attended an annual state convention, now is the time to start. I look forward to seeing you there.

Shirley Tetreault, President
New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

BYLAW CHANGE PROPOSAL

The following Bylaw change will be voted on at the spring convention in Las Cruces.

Bylaws: Article IV - Officers, Section 3 Page 4

Reads: Officers shall be elected for a term of two years or until their successors are elected. The President and 1st Vice President shall serve a term of two (2) years. The Treasurer, may serve a term of six (6) years. **All** other officers may serve an additional two (2) years.

Change: Strike: second sentence

Change: third sentence to read: The Treasurer may serve a maximum term of six (6) years. (We will add **maximum**.)

Change fourth sentence to read: Other officers may serve an additional two (2) years. (We will strike the word **All**.)

New wording: Officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected. The Treasurer may serve a **maximum** term of six (6) years. Other officers may serve an additional two (2) years.



NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
61st Annual Convention
“SPRING ON EL CAMINO REAL”
March 24-26, 2010
Hotel Encanto
Las Cruces, New Mexico

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

12:00 pm – 6:00 pm Registration
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm NMGC Executive Board Meeting
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm NM Judges Council Executive Meeting
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm NM Judges Council General Meeting
6:30 pm NM Judges Council Dinner
7:30 pm NM Judges Council Program
Designing Divas of NM Judges Council

Thursday, March 25, 2010

8:00 am – 9:30 am Registration
8:00 am – 9:00 am Continental Breakfast Buffet
9:00 am – 9:30 am Official Opening of NMGC, Inc. 61st Annual
State Convention
9:30 am – 12:00 pm NMGC General Meeting
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm NMGC Lunch
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm NMGC Program
Belly Dancer Presentation and Workshop
by Baraka & The Gypsy Fire
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Optional Workshop
Designing with Herbs
by Joan Kief
\$5.00 materials fee (Fee not included in
registration fee. Payable to instructor day of workshop)
4:00 pm – 5:35 pm Free Time
5:35 pm – 6:15 pm Reception: State President & SC Regional Director
(Cash bar)
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm NMGC Dinner Buffet
8:00 pm – 9:00 pm NMGC Program
Easy Steps to Green Gardening
by Jackey Meinecke

Friday, March 26, 2010

8:00 am – 9:00 am Breakfast Buffet
9:00 am – 10:00 am NMGC Business Meeting Continues
10:00 am – 12:00 pm NMGC Awards Presentation

NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
61st Annual Convention
“SPRING ON EL CAMINO REAL”
March 24-26, 2010
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Print Your Name (as you would like it to appear on your nametag)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Garden Club(s): _____

Please check () your classification(s) (all that apply):

- State Officer State Chair District Director
- Club President Club Member Flower Show Judge
- Landscape Consultant State Life Member Regional Life Member
- National Life Member Guest

Please complete either a Full-Time Package or Part-Time Registration area:

Package includes: \$25.00 Registration Fee, Continental Breakfast,
Lunch/Program, Dinner Buffet/Program, President’s Reception, and Breakfast
Buffet

EARLY FULL-TIME PACKAGE

(postmarked on or before 3/10/10) \$ 135.00 _____

LATE FULL-TIME PACKAGE

(postmarked after 3/10/10) \$ 150.00 _____

NOTE: Registration fee is NON-REFUNDABLE after early registration closes
3/10/10.

NM JUDGES COUNCIL DINNER/PROGRAM (not in package plan)

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Dinner/Program Judges Fee	\$ 35.00	_____
Dinner/Program Non-Judges Fee	\$ 40.00	_____
Program Only	\$ 10.00	_____

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

PART-TIME REGISTRATION

Thursday, March 25, 2010

Registration Fee		
1 Event	\$ 10.00	_____
2 or More Events	\$ 25.00	_____
Meals		
NMGC, Inc. Continental Breakfast	\$ 15.00	_____
NMGC, Inc. Luncheon/Program	\$ 25.00	_____
NMGC, Inc. Buffet/Program	\$ 40.00	_____
President's Reception	\$ 5.00	_____

