



Bulletin of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Vol46No6

September/October/November 2016

## Fall Issue



Jennifer Moreno, Isabel Olsen, Suzy Andrego, Lynnette Walker,  
Susan Dirnbeck, Mary Ann Moreno, Jan Smith, Doris Jackson, and Debra Sorrell  
Environmental School IV, at NM Tech University, with a Bosque del Apache field trip.

# *New Mexico Gardener*

Bulletin of the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. (NMGC)  
A Non-profit Organization  
www.newmexicogardenclubs.org

Organized 1950	Incorporated August 5, 1952
25 Clubs	556 Paid Memberships
2 Youth Clubs	46 Youth Members

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

4401 Magnolia Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63110  
www.gardenclub.org

## **NMGC, Inc. President 2015-2017**

### **Suzy Andrego**

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Theme: "Planting Seeds for Our Future"

### **National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

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Theme: LEAP into Action

### **South Central Region**

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Theme: Leadership-Education-Achievement=Promotion

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To visit the *Members Only* area on the website:

www.newmexicogardenclubs.org

NMGC User name: nmgc Password: yucca

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### **Instructions 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) attached to an e-mail or submitted as email text. **Photos must be sent as .jpg files, maximum three per file, as an email attachment. Poor quality photos will not be accepted (i.e. out of focus or grainy.)** Photos that are submitted with the photographer's name will receive photo credit.

### **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, 2016

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT - SUZY ANDREGO



It is hard to believe that summer is halfway over and fall is just around the corner. And, boy, what a HOT summer it has been. All around New Mexico we have had record heat this year. And, now the monsoons are here to help all things that grow, cool off a bit. That will help everything brighten up and all the perennials rebloom in wonderful colors for the fall.

It has been an exciting summer! The Sunflower camp lead by Mary Ann Moreno, Jennifer Moreno and Debra Sorrell, was a GREAT success! Environmental School was held in Socorro at NM Tech University (which has been a long time dream of state Chairman, Mary Ann Moreno) and was well received. My cousin from St. Louis came to visit in July, just so she could attend environmental school with us. Two Blue Star Memorial markers have been dedicated. One in Angel Fire by Angel Fire Garden Club, where club President, Johnese Turri

did a spectacular job! NM Garden clubs dedicated a second Blue Star Marker at Conchas Dam. 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Barbara Vance hosted the installation and celebration. There will be a rededication of the Blue Star Memorial marker in Clovis this fall. District IV will dedicate a new Blue Star Marker in October, and our National Blue Star Memorial Chairman, Andrea Little will be coming to New Mexico to attend this event! Angel Fire Garden Club and the Angel Fire Ponderosa Pines, Jr. Garden club dedicated the newly renovated butterfly garden at the Shulter Library! Joann Layden, Larry Layden, Diane Peterson and all the Jr. Garden clubbers did a fantastic job! I went back up to Angel Fire to attend the annual Angel Fire Garden Clubs Garden Tour. Angel Fire club President, Johnese Turri, and her Garden Tour Chairman, Suzanne Coyle along with all her assistants, proved why this is the clubs biggest and most successful fundraiser!

I have also been traveling around NM with Debra Sorrell, our state awards chair and some of our student judges, Michelle Ann Tart, Kathleen Flanders, and Sarah Bianco. We have been judging the various flower shows and county fairs and enjoying seeing all the different flower shows. There is never a shortage of beautiful floral design and great horticulture exhibits! We started the summer off in Los Alamos at the Fuller Lodge Art Center, where District II hosted and EXCELLENT flower show! Show Chairman, Juanita Ortega, co-chair, Dorothy Crawford, District II Director, Doris Jackson and all their chairman and district club members put on quite a show! We were in Lincoln County, with show chair Cynthia Shafer, assistant show chair, Lisa Peake and the Lincoln County Garden Club members. We went to the Eddy County Fair flower show, where club President, Julie Foster along with Artesia Garden Club members, Isabel Olsen, Pete Wade and Carmen Garcia put on a fabulous show. Then we headed east to the, Guadalupe County Fair. Show Chair, Carolyn Bedford, assistant show chair, Frances Speight, District III Director, Colleen Hinker, member Katherine and Santa Rosa Garden Club members produced a fabulous flower show with 62 floral design entries! During the coming weeks there will be flower shows in Socorro County, Torrance County, the Southern NM state fair and the Eastern NM State Fair. And, we all look forward to exhibiting and judging at the New Mexico State Fair Flower shows, in September.

