



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
27 Clubs

Incorporated August 5, 1952
594 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

Editor

Cynthia Shafer

mshafer@valornet.com

Circulation

Sue Ferguson

ferguson@rt66.com

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“Educate, Communicate and Leave a Legacy!”

New Mexico is an amazing place to live with many things to learn. Our newcomers are always amazed at our climate and soil compared to growing conditions in the East. We have a lot to offer and a great opportunity to take on new members. One of our big accomplishments this term was bringing on two new youth garden clubs, The Blooming Gardeners (sponsored by Uptown GC) and the Ponderosa Pines Junior Garden Club (sponsored by Angel Fire GC). There are others working throughout our state and these members will be our future.



We have several things to be proud of in our garden clubs. We started off with a great daffodil program, dedicated a Blue Star Memorial, initiated new garden clubs, visited with seniors, had two series of Flower Show School and prepared for the third. We were the 1st state to donate \$1,000 to WAFA, (World Association of Flower Arrangers). This is the largest flower show in the world and we are a part of it. Our name is on the donors list for doing our part. Thank you New Mexico Garden Clubs Inc.

As we begin our work for 2011, we have serious issues to work out and discuss and your ideas are welcome. Barbara Vance has requested in writing that "someone else step up to the plate." As most of you know, Barbara has been the chair for FSS, Symposium, and Accrediting for eight years. This has been a very long commitment. Barbara has done a wonderful job, is extremely knowledgeable in these positions, and willing to train new chairs. National Garden Clubs has these three positions broken out separately which is how we will proceed in the future. Christine Longthorp has accepted state symposium chair. We welcome judges all over the state to participate. Knowledge of the computer is a must. Flower Show Schools and Symposiums are of vital importance to our organization. We need to continue to come up with creative ways for funding. I am very confident that we can meet these goals.

Sue Ferguson will move into other positions for Regional and National regarding awards and Suzy Andrego will take over for State. Sue has been the state chair for six years. She has been receiving large envelopes daily with state awards. Thank you so much for responding to her e-mails and getting the information to her. Our awards program is a great success.

I attended the Instructors Symposium in San Antonio, Texas in January. There are so many changes that I will be sharing with you, however, I strongly

recommend using the National website for immediate updates. Judges please keep your books up to date.

Shirley Nicolai will be installed as our new National President in May of 2011 in Washington, DC. She has requested Albuquerque, New Mexico for her "winter board" meeting. There are 19 members attending and I think it will be a great time for New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. Updates will follow.

Go out and make this a great day! Build a snowman! Say something wonderful to someone! Laugh!

Shirley Tetreault, President
New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.
12404 Apache Pl. N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87112

Cell (505) 259-2263
Home (505) 294-4331



ATTENTION ALL NMGC MEMBERS NMGC 2011 CONVENTION HOTEL CHANGE

Our State Convention to be held on March 28-30 has a change of hotel. The Sally Port is undergoing renovations and the hotel rooms will not be completed. The meeting rooms are complete and we will still use Sally Port as our headquarters. We have been able to acquire the Holiday Inn Express just a block from the Sally Port Inn. Details are as follows:

HOTEL: Holiday Inn Express, 2300 N. Main St., Roswell, NM 88201, #575-627-9900. Two queen beds: \$79.00 plus tax; one king bed: \$79.00 plus tax. Rooms are non-smoking. **Please be sure to mention New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.**

ALL MEETINGS AND MEALS WILL STILL BE HELD AT THE SALLY PORT INN, 2000 N. MAIN ST., ROSWELL, NM 88201.

An updated registration form with the new hotel information is on pages 7-8 of this issue.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

District V Convention Committee

Message from 2011 NMGC Spring Convention Chairperson

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend the 62nd Annual Convention March 28-30 in Roswell.

The outstanding convention committee of District V have worked very hard to make this an enjoyable, fun and memorable event for all!

We are privileged to have our National Garden Club President, Renee Blaschke and South Central Regional Director, Mary Ann Moreno attend the convention.

It has been several years since Roswell has been the location for the convention and what a great time to come and get acquainted with our fascinating city. Not only do we have a reputation for having aliens, but we have the Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge, the Historical Museum with a garden honoring the first NMGC State President, and our crown jewel, New Mexico Military Institute. You will not want to miss the Roswell Museum and Art Center which will have an exhibition called **FLORA**, a beautiful selection of works by artists that celebrate the flower through mediums of painting, photography, sculpture and print making. All are places that you and your travel companion will want to visit in your free time. Speaking of free, all of these places have no charge, so why not come and see! Details and information of the convention schedule and events are included in this issue.