Friday, March 26, 2010

Meal		
NMGC, Inc. Breakfast Buffet	\$ 25.00	_____

Please make checks payable to **NMGC Inc. 2010 State Convention** and mail to:

Rebecca Fuller
6530 Vista de Oro
Las Cruces, NM 88007-4945
Phone: (575) 525-9762; Cell: (575) 571-6281
darvybeckyfuller@comcast.net

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS:

Please contact Beulah Oyler, e-mail bboyler@zianet.com

HOTEL:

Hotel Encanto, 705 S. Telshor Blvd., Las Cruces, NM 88011, (575) 522-4300
Single or Double Rate: \$85.00 (plus tax) per night.

Deadline for special rate reservations is March 10, 2010.

When making your reservation, use the name:

“New Mexico Garden Clubs State Convention”

OFFICER/CHAIRMAN REPORTS

Blue Star Memorials – Donna Turney

The National Chairman for Blue Star Memorials reports that 27 Memorial Markers, 9 Highway Markers, and 36 Bi-way Markers for a total of 72 were dedicated during 2009. She also reports that these bring the total dedicated nationwide to over 2000 since the inception of the program. As reported previously 12 dedicated markers have been located and catalogued here in New Mexico with two ready to be placed. Look for markers in or near Bloomfield, Old Mesilla, Aztec, Cloudcroft, Radium Springs, Roswell, Angel Fire, T or C (2), Las Cruces, Los Alamos and Texico.

If your club has plans for a marker why not include a planting of daffodils?

NMGC, Inc. Treasurer – Norma Tech

This is a reminder to all officers and chairmen that receipts for expenses must be submitted to me no later than March 15, 2010. I need these in order to submit a budget proposal for 2011 at the spring convention. Our budget year is from June 1, 2010 to May 31, 2011. My mailing address is 15 Tecolote, Los Alamos, NM 87544.

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL I
May 22-23, 2010
Albuquerque Garden Center
10120 Lomas Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM

National Garden Clubs provides the educational opportunity through its series of Flower Show Schools (FSS) Program whereby you may become an Accredited Flower Show Judge or attend sessions to enrich your knowledge of horticulture, design and flower show procedures.

FSS I starts on Saturday, May 22, with a horticulture lecture – study of iris and roses, explanation of nomenclature and classification of plants, exhibiting and entering horticulture in shows. Sunday, May 23, will be design – a brief history of floral design, how to select containers, condition plant material and the study of traditional designs.

Horticulture Instructor-Carolyn Hawkins

Carolyn is an Accredited Master Judge and National Garden Clubs Horticulture and Flower Show Procedure Instructor for flower show schools and symposiums. She is also an Accredited Judge in the Ivy, Begonia, Iris and Daffodil Societies. She has been a Clayton County (Georgia) Master Gardener since 1992. Design has always been an interest and she was co-author of *Creative Floral Design*. She was also executive producer of a video for NGC: “Iris, the Rainbow Flowers.” She grows a few roses and a miniature rose, Rosa ‘Debut’ and a grandiflora rose, Rosa ‘Queen Elizabeth’ are her favorites. Many different iris types are everywhere in her garden and she even has iris in her mother’s garden in Silver City, NM. Growing in the alkaline southwest and the acid southeast was a real learning experience.

Design Instructor – Shirley Tetreault

Shirley is an Accredited-Life Judge and a Certified Design Instructor. Presently she is teaching a basic design class at the Albuquerque Garden Center. A Master Gardener since 2004 she is also a member of Rose Society, Dahlia Society, and Day Lily Society. She has mastered the art of growing, drying and designing with micro roses and has given many programs on miniature and small designs. Shirley joined Uptown Garden Club in 1997 and served as treasurer and president. She served as President of Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs and as Supervisory Chair, and Tour Chair. Currently, Shirley is President of NM Garden Clubs, Inc. (2009-2011). Previously she was District I Director and served as State Recycle Chairman and Local Symposium Chairman in 2006 and 2009.