A big Congratulations and Happy Birthday to El Jardin Encanto Garden Club in Los Lunas who will be celebrating their 50th Birthday in October! They are planning a high tea in celebration. What fun that will be!

I will head off to Portland, Maine for National Garden Clubs Fall Board meeting in September. I look forward to bringing National Garden Club news to you at your District Fall Board meetings. Our NM Fall Board meeting will be October 27 & 28, 2016, hosted by District III. This will be a GRAND meeting. We will be up in Las Vegas, New Mexico at the Historic Plaza Hotel. And, I have asked my friend Robin Pokorski, former California Garden Clubs State President and National Garden Clubs Leap into Leadership Chairman, to come and present her **"Leap into Leadership" Workshop**. She will do that on Thursday, October 27, 2016 from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. **ALL CLUB PRESIDENTS, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS and CHAIRMAN MUST ATTEND!** All other members are highly encouraged to attend. This is a presentation that you do not want to miss! You will learn all kinds of things about leadership you did not know! You might even win a prize or two! The History of the Harvey Girl lunch program and optional Castaneda Hotel tour are also things you do not want to miss! And, stay a bit longer . . . They have some GREAT antique shops in Las Vegas (and in your bag there will be a coupon for my favorite shop!)

At each of your district fall board meetings we will discuss what each District can do to help NMGC and District I get ready to host the South Central Region Convention in Albuquerque, April, of 2017. We will be welcoming our Regional Director, Barbara Baker and the incoming Regional Director, our very own, **Isabel Olsen!** This is a convention where fellow Garden club members come together to meet from all over our region of New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. It will be a really fun convention and there is always someone new to meet!

***There are so many things that each district, each club and each member do to help make New Mexico Garden clubs a GREAT organization! THANK YOU! Thank you to each and every one of you for helping make our organization great!***

## Barbara Vance - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President



It has been a long hot summer and like many of you - we are hoping for the rains to start soon. I hope you had success with flowers/horticulture and entered/exhibited items at various shows. Keep growing! Plan to enter the State Fair shows – coming up in September. Many of us had a difficult time just keeping things watered – given the extreme heat. Don and I are fortunate to have two places to garden – Santa Fe and Conchas Dam. Both have very different climate, soil, rainfall. So it is a contest each year to select plants and vegetables and then hope things will grow. Drip systems help to keep things going as we go back and forth. This year many vegetables are stressed and wilted. Tomatoes are beginning to ripen but the pumpkin plants have not produced anything but huge leaves. Our apple tree survived the freeze so we will have plenty for sauce, pies, cakes, coffeecakes and sharing. Friends gifted us with some of their produce and we enjoyed peach cobbler and peaches on ice cream. We have already been informed that there will be more zucchini in the future as well as Mexican squash.

Over the years Don and I have changed the type of gardening we can manage. When we bought our home in Santa Fe we planted a number of fruit trees - then concentrated on vegetables. At the end of the growing season there was canning, jelly making, pickling, baking/freezing produce for later consumption. Our children are grown – we have grandchildren. With two for meals - a large garden is just not as practical. Now we concentrate more on a grassy lawn, flowers, and a few vegetables.

We live on a corner lot so gardens are easily seen by those passing by. Recently after weeding and watering the gardens we looked around and realized there was much to enjoy. Don was walking out to the mailbox and a man stopped his car at the end of our driveway. He got out and handed Don a photo with the inscription “Thank you for your beautiful tree – March 12, 2016.” He left without identifying himself. The tree is a Ponderosa Pine - about 40 feet tall. What a touching gesture from a complete stranger. The same tree – on another day – we were out bagging all the pine cones that had fallen on the ground. A man stopped his car and said he would clean them up if he could have them. Now – you don’t turn down an offer like that! A good deal for all of us. This reminded me of an incident many years ago. We had planted a variety of Iris on the sides of our driveway and they were in full bloom. We received a notecard in our mailbox expressing how beautiful the Iris were and what a joy to behold. “Please call the undersigned when you decide to separate the plants.” (It was signed by a very well known local artist.) We called him and he picked up the rhizomes and planted them in his garden on Canyon Road. These are just two incidents that brought us joy - not only do we enjoy our gardens -others do too. Gardening has given us some wonderful experiences!