Come and experience "*Gardening West of the Pecos.*"

Isabel S. Olsen
District V Director
Convention Chairperson



NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
62nd Annual Convention
"ENCHANTED GARDENING WEST OF THE PECOS"
March 28-30, 2011

All meetings and meals will be held at the
Sally Port Inn
2000 N. Main St.
Roswell, NM 88201

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Monday, March 28, 2011

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

"On the Wings of Imagination" - Esther Davis

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

7:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast Buffet
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Official Opening of NMGC, Inc. 62 nd Annual State Convention
9:30 am – 12:00 pm	NMGC General Meeting
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Registration
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm	NMGC Lunch/Program

"Fashion Extravaganza & Tool Party 2011"

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Continuation of General Meeting (if necessary)
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Free Time
5:00 pm – 6:30 pm	NMGC Installation Ceremony
	Reception: State President, SCR Director, Nat'l President
	Featuring Young Roswell Folklorico Dancers
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	NMGC Dinner
8:00 pm – 9:00 pm	NMGC Program

**TAX, a Great Horned Owl from the Spring
River Zoo**

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Breakfast Buffet
9:00 am – 10:00 am	NMGC Awards Presentation

NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
62nd Annual Convention
Enchanted Gardening West of the Pecos
March 28-30, 2011
Roswell, New Mexico

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Garden Club(s): _____

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

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> State Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> District Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Club President | <input type="checkbox"/> Club Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Flower Show Judge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Cons. | <input type="checkbox"/> State Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Life Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nat'l Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest | |

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

Full-Time Package includes: \$20.00 registration fee, two breakfast, lunch/program, President's reception, installation ceremony, dinner/program and gratuity.

EARLY FULL-TIME PACKAGE:

(postmarked on or before March 11, 2011) \$ 90.00 _____

LATE FULL-TIME PACKAGE:

(postmarked after March 11, 2011) \$105.00 _____

NOTE: Registration fee is NON-REFUNDABLE after early registration closes on March 11, 2011.

NEW MEXICO JUDGES COUNCIL DINNER/PROGRAM (not included in package plan)

Monday, March 28, 2011

Dinner/Program Judges Fee	\$30.00	_____
Dinner/Program Non-Judges Fee	\$35.00	_____
Program Only	\$10.00	_____

NOTE: All NMGC members and guests are welcome to attend the NM Judges Council dinner and program.

***PART-TIME REGISTRATION:** (Part-time registration is for those who only wish to attend part of the convention activities for Tuesday, March 29 and/or the Awards breakfast on Wednesday, March 30, 2011. Registration fee and meals are priced separately.)

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Registration Fee	\$20.00	_____
Breakfast Buffet	\$13.50	_____
Luncheon/Program	\$12.50	_____
Dinner/Program	\$24.00	_____
President’s Reception & Installation	\$12.50	_____

Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Awards Breakfast Buffet	\$12.50	_____
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Part-Time Total \$ ____.

Please make checks payable to **District V NMGC Inc. 2011 State Convention** and mail with this form to:

Cynthia Shafer
 146 Deer Creek Rd.
 Ruidoso, NM 88345
 #575-336-1989
mshafer@valornet.com

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: Isabel Olsen, issyolsen@yahoo.com or #575-627-0534

HOTEL: Holiday Inn Express, 2300 N. Main St., Roswell, NM 88201, #575-627-9900. Two queen beds: \$79.00 plus tax; one king bed: \$79.00 plus tax. Rooms are non-smoking. **Please be sure to mention New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.**

NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
62nd Annual Convention Programs
Roswell, New Mexico

Judges Council Dinner Program, Monday, March 28, 2011

Hi, I'm Esther Mancillas Davis, AIFD. I am a native New Mexican, having been born and raised in Cloudcroft. I am married and have three sons, two granddaughters and one grandson.

I have been in the florist industry since 1978. I started as a floral designer in Spokane, WA. I then designed for a year in Alamogordo before moving to Florida from 1981 until 2003. While in Florida, I was part owner of Something Original Florist in Fort Walton Beach, FL with Roger Donnelson for 17 years. I was involved with the Florida State Florist's Association as a member and on the board of directors. I was a member of the Northwest Florida Florist's Association and served as vice-president and secretary. I was voted on and made an honorary member for life. I was also a member of the Emerald Coast Florist's Association, the Panhandle Florist's Association and the Southern Retail Association.