Barbara Vance, State FSS Chairman

1 (505) 983-6000 e-mail: dbvance@cybermesa.com

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL I
Approved by National Garden Clubs, Inc.

MAY 22-23, 2010

Albuquerque Garden Center
10120 Lomas Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico
1 (505) 296-6020

INSTRUCTORS:

HORTICULTURE
FLOWER SHOW PROCEDURE
Carolyn Hawkins

DESIGN
Shirley Tetreault

DAILY SCHEDULE

MAY 22 – SATURDAY

8:00 am – 8:30 am Registration
8:30 am – 10:30 am Horticulture Lecture
10:30 am – 10:45 am Break
10:45 am – 12:15 pm Horticulture Lecture
LUNCH
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Horticulture Lecture,
Practice Point Scoring
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm Break
2:45 pm – 3:45 pm Flower Show Procedure

MAY 23 - SUNDAY

8:00 am – 8:30 am Registration
8:30 am – 9:30 am Flwr. Show Procedure
9:30 am – 9:45 am Break
9:45 am – 12:15 Design
LUNCH
1:00 pm – 3:30 pm Design
Practice Point Scoring

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL I
CURRICULUM

FLOWER SHOW PROCEDURE

Introduction to *Handbook for Flower Show*; Definition and purposes of all Standard Flower Shows; Requirements and Categories of a Standard Flower Show; Types of Standard Flower Shows; Standard System of Awarding and Philosophy of Point Scoring; Explanation of Non-Top Exhibitor Awards

HORTICULTURE

Selected plant groups to be studied, along with two representative plants/plantings chosen for detailed study; Explanation of Nomenclature and Classification of Plants; Exhibiting procedures for entering horticulture in Standard Flower Shows; Requirements for all Horticulture Top Exhibitor Awards; Judging procedures; Practice point scoring of selected plants (iris and roses)

DESIGN

Brief History of Floral Design; Selecting Containers, Mechanics and Plant Material; Conditioning Plant Material. Elements and Principles of Design; American Traditional Design Types; Still Life Design; General Requirements for All Top Exhibitor Awards; Judging Qualities; Practice point Scoring designs studied in Course I.

FLOWER SHOW PROCEDURE, DESIGN AND HORTICULTURE EXAMS WILL BE TAKEN ON WEDNESDAY May 26, 2010 IN STUDENT'S HOME TOWN OR DESIGNATED PLACE.

THERE WILL BE NO OPEN-BOOK TESTING IN ANY OF THE FOUR COURSES IN THE SERIES. A STUDENT MUST EARN A MINIMUM GRADE OF 70 ON THE WRITTEN AND POINT SCORING EXAMINATIONS FOR ALL SUBJECTS.

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL I
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

MAY 22 - 23, 2010

ALBUQUERQUE GARDEN CENTER
10120 Lomas Blvd., NE
Albuquerque, NM

Sponsored by:
NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
NEW MEXICO FLOWER SHOW
JUDGES COUNCIL



STATE PRESIDENT
Shirley Tetreault

JUDGES COUNCIL CHAIRMAN
Mary Ann Moreno

State Flower Show Schools Chairman
Barbara Vance

Local Chairman
Mary Gilliam

**FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL I
REGISTRATION**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

REGISTRATION FEES:

DEADLINE: May 15, 2010

GENERAL ATTENDANCE

_____ Two Day School for Credit \$80.00
(includes lunch – 2 days)

ATTEND PART-TIME

_____ Two Day School (information only) \$80.00
(includes lunch – 2 days)

_____ Horticulture & FSP 5/22/10 \$40.00
(includes lunch)

_____ Design 5/23/10 \$40.00
(includes lunch)

(Course will be mailed after receipt of registration)

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:
NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
(Flower Show School I)**

SEND CHECK & REGISTRATION TO:

**Maggie Rubino, Registrar PH: 1(505)982-3770
2E ABS Road
Santa Fe, NM 87506-7906
e-mail: maggier33@hotmail.com**

**REQUIRED READING FOR
FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL I**

THE NATIONAL GARDENER – 3 years

HANDBOOK FOR FLOWER SHOWS
2007 Revised Edition – 3 ring binder

FLOWER SHOW PROCEDURE
FSS I – HB, Chapters 1-3

HORTICULTURE
FSS I – HB, Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, 14

THE NEW FLOWER EXPERT by Hessayon.
Pages 111-113, 214, 223, 238

DESIGN
FSS I – HB Chapters 3, 7, 8, 9, 10

ESSENCE OF CREATIVITY – A LEGACY
Thomas – Chapters 1, 3, and 4.

TABLE SETTINGS FOR ALL SEASONS
Wood & Smith - Chapter 7 & Traditional Designs

Download from internet: www.gardenclub.org
Plants and Their Respective Families
Plant Families Frequently Used in Flower Shows

**ALL BOOKS MAY BE ORDERED THROUGH
MEMBERS SERVICES:**

NGC HEADQUARTERS
4401 Magnolia Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63110

Or by Phone: 1(800) 550-6007

Internet connection: www.gardenclub.org
Go down to shopping then to the right Members Services
Catalog. Can view or download as a PDF file.

ACCOMMODATIONS

RESERVATIONS ON/BEFORE May 15

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

10330 Hotel Avenue NE

Phone: 1 (505) 275-8900

1 night - Room with 2 beds - \$90.23 (includes tax) one or two guests. Continental breakfast included in room price. Choices: cereal, Danish, cinnamon rolls, bagels, English muffin, toast, juices, etc. and coffee or tea.

DAYS INN

10321 Hotel Avenue NE

Phone: 1 (505) 275-3297

1 night – Room with 2 double beds \$61.37 (includes tax) one or two guests.

1 night – Room with 1 bed \$57.95 (includes tax).

Continental breakfast included in room price.

Reservation: Ask for **ROHAN**.

MENTION NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

LOCAL CHAIRMAN:

Mary Gilliam

3825 Pedroncelli Rd. NW

Albuquerque, NM 87107-3025

Phone: 1 (505) 344-0233

e-mail: myGilliam@peoplepc.com

STATE FSS CHAIRMAN:

Barbara Vance

2213 Copita Lane

Santa Fe, NM 87505-4925

e-mail: dbvance@cybermesa.com

COMING TO AMERICA FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME!

The 10th World Flower Show *THE GLORIOUS EARTH*, brought to you by **Wafa USA June 15-19, 2011** Seaport World Trade Center, Boston, Massachusetts.

Floral artists from around the globe are coming to our shores. An extraordinary time for our country; a chance to see and participate in a collaborative effort by the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Garden Club of America's design study groups. Improve your knowledge of floral design and meet new people from around the world. A once in a life time event – it ranks with the well known English shows.

World Association of Flower Arrangers organized in 1981 as a non-profit, non-partisan organization of mostly amateur flower arrangers representing thirty countries. The purpose is to provide an international forum for the exchange of ideas about flower arranging to promote the care and conservation of our natural resources and the environment; and to organize education events.

The World Show with its six hundred flower arranging entries also carries a trade show with many vendors from around the world presenting their wares. There will be lectures given by prominent speakers in their field, flower arranging, horticultural, conservation, and national and international on-stage flower arranging demonstrations.

The flower arranging groups of The Garden Club of America and The National Garden Clubs have come together to form the **Wafa USA** group under which a management committee is working to raise necessary funds and volunteers to entertain and educate our forty to fifty thousand national and international visitors.

We would like New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. to send a contribution to help with expenses. Donors of \$1,000 to the project have been promised recognition in the *Newsleaf Newsletter*, listing in the donor program and two tickets to the event. If each member could give \$2.00 or a club could assess/donate \$2.00 for each of its members we can assure our place among the many others states, and organizations supporting this event. Checks payable to NMGC, Inc. – send to Norma Tech, Treasurer, with Wafa USA in the lower left corner. For more information contact Donna Turney 1(575)434-6491 or Barbara Vance 1(505)983-6000.