I’m looking forward to seeing many of you at the State Fair and the Fall Board meeting in Las Vegas. We can visit and share information and stories about our gardens and how being a member of a garden club has enriched our lives. Perhaps the most important thing to have when gardening – a sense of humor. After all, you have all the elements working against you – not to mention the bugs and insects!!

*Few activities provide as much satisfaction as participation in the propagation of plants. There is a kinship with life that is unique. A small window box – a single hanging basket – a solitary bloom in a vase – give richness to an existence not found in music or art. To grow is to live. To create beauty and share it with others is the essence of true love.*

This was the motto of a club I helped start 40 years ago. It was an inspiration to many over the years.

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### PROTECTING OUR POLLINATORS

#### National Garden Clubs Youth Container Contest for First to Fifth Graders.

A reminder to all Garden Clubs that the President’s Special Projects: Container Gardening for Youth contest needs all NGC members, to help children plant a Pollinator container. Our Youth will have an opportunity to plan a pollinator friendly container by choosing plants that encourage our threatened pollinators to eat, drink, pollinate and possibly reproduce. Elementary Students in **first through fifth grades** who plant a container must be sponsored by a Garden Club. Containers have to be shown in a public place. As with any contest there are rules to follow. A book of evidence compiled with pictures of the project and finished container, what plants the student chose for their container, and where the container was placed. The rules are listed in the President’s Special Projects awards section on the NGC Web Site. We will award **\$100.00 to the (5) first place winners, (5) Second prize winners \$75.00, (5) Third prize winners \$50.00, and (5) Honorable mention winners \$25.00.**

The NGC WEB site has information you can use to research plants, growing conditions and pollinators in your area or region. The deadline to send entries to this Chairman is March 14, 2017. We need YOU, our garden club members to help the children get involved, with planting Pollinator Containers. For some children it will be a brand new experience. Equip the children with trowels, containers and potting soil. Take them shopping for those pollinator plants. Give the children the ABC’s of how to plant the container, nurture the plants and then the pleasure of watching it grow. This could also be done by adopting a classroom or youth group and involve your own children or grandchildren.

What a joy it is to see the caterpillars on my own container, munching away on Dill, Fennel and Milkweed. Remember that prize monies are waiting for the winners. I want to give it away! Join us in giving children the opportunity to plant a pollinator container. Let them be an EVENT PLANNER. Share the happiness, Be a winner!

Mary Ann Moreno, Youth Container Gardening Chairman for Bees and Butterflies – Presidents Special Project



New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

## **OFFICIAL CALL**

### **Fall Board Meeting**

***"BY TRAIL OR BY RAIL, EXPERIENCE THE GREAT WEST in Las Vegas, NM"***

**October 27&28, 2016**

**Las Vegas, New Mexico**

This letter will serve as the **official** notice to all New Mexico Garden Clubs Inc. members.

The registration form will be found on page 6 of this issue of the New Mexico Gardener.

#### **Thursday, October 27, 2016:**

- 10:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. Registration  
11:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. NMGC Executive LUNCH & Board Meeting  
1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. LEADERSHIP PROGRAM with Robin Pokorski -NGC  
*Leap into Leadership Chair*

**(All NMGC Club President's, Chairmen & Executive Board MUST attend.**

***All other Members are welcome and ENCOURAGED to attend.***

- 5:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. Margaritas & Tapas Hosted By President Suzy Andregó  
6:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. NM Judges Council Executive Board Meeting  
6:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. NM Judges Council General Meeting, Dinner & Program  
NMJC Program, "**Innovative Staging & Tag-Team Designers**"