I served on the Florida Teleflora board of directors for twelve years as a director, secretary and vice-president. I was also on the Florida FTD board and on the Carlstedts Wholesale education and design team for 20 years and did numerous design shows throughout the southeast.

In 1996, I was inducted into the American Institute of Floral Designers in Palm Desert, CA and in 2005 I was honored to be able to assist on the floral design team for the Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C.

Since returning to New Mexico, I opened The Florist Shoppe and Gifts in Alamogordo with my partner Roger, have joined the New Mexico State Florist's Association and have been co-chair of the state conventions in Farmington, Las Cruces and Bernalillo. I have been on the board of directors for District V, vice president, president-elect and currently president of Mountain Garden Club.

I believe in sharing the knowledge that has been shared with me over the years by my fellow florists and I enjoy making new florist friends whom you will find in any floral association.

Esther M. Davis, AIFD.NMSMF

NMGC, Inc. Lunch Program, Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Be prepared to be **DAZZLED** by the ladies of Morning Garden Club at the lunch on Tuesday as they present **"FASHION EXTRAVAGANZA & TOOL PARTY 201."** This fashion show will feature beautiful clothes from local merchants, Roswell Livestock and Farm Supply and Bealls along with couture creations from our members. You will also be exposed to innovative gardening

tools used by real gardeners. This light hearted program will offer a few **SURPRIZES** so be sure to attend.

NMGC, Inc. Dinner Program, Tuesday, March 29, 2011

TAX, a Great Horned Owl from the Spring River Zoo will be the star of the presentation at the dinner on Tuesday night. TAX was hatched on April 15, 2006 at the zoo in Roswell and has become an exceptional ambassador for the zoo. TAX's special friend, Head Zoo Keeper Marge Woods has worked with TAX from the day he was hatched and they share a special relationship. As an adult Great Horned Owl, TAX has a wing span of over four feet and his beauty will amaze you. It will be a once in a lifetime experience to see TAX up close and to learn about these amazing birds of prey.



OFFICER/CHAIRPERSONS REPORTS

1st Vice-President – Doris Jackson

I hope all Garden Club members will try to register for the NMGC Convention in Roswell. This is the 62nd annual convention and there will be some very interesting programs. Please come and renew friendships, exchange ideas and support District V for hostessing this Convention.

Awards – Sue Ferguson, Chair

These last weeks have been exciting. It seems that each day there is at least one large envelope in my mail box containing an award application. I will be sending the applications for Beginning Designer, Design of the Year, Member of the Year, Photographic Print of the Year and Horticulturist of the Year to an out-of-state judge for judging.

I have sent award applications out to National Garden Clubs and to the South Central Region. Many thanks to the clubs and individuals who had the enthusiasm and took the time to fill out these books of evidence. Your efforts are really appreciated.

Flower Show School – Barbara Vance, Chair

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL III – MARCH 19 – 20, 2011

Albuquerque Garden Center, 10120 Lomas Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM

National Garden Clubs Schools Program provides an opportunity for garden club members to enrich their knowledge of Horticulture, Design and Flower Show Procedure. Interested members may become Accredited Flower Show Judges. Come join us for interesting and informative lectures in the relaxed atmosphere at the Albuquerque Garden Center. Classes are open to anyone wishing to attend at any time.

For further information about the courses - contact Local Chairman, Mary Gilliam, #(505) 344-0233, e-mail: mvgilliam@peoplepc.com OR contact State Flower Show Schools Chairman, Barbara Vance, #(505) 983-6000, e-mail: dbvance@cybermesa.com. For brochure/registration form please contact Registrar: Maggie Rubino, #(505) 982-3770, e-mail: maggier33@hotmail.com.

FSS III starts on Saturday, March 19, with a lecture on Flower Show Procedure followed with horticulture lectures on Combination Plantings: Cacti/Succulents and Ivy. Sunday, March 20 will begin with the final hour of Flower Show Procedure. Design lectures will review all the Elements and Principles of Design with emphasis on form, texture, dominance and contrast.

Discussion will follow on all top exhibitor awards, ethics, etiquette and procedure when judging design. Emphasis is on Division Awards: Award of Design Excellence and Holiday Excellence Award and Sectional Awards.