GARDEN CLUBS NEWS

District I

Petal Pushers Garden Club – In Memoriam: Marie Hansen Torrens passed away on New Year's Day two weeks short of her 92nd birthday. This lady was such an outstanding member of the gardening community in Albuquerque that it is hard to imagine how we will ever fill the void she has left. Marie was the one who had the vision to see that Albuquerque could have a garden center owned and operated by the garden clubs, plant societies and Master Gardeners of this city. She was the chief fundraiser for the garden center and worked with the city to secure the property in Los Altos Park. She talked to civic organizations and worked tirelessly to raise money. Marie and her husband John were generous contributors to the cause.

Marie lead a full and even adventurous life. She was born and raised in a tiny farming community in Minnesota. She obtained a nursing degree and then psychiatric training. Marie was stationed at the first station hospital in Occupied Japan after the World War II. On her return, she married John Torrens, a psychiatrist. In 1954 they moved to Albuquerque with their two small children and Marie's talents as gardener and civic leader blossomed.

She was a member and served as president of three garden clubs – Hoe Handlers, La Mañana and Petal Pushers and was twice president of the Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs. As a nationally accredited flower show judge Marie traveled throughout New Mexico and to numerous cities in the country lecturing and giving demonstrations on flower arranging and gardening.

New Mexico State University named Marie a lifetime master gardener for her work with the program. She was honored by the New Mexico Garden Clubs in 1965 as Member of the Year, in 1974 as Flower Designer of the Year and in 1981 as Horticulturist of the Year. In 2005, the Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs dedicated the Marie Torrens Courtyard Garden in her honor. Marie was a friend and mentor to a vast number of gardeners and other members of our community and she will be greatly missed.

How can the winter quarter be so busy for a garden club? As incongruous as that may sound the winter months were quite busy for the **Trailblazers Garden Club** of Farmington.

In November we had a very informative program by the US Forest Service on invasive weeds. We did not solve the problem of weeds but gathered a lot of new knowledge. Also that month we continued our raffle of three paintings donated to the

club by three of our artist-members. We sold tickets at the Farmington High School craft fair - thank you Dorothy Gibbons for being in charge. Also in November, we conducted a craft project with seniors at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home, thanks to Susan Lauderback and Doris Thomason.

Our meeting in December was our annual Christmas tea held at Barbara Papp's home. The program was Debbie Kutac from Ku-Tips Nursery decorating a Christmas tree as she does for the numerous trees at the nursery. She did a beautiful job and we were all in awe. We placed toiletry items for the women's shelter under Barb's Christmas tree. We also decorated the San Juan Medical Center Christmas tree - not quite as spectacular as Debbie's but none-the-less lovely.

In January, we put our feet up and dreamed of catalogs and spring, but not before we took down the Hospital Christmas tree.

District II

Having no regular meeting during the months of December, January and February didn't keep us from getting a few things done.

Angel Fire Garden Club celebrated Christmas with a wonderful potluck dinner. The club is getting a little large for hosting the annual party at a members home. We have 70 plus in attendance. This year we rented a local art studio and even had our own piano player entertain us. We collected food items for ALMS, toiletries for the Safe House in Taos as well as clothing to be sent to a village in Afghanistan.

The local Eagle Nest Elementary School participated in the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest and we had difficulty in selecting the winners. What a joy it was looking at their hard work. After the posters were collected and the judging done a few of the members went back to the school with a thank you letter and a certificate of participation for the art class. Another most rewarding experience with the project was that it had been decided to give \$100.00 to the school to use in the care of some horses they keep at the school. The kids are required to feed and take care of them. Money is always a concern as it is donated or they earn it. Upon giving the check to the principal, he got a funny look on his face and just hugged them. Seems like over the Christmas break someone had gotten into the hay barn and took all the hay they had stored there. Not knowing the check was coming the school was worried about where they could get the funds to replace it. Who says God doesn't work in mysterious ways?!