#### **Friday, October 28, 2016:**

- 7:30 A.M. – 8:30 A.M. Registration  
8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. Breakfast  
9:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. Official Opening of NMGC, Inc. Fall Board Meeting  
9:30 A.M. – 12:30 noon NMGC General Meeting  
12:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. Luncheon & Program: "**History of the Harvey Girls**"  
2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. General Business Meeting Resumes and Concludes  
3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. Tour of Castaneda Hotel (Optional)

**District Directors:** Please be prepared to give a 3 minute report on the activities of your district. Please provide **THREE** copies of your report, 1 for NMGC President, 1 for NMGC 1<sup>st</sup> VP & 1 for NMGC Recording Secretary.

**Chairman:** If you would like to report on your chairmanship, please let me know ASAP, so I can make sure to include you on the fall board meeting agenda.

**Hotel Reservations:** Historic Plaza Hotel, 230 Plaza Park, Las Vegas, NM, 87701, (505) 425-3591  
(Single or Double Rate: \$89.00 plus Tax) *When making reservations mention: New Mexico Garden Clubs!*

***Suzy Andregó, New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., President***

**NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**  
**2016 Fall Board Meeting**  
***BY TRAIL OR BY RAIL, EXPERIENCE THE GREAT WEST***  
**“October 27 & 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
Las Vegas, New Mexico

Print Your Name As you would like it to appear on your name tag.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Garden Club(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark either a Package or Part-time Registration:

Package includes: \$25.00 Registration fee, President’s Reception, Breakfast, and Lunch.  
(DOES NOT INCLUDE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER LUNCH or OPTIONAL TOUR OF CASTENADA HOTEL)

<b><u>EARLY PACKAGE</u></b>	
(Postmarked on or before <b>10/13/16</b> )	\$ 60.00 _____
<b><u>LATE PACKAGE</u></b>	
(Postmarked after <b>10/13/16</b> )	\$ 85.00 _____
<b>ABSOLUTELY NO WALK-IN’S!!!</b>	
<b>EXECUTIVE BOARD LUNCH:</b>	<b>\$20.00</b> _____
<b>TOUR OF CASTENADA HOTEL</b>	<b>\$15.00</b> _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b> _____

**NOTE:** No refunds on registration after registration close **10/13/16**. *Registration fee is NON-REFUNDABLE.*

**NM JUDGES COUNCIL:** *(not in package plan)* **Thursday, October 27, 2016**

NM Judges Council Dinner/Program	
Dinner & Program Judges Fee	\$ 35.00 _____
Dinner & Program Non Judges Fee	\$ 40.00 _____
Program Only	\$ 10.00 _____

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

**PART-TIME REGISTRATION - Friday, October 28, 2015**

Registration fee	\$ 25.00 _____
NMGC, Inc. Plated Breakfast	\$ 15.00 _____
NMGC, Inc. Lunch/Program	\$ 20.00 _____
Tour of Castaneda Hotel	\$ 15.00 _____
NMGC Inc. late fee (Postmarked after 10/13/16)	\$ 15.00 _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b> _____

Special Dietary Needs: Please contact Colleen Hinker, (575)472-3699.

**HOTEL:** Historic Plaza Hotel, 230 Plaza Park, Las Vegas, NM, 87701, (505) 425-3591  
Single King or Double Queen Rate: \$89.00/night (plus tax)

**When making your reservations USE the name: “New Mexico Garden Clubs”**

**Deadline for special rate reservations is October 13, 2016.**

Please make checks payable to:

**District III, NMGC 2015 Fall Board** and mail them to: **JoAnn Layden, Route 70, Box 408, Ocate, NM 87734**

## Innovative Staging Challenge to all Districts "Here Comes The Judge"

In addition to residing with the "ghosts" at The Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, NM, this fall board meeting should be very exciting. Suzy Andrego has been working very hard with our new student judges and they will play a major role at this board meeting. In Ruidoso I issued a challenge for "Innovative Staging" and asked that all districts bring at least one for display. There has been some very positive feedback and hopefully this will provide new and exciting ideas for flower shows around the state. Our program will consist of a tag-team with a special surprise designer. It will be fun, educational and an inspiration for all. Make your reservations early and plan to enjoy the beautiful, cool, fall weather in New Mexico. See you there.