Guyneth Priem – Instructor – Flower Show Procedure and Design
Guyneth Priem is a Master Judge, Flower Show Procedure and Design Instructor for both flower show schools and symposium. She was honored by being chosen Garden Club Woman of the Year for the State of Texas in 1984 at the State Fair in Dallas. She has judged in many foreign countries, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and many countries in South and Central America. She is on the NGC, South Central Region and Texas Garden Club Boards and a Life Member of each, as well as active in her Garden Club in Houston.

Linda Whetsell – Instructor – Horticulture. Linda is a Master Gardener, NGC, Inc. 5-Star Member and has been a Garden Club member since 1978. She is a Past President of Texas Garden Club, Inc., Past South Central Region Director and a longtime orchid grower. She has been a longtime greenhouse grower of many plants. Linda is a Registered Nurse married to a medical doctor.

New Mexico Gardener – Cynthia Shafer, Editor

ATTENTION ALL GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS

We have added a new column to the *New Mexico Gardener*, "Member's Corner." We have so many talented gardeners throughout the state and we want to hear from you.

Any member can submit an informative article and we encourage you do so, **don't be shy**. We want to read about your expertise in growing certain plants, flowers, herbs, vegetables and gardening techniques. We are also interested in any gardening experience that you learned from and would like to inform other gardeners of what worked and what didn't work. Even if you only have a couple of tips and tricks, please send them in.

Along with the article, include your name, garden club(s) you are a member of, an e-mail address and phone number in case someone has questions. You may also submit photos. Due dates and publication guidelines are at the end of this newsletter.

The following is taken from the Awards Handbook.

Wildflowers and Native Plants Award

I. REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Applications due to State Wild Flowers Chairman by **February 1st**
- B. Judged applications due to State Awards Chairman by **March 1st**.
- C. Follow “APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES” on Page 2.

II. AWARDS:

- A. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and H.M. place certificates will be awarded to individuals, and in each club category.
- B. A monetary award may be given.

III. CRITERIA:

A. CLUB Award:

- 1. Roadside award for enhancement of roadsides and rest areas. (Including rural or urban highways and safety rest stops.)
- 2. Adopt a Roadside: Wild flowers and native plants at entrance of towns, median plants or a designated roadway.
- 3. Civic projects using a combination of wild flowers and indigenous plants:
 - a. Establishing wild flower gardens
 - b. Memorial gardens
 - c. Restoration of historic gardens
- 4. For establishing outdoor classrooms, and wild flower trails with emphasis on wild flowers and native plants
- 5. Show no more than 6 photographs with supporting data

B. INDIVIDUAL Award:

- 1. What is your favorite drought tolerant wild flower?
- 2. What is your favorite source of wild flower seeds?
- 3. Do you have a wild flower in your garden which the butterflies or their caterpillars like? List the names.
- 4. Show your garden with no more than 6 photographs. Give the botanical/cultivar names of the plants in the photographs.
- 5. What is the approximate size of your wild flower garden?
- 6. What poses the greatest problem for you in growing wild flowers?
- 7. How do you provide for supplemental water?
- 8. What plant is the most prolific in your wild flower garden?
- 9. What color do you prefer in your wild flower garden?
- 10. What is the most difficult wild flower for you to grow.



MEMBER'S CORNER

Submitted by Sue Ferguson, Morning Garden Club, Roswell

The following is taken from the April 2009 issue of Organic Gardening and had been adapted by them from Jeff Cox's 100 Greatest Garden Ideas. If it's not what you're looking for, I won't mind at all.

Seed Tapes

In the lull before the frenzy of spring, making seed tapes saves you time and effort at planting and you'll have straight, perfectly spaced rows.

What you need: Newspaper, flour, water and seeds

What you do:

1. Tear newspaper from top to bottom into 1-inch-wide strips. Avoid pages with color.
2. Make a paste by mixing water with 1/2 cup flour until it is the consistency of thick gravy.
3. Lay the strips on a table and place a single row of seeds along each one, measuring out recommended spacing distances as you go. (See "Seed Spacing" below.)
4. Glue the seeds to the strips by placing a dollop of flour water on top of each seed. You can use a teaspoon, cotton swab, or toothpick to dole out the paste.
5. Let the glue dry; then roll up the strips and put them in a re-sealable plastic bag. Use a separate bag for each type of seed. Add a tablespoon of powdered milk in a paper towel to the bag to keep seeds dry.
6. Label the bags, or slide the corresponding seed packet into each bag so you can identify the tapes later. Store in a cool dry place until planting time.
7. Plant by laying tapes in rows and covering with a fine soil to the recommended depth.