Several members bagged groceries during December for the local ALMS (Always Loving Mankind.)

Our club planted 1,253 daffodil bulbs this fall. "The hills will come alive" with color come spring.

The ski area has opened and now we finally have snow. That doesn't give us much outside gardening. Containers are still a going thing for those of us who just won't give it up to the weather.

Los Alamos Garden Club members Sally Warner and Doris Jackson presented two workshops this fall. In October they showed members how to fill a cornucopia with a fall bounty of flowers, fruits, gourds, nuts and cones. Some of the principles of design were emphasized. The November workshop was making pinecone ristras with cones that each member gathered. December found us busy gathering greens, making and selling wreaths. Our yearly, successful live green wreath sale fundraiser was on December 4 at the Los Alamos National Bank. There was full participation of the club members. A week, later after the sale, on a very snowy night, we had a holiday social with spouses and guests at the home of Joyce and Howard Cady. We were honored to have NMGC President Shirley and Al Tetreault attending this social event. Our January meeting's program was presented by Los Alamos County Extension Horticulturist, Carlos Valdez on "Victory Gardening". Members have planted 150 daffodil bulbs in the Historical District, in containers for the Sombrillo Nursing Home and our own gardens. Los Alamos Garden Club has a very active membership serving on the district, state, regional and national levels and providing a lot of volunteer time for civic development projects in the L.A. Historic District.

District III

In November, **Santa Rosa Garden Club** members met at the senior center for a project of forcing paperwhite narcissus in time for Christmas blooming and daffodils for spring. The group then moved to a restaurant, the Santa Fe Grille, for lunch and to continue the business meeting. The Blue Star Memorial project was discussed and President Jean Digerness reported her phone is ringing off the hook with information pertaining to this project.

Barbara White, Carolyn Bedford and Carolyn Green worked hard to meet the deadline for the Smoky Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest at the elementary school.

In December the members had their annual Christmas party and gift/cookie exchange at the Santa Rosa Campground. They had a short meeting, played Christmas bingo and enjoyed winning prizes. Jean prepared a delicious, hearty and healthy lunch that everyone savored. SRGC welcomed a new member, Frances Speight and the not-so-new Carolyn Green. Both accepted to chair the project of planting drought resistant plants at Evergreen Cemetery.

Colleen Hinker shared the communication received from SRGC's sister club in Pennsylvania. Both clubs exchanged what their activities are and inviting each other for some "rubbing the elbows."

Club members met in January for plant seedlings/cuttings sharing. Also, this is the month they set aside for putting together photos and mementos in a scrapbook. A year of happy memories and making a difference!

Colleen Hinker, along with other SRGC members will be at the Methodist Church in Logan on January 30th to meet with **Nara Visa Garden Club** members. They will distribute flyers in hope of getting new people to join NVGC. They are hopeful that this “Friendship/Membership Tea Party” will motivate attendees to join and learn what the garden club is all about.

Nara Visa was once a very active and flourishing club. They can be again, with some help from other clubs. SRGC members wish Travis Nelson well and Karen Bell luck. Mary Frances Bolz’ name was added to the Book of Memory.

District IV

Desert Daubers Garden Club had a full year. They took a day trip to Mesilla Valley State Park, had a program on how to decorate gourds, another program on succulents and finally one on John and William Barttam early American botanists. This February they will be celebrating their 42nd birthday. Congratulations.

Evergreen Garden Club met at Elaine Warden’s house in November where Rosalee Sirgany gave a wonderful presentation on Feng Shui in the garden and home. There was a lively question and answer session that followed the talk. In December, we had our annual holiday luncheon held this year at the Woman’s Club in Silver City. It was a lovely event with beautiful decorations, delicious pot luck dishes, games, gifts and a large donation of pet food and blankets to the animal shelter. During January’s meeting at Nancy Ketchum’s home, Ginna Heiden gave a presentation on the world’s seven most potent disease-fighting spices: ginger, parsley, chili peppers, sage, oregano, cinnamon and turmeric. Following that, Lequita Lett and Elaine Warden presented two beautiful floral arrangements and discussed their form and composition. With the information they presented, we should be well prepared for our own flower show scheduled for September. In February, we are looking forward to a presentation on ponds and water gardening.