Shirley Tetreault, President - New Mexico Judges Council

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL

### Suzy Andrego, local Chair for Mary Ann Moreno, State Chairman

Environmental School IV was held July 21-22, 2016 in Socorro, NM on the NM Tech University campus. What a wonderful learning experience. Below are comments from the Participants. Hope to see you at the next NGC Environmental School. Next year we will start with School I again. SO . . .if you have not attended school or are missing a school or two . . . Keep your eyes open for the announcement for the 2017 Environmental School.

*"I really thought this ESS #4 was the best out of all the ESS schools that I have taken. There is nothing like being on a college campus in the class room and having a college professor (an environmental engineer) teaching us. He was very knowledgeable, raised the level of the course on water, had great handouts, including a powerpoint slide presentation.*

*The tour of the Bosque Del Apache gave us a real insight into how the engineers are controlling the water in the Rio Grande. Even at this time of year we saw lots of geese, egrets, wild turkeys, quail, swallows and deer. There was a very nice gift shop that had lots of treasures, too.*

*The Environmental Studies Schools raise the awareness of our environment with classes and hands-on experiences that all garden club members should think and care about in this world.*

*Garden club members are very lucky to have the opportunity to attend these schools, extend their resources and knowledge.....and learn about civic responsibility in their particular State."* **Doris Jackson**

*"This last environmental school was the best one I've attended! The instructors were very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about their subjects. That kind of enthusiasm always translates to inspiration for those taking the class. We all left with a fresh view of the need for environmental care and concern as it relates to water and the life the water supports. Thanks for putting together such a great school! And the Bosque del Apache field trip was incredibly informative! It's not easy to get ready to feed thousands of birds!! Who knew?"* **Debra Sorrell**

*"It's a great way to learn about the environment, spend some time with your fellow garden clubbers, and become an accredited environmental consultant. I consider Environmental School and becoming a consultant as another feather in my NGC cap!"* **Jennifer Moreno**

*"The one word I would use to describe the school is Enlightenment!"* **Isabel Olsen**

*"I can't thank you enough for hosting and being our local Chairman during the Environmental Studies School, at New Mexico tech in Socorro. It has been my dream since 2007 that we would have a ESS near Bosque Del Apache. . . the school was wonderful!!! Thank you so much!"* **NMGC, Inc., Environmental Studies School Chairman Mary Ann Moreno 2015 - 2017**

*"I was most interested in learning about the engineered wetlands and how these are trying to compensate for natural wetland wetlands. The day of learning reminded me of the importance of all creatures in the circle of life. It is always important to expand our knowledge base and learn how to preserve rather than destroy what we leave for our grandchildren."* **Susan Dirnbeck**

*"I learned so much about the aquatic environment. It was such an eye opening experience to see the biodiversity of life found in and around water. The field trip to Bosque del Apache was very informative and a highlight of the trip."* **Lynnette Walker**

*"I just finished my last NGC Environmental School. All the schools are very informative. You get a chance to learn about air, water, earth, flora and fauna. I encourage everyone to take these interesting classes."* **Jan Smith**



Suzy Andrego, Mary Ann Moreno, Isabel Olsen, Jan Smith, Debra Sorrell, Susan Dirnbeck, Lynnette Walker, Jennifer Moreno and Doris Jackson Environmental School IV, with a Bosque del Apache field trip.



Environmental School Students

# NMGC CHAIRPERSONS REPORTS

## Archives - Beulah Oyler and Becky Fuller

Files were archived to NMSU archives library in July. Please remember to remove any financial reports, checks, etc. Also, if you have scrap-books or president's books, give them to the person or club they were intended for as the archives are for the state garden club not individual garden clubs. If you have anything to archive, please bring it to the Fall Board Meeting.