Seed Spacing:

Beets	3"	Parsley	3"
Carrots	3"	Peas	1"
Chard	6"	Radishes	1"
Collards	12"	Spinach	6"
Leaf Lettuce	6"	Spring onions	1"

GARDEN CLUBS NEWS

District I

"Don't give up the ship" should be the motto of **El Jardin Encanto Garden Club** of Los Lunas! For several years our membership had been ebbing. We could hardly "stay afloat" with so few members, "we seriously considered "jumping ship," but decided to "go with the flow" and see what happened. Now we are sailing with the wind, thanks to the addition of nine new members who have brought new ideas, energy and fun to our sinking ship.

We've enjoyed good meetings and programs this year. In September, one of our favorite speakers, Curtis Smith, gave a presentation on "How to Select Flowers and Shrubs for a Southwest Garden." October brought us Walter Prah, a well-known grower of orchids and roses, with information on how to grow them. In November, Laura Bittner, one of our members, who is also with the Valencia Co-op Extension Service, hosted our meeting. Laura gave a demonstration on making kissing balls. Each member made one to take home. Our December luncheon at the Luna Mansion here in Los Lunas was truly the highlight of the year. Then in January we welcomed the New Year with a program/demo by Darla Klukas, our president. We decorated miniature wreaths using potpourri. They were judged by our long-time member and former District I chairman, Ruth McDaniel. We had a lot of fun and laughs with fortune cookies and carrot cake to recognize the Chinese Year of the Rabbit! Since February is the month of love, our members will share their love by bringing gifts for children being counseled by the Domestic Violence Center. These gifts are given by the counselors as an incentive to "keep up the good work." We look forward to our March meeting, as Suzy Andregó graciously accepted our request to visit and tour her garden when the daffodils are in full bloom. We all know of her love and knowledge of daffs. We deeply appreciate her sharing their beauty with us. In April we will tour the Whitfield Wildlife Sanctuary on Hwy. 47. That brings us to May where our meeting will be at the home of one of our members, Gundi Steele, where we will tour her garden in Mid-Valley, followed by our year end pot-luck and planning session.

Our new project is to sponsor a children's garden club at an elementary school here in Los Lunas. Laura Bittner has made contact with a 3rd grade class who is interested. Some of our new members have some great ideas for this project. So...we just keep sailing along with our crew of new and old (established) members, remembering the saying, "Don't give up the ship."

Petal Pushers Garden Club continues to meet monthly to share friendships and gardening information. Sonja James, Vice President, composed excellent programs and invited thoughtful speakers.

In October, Cindy Schlenker Davis, the County Home Economist for Bernalillo County spoke on Cooking for One or Two People. Cindy continued her program with the most up to date government recommendations for food safety and food preparation. The members had lots of food and nutrition questions which Cindy happily answered. Shirley Bray served delicious snacks on a table decorated with waxed autumn leaves which her mother preserved many years ago.

In November, Shirley Tetreault, New Mexico State President, National Flower Show Judge and National Flower School Instructor spoke on the art of making mini-flower arrangements. Shirley grows micro roses and dries them in silica sand and fleximint for her arrangements. She described the qualifications for showing and shared some secrets to arranging minis. She suggested buying potpourri at the end of the season and separating and keeping all natural materials: weeds, mesquite, wood, bark, rocks, etc. in preparation for arranging minis. She collects odd pieces of wire, pen tops, mesh bags, small pots, etc. She highlighted that it is very important to keep an arrangement in scale and balance. Shirley shared hostess Lois Byron's tasty refreshments.

In place of the regular meeting, Petal Pushers celebrated in December with a Christmas party at Trombino's. It was a delight to have Nancy Core as a guest. As in the past, members brought gifts and toiletries which Pat Walters delivered to the residents of Barrett House.

As the New Year begins, at the January meeting Carol Stomp, President, discussed needed changes to the club's constitution and by-laws. The meeting was hosted by Georgia Allen in her charming home. Eileen Ball presented a most unusual program on her unique artistic specialty of garden ladies. The members were charmed and captivated as Eileen showed how she combines tag sale finds into one of a kind garden art treasures.