Members of **Flowering Desert Garden Club** were very pleased to receive a Flower Show Achievement Award at National meeting in Houston this past May. We also prepared a display board of the show and took it to the state meeting. We again sponsored the Otero County Fair Flower Show in August and were surprised at the number of excellent entries. Potted plants were numerous.

We also hosted District IV meeting in August which was well attended and attendees were treated to lots of door prizes. We have enjoyed two excellent programs this fall and winter, one on beekeeping and the other presented by a local grower of

lavender and grapes. We concluded the year with our Christmas guest social where we collected canned goods and delivered them to a local kitchen.

Last May, **Mesilla Valley and Desert Daubers garden clubs** again produced a successful garden tour in west Mesilla and Rasaaf Hills. Refreshments were served at the largest garden we will ever see on a tour, the newly opened, over 100 acre, Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park. Many local people visited the park for the first time as fees were waived for all garden tour ticket holders.

Proceeds from the tour allowed us to fund grants of nearly \$3000 to the following organizations for garden related beautification or education projects: Mesilla Valley Audubon Society, Women's Intercultural Center in Anthony, Southern New Mexico State Fair & Rodeo Standard Flower Show, Mesilla Valley Hospice, NMSU Floral Evaluation & Design Team, Conlee Elementary Student Council, Mesilla Valley Bosque State Park and the Asombre Institute (formerly the Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park).

Plans are underway for the 2010 tour, with gardens already committed in the Picacho Corridor. You can visit our website – www.lctog.org for updated information throughout the year.

The Tour of Gardens Committee has also created a quarterly Business Award for Landscape Excellence. We will choose a commercial property with beautiful and well maintained landscaping and honor them with a small plaque. The first award was given to the Parks Department for the City of Las Cruces at a City Council Meeting and the second to America's Best Value Inn. Both of these presentations were well covered by the local media.

Socorro Garden Club sponsored a flower show at the county fair. It was well attended and we learned many horticultural names for the entries. We spent a beautiful day at the local Octoberfest selling plants and making new friends. We entered our float in the Candy Cane Parade, again, and had lots of fun despite not winning. Our Christmas party was a success; we collected canned goods for the local homeless shelter.

In November **Sunshine Valley Garden Club's** guest speaker was Bill Sallee of the Armendaris Ranch. Bill spoke about toxic weeds in our area. Bill passed out calendars that gave information every month about toxic weeds. Many of these weeds are harmful to animals. There are pesticides that can be used to get rid of them. Make sure to read the labels before using them.

We had a fall display at the Civic Center. We had stuffed men dressed as farmers holding welcome signs. We planted mums and vines in the planters. We received many compliments from the people that attended the Fiddles Concert at the Center. In December, we had our annual Christmas party at K-Bobs in Truth or Consequences at noon; 14 members attended. In January our guest speaker was Beverly Adams. Beverly

told about the many kinds of winter birds that are in our area. You may see Lesser Goldfinches, American Goldfinch, Pine Siskin, Red-tail Hawks, Rough-legged Hawks, Dark-eyed Junco, White-crowned Sparrow and Yellow-rumped Warblers in your backyard. A good place to see these birds is at the Bosque Del Apache. Next month we will be having our Annual Membership Tea.