## Bird & Butterfly Chairman - Jo Ann Layden, Chair

Summer has brought some beautiful butterflies to our area. We are in Black Lake, near Angel Fire, which is quite north in New Mexico, so we don't see too many Monarchs here and this year I have not even seen one. The biggest butterflies we get here often seem to be the Swallowtails and we've seen many of them this year. We've had a group of about 10 to 15 dark brown butterflies from the *Emperor* family that have spent several weeks here, and many white and yellow butterflies probably some were *Rocky Mountain Parnassian* and some *Queen Alexandra's Sulphur* that I've seen since spring. The *Painted Ladies* are often seen on the Echinacea flowers and *Red Admirals*. All the butterflies, bees and other pollinators flock to the purple coneflowers, Shasta daisies, lamb's ears, and blanket flowers. I've had a couple of health issues that prevented me from being outside as much as I'd like, so that makes it more difficult to view and identify the species. (One of them was a dumb accident of falling in my living-room and injuring my leg!) I'm excited that Larry and I have reservations in October to attend the North American Butterfly meeting and Texas Butterfly Festival in Mission, Texas. Then I hope to report more butterfly "news".



The birds have been amazing this summer, first off, my "lost" grosbeaks suddenly appeared in June! They came in big groups, so we kept the feeders out longer than normal since I was so happy to see them return. That is, until one morning we awoke to discover that a bear had helped himself to the seeds overnight by either breaking or knocking down every feeder I had up! We've continued to feed the hummingbirds and the bear has shown no interest in the eight feeders we have up. The hummingbirds have flourished this year, with all the babies coming out of nests in July causing us to make many trips for sugar! We fill the eight feeders at least twice, sometimes three or even four times a day! They will all leave too soon, so we don't mind the extra work or sugar expense! They don't just frequent the feeders; they love the clematis, hollyhocks, and many of the flowers that are blooming now.



Robins spend the day digging for worms in our yard; the flickers also frequent the oak trees or the yard. One interesting thing we had this year was a yellow bellied sap-sucker (woodpecker) that does his courting on an old TV antennae on top of our house. He beats a few times on one tine, and then goes to another, seeming to know he's creating a tune with the different beats! I only saw one female come up to watch him, but apparently that courting routine sometimes works for him! I have joined a birding group in Angel Fire, but due to circumstances I was only able to participate on one trip and it was wonderful. Among some of the birds we saw; about 10 eagles, two of them "holding hands" in the air, over 100 white pelicans on Eagle Nest Lake, and watched a meadowlark as he serenaded us. Needless to say it was an exciting birding day!



## Blue Star Marker - Shirley Tetreault, Chair

We are working hard all over the state with our Blue Star dedications to show our Veterans how important their service is to us. Each dedication is very different, however, the heart felt gratitude from our Veterans is always the same. They are so proud and thankful that we care. The flag is raised and the pledge is recited. We are all thankful to be Americans and proud of those who serve.

Johnese Turri and JoAnn Layden did a fantastic job on the dedication at the Schuler Library in Angel Fire, NM. Several members of the community joined the festivities and the fantastic refreshments. Angel Fire Garden Club can be very proud of their efforts on this dedication.

The American Legion Post 19 is a perfect place for a Blue Star Marker. Barbara and Donald Vance created a committee of Legion members and worked tirelessly to install and dedicate the most recent marker for New Mexico Garden Clubs. Auxiliary members Sue Harp, and Marge Gurule did a wonderful job singing "America the Beautiful".



Colleen Hinker, District II Director, Frances Speight, Carolyn Bedford, Shirley Tetreault, Barbara Vance, 1st VP, Suzy Andregg, President and Debra Sorrell at the Blue Star Memorial Marker Dedication in Conchas Dam, NM.

## Dates for Blue Star Marker dedications in our Region:

New Mexico - Angel Fire - Sunday, June 12th, 2016, at 3:00 pm - **Installed and Dedicated**

New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. - July 2, 2016, Conchas Dam - **Installed and Dedicated**

New Mexico, District IV in Silver City, October 6, 2016

New Mexico District II - TBA

New Mexico District III - Clovis, Rededication - TBA

# NMGC CHAIRPERSONS REPORTS

## Horticulture, Ellen Reid Chairman

I always preferred watching ants to catching softballs. When I came to New Mexico, I was told to look on top of ant hills for turquoise beads, but of course there had to have been an old native village nearby and it is illegal to remove such artifacts.