District II

Angel Fire Garden Club: Not much outside gardening is done in Angel Fire in the months of winter. We also do not have a business meeting the months of December or January. We enjoy the beautiful container plants that seem to thrive in sunny windows. All our gardens were "put to bed" in anticipation of the snow we seem to have a lack of this year. We have continued to have some freezing weather so the worry of our beloved plants freezing without the snows cover is there. Many of us planted more bulbs of daffodils and tulips. Our December Christmas party was again a great success. Members brought some great appetizers and music was provided by guitarist, Johnny Todd. Door prizes were donated by members and local businesses. We are very excited about the club sponsoring a Junior Garden Club. Information has been sent to State and the club should become federated soon. These kids are just wonderful. They are so eager to learn. Know you will be hearing a lot about them in the very near future.

Los Alamos Garden Club has 31 members and 3 honorary members. In November members, spouses and friends caravanned into the Jemez Mountains to cut fresh greens, filling 3 pickup beds! We gathered pinecones and wired them in batches of 3. A member made many large holiday bows. We then spent 2 days assembling 50 holiday wreaths using the boughs, wire frames and prepared pinecones. These were sold December 3rd for \$15 each. The bows sold for \$3 each. The profits went to our scholarship fund. The club gives a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior in the spring. December 12th found us relaxing and enjoying ourselves, along with spouses and friends, at our annual holiday social at the home of Joyce and Howard Cady.

On January 10th Martha Davis, a volunteer at the Pajarito Environmental Educational Center and an herb expert, gave a program on "Growing Culinary Herbs." She passed around many labeled bunches of fresh herbs that she had picked from under the snow in her garden that morning. She gave uses for each herb in cooking. Several members from the club will be volunteer judges at the LA public schools Science Fair the 3rd week in January. We award at least 2 prizes, for a total of \$65, for projects related to the environment and gardening.

February 7th our meeting will be a Valentine's Day Tea Party at Aspen Ridge, a retirement/assisted living facility. The residents are invited to join us for the tea party and program. The speaker is Dottie Riley, owner of a LA cooking and Tea Store. Club members will distribute Valentine's Day cards to the residents. March 18th the LAGC will be hosting the District II spring meeting at Fuller Lodge.

Ponderosa Pines Jr. Garden Club: We are a newly formed club sponsored by Angel Fire Garden Club. We have 13 members consisting of both boys and girls. Our ages range from 3 to 11 and we will meet monthly. We elected officers at our December meeting. These officers will serve until 2013 (l-r: Cecilia Martinez, Treasurer; Cale Wride, VP; Ian Freeman, Secretary; Chris Thatcher, President.) We also had a great time making ponderosa pine cone ristras (DeClan Roberts, bottom right.) This idea was taken from the program that Doris Jackson presented at the Fall Board Meeting. Our parents were at this meeting and we appreciated their help. We are learning how to conduct our meetings. At our January meeting we had a class in ceramics. We put nature impressions of leaves and flowers on heart shaped clay. These will become Valentine gifts. We are looking forward to getting involved in our community of Angel Fire and surrounding areas in the spring and summer.



Summit Garden Club of Los Alamos celebrated its golden anniversary in February of 2011. The club was formally established some 50 years ago by Dorothy Crawford and her mother-in-law, the late Mary Crawford. Members and friends gathered in White Rock for lunch and to reminisce. Dorothy Crawford chaired the delightful event.

District III

Santa Rosa Garden Club members acknowledge the help and support of many who, in one way or another, made the Blue Star Memorial dedication a success. The local and state government, the Clovis Fraternal Order of Eagles, the NMGC past and present presidents and, most importantly, our service women and men attended.

Special thanks goes to Donna Betty Turney, who spoke about the "history of the marker" and for donating daffodil bulbs that were planted around the marker by Colleen Hinker and the Fuch's boys.

Colleen also made a red, white and blue quilt used for the unveiling of the marker, which was then presented to a very dear friend, Merle Guinn, who served in the Marines during the Vietnam War. He was also a Purple Heart recipient.

Also in November, some SRGC members braved the cold and wind to plant 250 daffodil bulbs at the Evergreen Cemetery. They hope to see them bloom come spring.

In December, we had our annual Christmas party, gift/cookie exchange at the Santa Rosa Campground. As always, Jean Digerness had a festive table arrangement with some Santas made from orange trumpet vine pods that everybody got to take home. After a delicious potluck lunch, the ladies enjoyed playing Christmas bingo and exchanged cookies.