District V

Happy 90th Birthday to **Home Garden Club** member, Alice Sharp. Alice and her husband, Murray, have contributed so much to the club and to New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. All the hard work and many hours they have given is sincerely appreciated. The November meeting was held at the home of Daina Blount. Rick Fulton of Schenck Nursery spoke on care, feeding and weathering plants outside or moving indoors during the winter months. In connection with the National Garden Club President's project "Golden Days," six dozen daffodils were planted at the Roswell Museum and Art Center. Two wreaths were prepared by Rene McCoy, Jan Smith, Natalie Wilke and Renata Reisal and donated to the CASA auction held November 19. Proceeds from the wreaths, \$380, went to aid the Court Appointed Special Advocates Children's Program. HGC members donated ornaments and Rene decorated the Christmas tree inside the Visitor's Center at the Bitter Lake Wildlife Refuge. Peggy Voigt made garlands of popcorn and cranberries for decorating the trees located in the landscape plot in front of the Center. Peggy and Renata prepared two planters using the lasagna bulb planter idea that had been the subject of a workshop held at the NMGC Executive Board meeting in Albuquerque in October. The planters were delivered to the newest Habitat for Humanity home, dedicated on December 14 and attended by Pam Davis and Renata. The new home owners were very pleased with the planters. The December luncheon and plant exchange at the home of Jan Smith was enjoyed by 19 members and one guest. Bags containing toys, games and personal items for children were gathered and delivered to the Battered Women's Refuge as the club's Christmas project. Home Garden Club was privileged to host a meeting held at the Chaves County Extension Building in January 2010. New Mexico State University Extension Specialist, Dr. Tess Grasswitz, presented the program "Integrated Pest Management for the Home Gardener." Several members from the Artesia and Morning Garden clubs attended. HGC will be a sponsor of NMGC President, Shirley Tetreault, for the Habitat for Humanity fund raising walk to be held during the National Garden Clubs convention this spring. As part of the club's ongoing project at the Bitter Lake Wildlife Refuge, wild bird seed will be furnished for feeding at the refuge. We are very pleased to welcome new members, Pat Balock, Terry Patterson, Essie Tharpe and Nilda Balderston.

A 25 year plus tradition continued in November when **Morning Garden Club** members decorated the Historical Society for Southeast New Mexico Museum for the holidays. The December meeting was held at the museum. An enormous amount of gifts, toiletries, clothes, etc., was collected for the Roswell Refuge for Battered Adults. Members of the Roswell Junior Story League told delightful Christmas stories. A red velvet heart-shaped ornament was added to the Memorial Christmas Tree in memory of Doralea Bean. In December, club members attended the dedication of the newest Habitat for Humanity house in Roswell. Georgia Schoenecker presented the new owners with a large collection of every kind of gardening tool and pots of pansies. In January, club members met at the home of Theresa Coll only hours after her New Year's Party ended (not exactly!) They enjoyed the fun and very innovative decorations. "Worm Lady," Bobbie Hatley explained her methods of keeping worms and harvesting the worm castings. She also had bags of castings for sale. The Alena Memorial Garden plantings are finished and members are taking care of its maintenance on a week by week basis. The daffodils and tulips will soon be blooming there.



Dedication of the Habitat for Humanity House. Center are the new owners. Right are Morning Garden Club members Mary Ann Schrank, Georgia Schoenecker & Theresa Coll.



Dorothy Cook, Pegi Naranjo, Theresa Coll & Zelma Wilcox.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 1	District V Spring Meeting, Ruidoso
Mar 2	District IV Spring Meeting, Mesilla Valley
Mar 6	District III Spring Meeting, TBD
Mar 8	District I Spring Meeting, Albuquerque
Mar 11	District II Spring Meeting, Santa Fe
Mar 14	Daylight Savings Time Begins
Mar 20	Vernal Equinox
Mar 24 – 26	NMGC, Inc. State Convention, Las Cruces
Mar 30	Full Worm Moon
Apr 24	Pecos Valley Iris Society Iris Show, Roswell Location TBD
Apr 23 – 25	South Central Region Convention, Dallas, TX
Apr 28	Full Pink Moon
May 14 – 16	NGC Convention, Atlanta, GA
May 15	Las Cruces Tour of Gardens, Las Cruces
May 22 – 23	1 st Flower Show School, Albuquerque
May 27	Full Flower Moon



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 May 1, 2010 to:

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