Mentally-challenged member Geraldine Thomas embroidered pillow cases and donated them to the residents of the Los Amigos Nursing Home. Congratulations Geraldine, we're so proud of you!

For our January meeting, the group gathered for scrapbooking -- a year filled with memories. Scan the pages and see what a small club can accomplish in a year.

Nara Visa Garden Club is kept alive by two dedicated members, Karen Bell and Sandy Evans. They represented the club during the Veteran's Day celebration in Santa Rosa. They are planning to start a youth group in Logan with the support of former state president Colleen Hinker and Ruth McCormack.

Two ladies from Tucumcari are enthusiastic to start a new club in their area with some help from SRGC members. Hopefully, this enthusiasm will materialize.

District IV

We have been doing a lot of exciting things in the **Evergreen Garden Club**. Our flower show was a big success with dozens of beautiful designs. From two knowledgeable speakers, Peggy Spoffard and Teares North, we learned much about insects and how to control or use them to create healthier growing environments. Bobby Fisher shared fascinating information on the habits of raptors in our area as well as their important role in keeping down the small animal populations—something gardeners can appreciate.

In December, our Christmas luncheon was a delightful and delicious potluck affair. While we ate, we were treated to a looping slide show of the designs from our flower show. Our annual white elephant exchange was fun, as always, and we had a nice collection of food and other items for our furry friends at the animal shelter.

We started off the New Year with a new format voted on in November. We now begin our meetings with a potluck, and save our meeting and speaker for afterward. Everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves and the high spirits carried over into the meeting and the question and answer period that followed the program. We are looking forward to a full spring highlighted by our 60th Anniversary Tea.

Mesilla Valley Garden Club's annual Christmas Party, at the home of Roy and Sharon Willoughby, was a huge success. NMGC State President, Shirley Tetrault and her husband, joined us for dinner and after dessert demonstrated the fundraising centerpieces made and sold by the Albuquerque garden clubs at the Garden Center. Food for the needy and books for the children at Jardin de los Niños were collected.

In January, Dr. David Kraenzel discussed ways to make design changes to an established yard. As I write this, gardeners throughout the city are wondering if their plants will survive this bitter cold weather. We didn't know at the time how much we all needed Dr. Kraenzel's advice.

The Las Cruces Tour of Gardens Committee is active now, preparing for a tour in the Las Alturas area southeast of the city. Saturday, May 14 is tour day – Save the Date! The private gardens are in place and the Zuhl Museum of petrified wood, fossils, rocks and minerals will be open to people touring the gardens that day. The museum is on NMSU campus and quite convenient to Las Alturas gardens.



In November 13 members of **Sunshine Valley Garden Club** car pooled to Las Cruces to the New Mexico University Greenhouses. All members were amazed to see all of the plants, flowers and gardens there. Students are taught how to raise plants and vegetables from seed, beginning with the soil. They raised

beautiful Poinsettias for the Christmas holidays. They are taught how much light and heat it takes to grow them. They are also experimenting in getting vegetables to grow longer. They have made huts out of PVC pipe and put clear plastic over the pipes and made a door in them. The huts when finished look like igloos. They had many different kinds of vegetables growing inside. They also have beautiful rock gardens there that are used for weddings or other events. In December we held our annual Christmas party at The Club in Elephant Butte, 14 members attended. We also placed Poinsettias at the hospital, nursing home, assisted living and the Veterans Home. In January our guest speaker was Christine Longthrop from Albuquerque. Christine did a demonstration on flower arrangements. All members learned how to make a flower arrangement with recycled items bought at thrift stores. Christine not only uses flowers in her arrangements, she also uses fruits, vegetables, leaves and grasses.

District V

Home Garden Club: Mid-October was the District V Fall Board meeting at Tinnie Silver Dollar in the Hondo Valley. The drive to Tinnie Silver Dollar Restaurant was highlighted by the trees turning golden yellow. Seven members of the club attended the meeting. It is always fun to see members of other clubs in District V. We were delighted to hear Alice Seeley discuss color coordination.

For Make a Difference Day the club made flower arrangements for the Sunset Retirement Home. Several members got together at Jan Smith's house in late October and put our creative minds together. We made two wreaths to donate to the CASA Christmas tree/wreath auction. The wreaths brought in over \$300 at the CASA auction.

The Home Garden Club was in the holiday spirit early. In November we met at the Chaves County Extension office and created lasagna bulb planters; a messy but fun project. The planters were then donated to the Habitat for Humanity new home owners and the Sunset and LaVilla Retirement homes to enjoy in the spring.

The December meeting found us once again at the home of vice president Jan Smith's home. Jan's home is always decorated beautifully for the holidays. This year she had six holiday trees set up in various parts of the house. The crystal tree in the dining room twinkled brightly as the members ate lunch. This is our holiday potluck and many different kinds of dishes were brought by members. A rousing game of Chinese gift exchange had the members laughing for a long time, as gifts were chosen and then "stolen."

Bitter Lake Wildlife Refuge was the site of our January meeting. Jeff Sanchez, biologist discussed how to encourage migratory birds to nest and feed in our gardens. Bitter Lake is one of the nesting sites for the Sand hill crane; the air was alive with their sounds. The refuge was banding ducks when we visited, and

members were able to release the ducks back to the wild after they were measured and banded.

The December meeting for **Morning Garden Club** was held at the Historical Society for Southeast New Mexico Museum. The museum looked great after decorating it weeks earlier. We brought donations for the Roswell Refuge for Battered Adults and we enjoyed the songs and stories of Maureen McGinn. Also this month, we participated again with our project, Habitat for Humanity by donating a tree and shrubs.

In January, we met at the Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Center. We made a lot of progress with our plans for the convention. The program, "Seasons of Birds Around Roswell," was presented by Jeff Sanchez, the Refuge biologist, which included a power point show. Afterward, we witnessed the banding of several of the refuge's ducks and saw how they take careful measurements of each one and then log the information. A special treat was when some of us got to release them back into the wild. In addition, Pegi Naranjo, Georgia Schoenecker, Renate Reisel, Sue Ferguson and her sweet grandson planted 353 daffodil bulbs in Cahoon Park.



l-r: Joyce Hutchings & Georgia Schoenecker helping to release the banded ducks at Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge



IN MEMORIAM
Renate H. Lange-Romero
October 31, 1944 – November 25, 2010
Socorro Garden Club

Renee, an inspiration for all that knew her passed away peacefully November 25, 2010 in the country where she was born, Germany. Having lived in New Mexico for nearly 50 years she raised three sons, Franz, Glenn and Ahren Griego, plus two grand-children. Renee and her husband, Roman, enjoyed a peaceful rural life. Both being retired recently, they would go for early morning walks and created a lovely garden which she cherished. Renee made a difference in this world; she was an inspiration and positive influence to all who knew her with the love she bestowed on each of us. She'll be remembered for her willingness to greet strangers, make new friends and keeping a positive attitude always. "Nothing is impossible" is what she would say. She loved to decorate floats for the local parades and was amazed at the number of people who would line the streets of Socorro. She was the president of Socorro Garden Club and had just accepted the nomination to become Assistant District IV Director. We will miss her greatly.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 25 – 26	Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs Rummage Sale
Feb 28	District I Spring Meeting, Albuquerque
Mar 7	District V Spring Meeting, Artesia
Mar 11 – 12	SCR Spring Meeting, Norman, OK
Mar 13	Daylight Savings Time Begins
Mar 14	District IV Spring Meeting, T or C
Mar 18	District II Spring Meeting, Los Alamos
Mar 19	Full Worm Moon
Mar 19 – 20	Flower Show School, Albuquerque Garden Ctr
Mar 20	Vernal Equinox
Mar 28 – 30	NMGC, Inc. State Convention, Sally Port Inn, Roswell
Apr 18	Full Pink Moon
Apr 22	Earth Day
Apr 23	Pecos Valley Iris Society Iris Show Roswell Mall, open to the public at 1:00pm
Apr 23	District III Spring Meeting, Santa Rosa
May 14	Las Cruces Tour of Gardens, Las Cruces
May 17	Full Flower Moon
May 20	Endangered Species Day, www.stopextinction.org
May 27 – 30	NGC Convention, Washington DC
Jul 23	Angel Fire Garden Tour, for info contact Fannie Mackie at fanniemackie@yahoo.com or #575-377-7790
Sep 20 – 25	NGC Fall Board, St. Louis, MO
Oct 20 – 21	NMGC, Inc. Fall Board, Albuquerque

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, one photo per file, as an email attachment; 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, 2011 to:

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