Mostly ants annoy me now. Large black harvester ants will bite as will the tiny ones which make hills in my ice plants and ultimately kills their roots. Acrobatic ants invade my greenhouse for shelter and to harvest nectar from the hoyo flowers. Ants in the garden carry aphids to plants so they can milk them of the "honey dew" aphids excrete. Multiple applications of insecticide containing sugar and boric acid near their nests and trails have partially controlled them. I thought I was winning against a colony of black harvester ants under the sidewalk. Yesterday I was in a neighbor's yard and discovered the ant colony had just moved across the street.

Other bugs are interesting to watch. Spiders are for the most part harmless and helpful to humans and they catch insects. Even black widows are generally shy, but are best removed from areas where they can be accidentally encountered near human habitats. Their sticky, messy, tenacious web is easy to identify. Their round creamy egg sacs contain a multitude of eggs and should be destroyed, too. Crab spiders which hang out in flowers are often white or yellow and a close match to their host flower. Most seem too small to be a danger to bees. The hairy, black and white jumping spiders have beautiful emerald eyes and can see amazing distances. They make silky pockets in sheltered places for their egg sacs. Other spiders carry their egg sacs around on their backs. I always enjoy it when a large "barn" orb weaver spider chooses a spot in the garden. It seems she collects the web in the morning and often I don't find it unless I'm out early or at night. I usually find only one in a yard. There is a group of small spiders which build community webs to catch tiny gnats.

Caterpillars are also interesting, especially the striped ones on plants in the parsley family. I have been told if the eggs are laid on dill the caterpillars will not survive if moved to parsley or fennel. The adult is the black swallowtail butterfly so plant excess to share the herbs. I was mystified as to why the caterpillars were disappearing from my dill last summer. They didn't seem to be big enough to be pupating. The mystery was solved when I saw the large blue-black wasps which collect caterpillars to feed their larvae. I wish they would collect cabbage worms or tomato worms instead! The larvae of Monarch butterflies are also fascinating and if you are lucky enough to attract them be sure to observe the beautiful jade chrysalis decorated with gold spots. The larger brown colored "humming birds" that flutter around white flowers in the evening are actually the moths of the sphinx varieties. Some of their larvae are the dreaded tomato horn worms. The best way to find the caterpillars is with careful observation of tomato leaves for fresh holes and to look for the small worms on the undersides. Sometimes the "pellets" they excrete are more obvious than the worm. They are most easily spotted at night with a flashlight. There is more color contrast between the worm and leaves and they are often at the top of the plant eating the tender new growth. Picking them off is the best control. Turtles and chickens relish them. BT powder will protect the plants from further infestation, but it kills ALL caterpillars.

When warm weather settles in, the dragonflies and damsel flies visit my pond and dip their ovipositors in the water laying eggs. The large red dragonflies like to rest on a tall plant where they have a clear view of mosquitos and other small insects which they catch in the "basket" they make with their legs. They often return daily to the same exact spot.

There is some concern that systemic insecticides, such as a Imidacloprid may be detrimental to beneficial insects and earth worms. BT should be used sparingly as it kills ALL caterpillars. But, I highly recommend my method of watching, observing and enjoying the unique life of the bugs in my garden.



Black swallow tail caterpillar



Black widow spider



Damsel fly



Orb weaver spider



Sphinx moth



Harvester ant



Tomato horn worm



Monarch butterfly

## Historian Becky Fuller

New Mexico gardeners, please remember to keep a record of your activities for your club histories. I am so looking forward to reading about each and every one of you. Thank you.

# NMGC CHAIRPERSONS REPORTS

## Membership - Jan Smith, Chair

Fall is a good time to increase your club membership. Every club is different but here are some ways to increase membership -

- Publicize – paper, radio, flyers. Ask a local garden center if you can put up brochures (be sure to check the supply regularly); ask your local radio station if they will announce any upcoming meetings; put an article in your local paper
- Participate in Public Events – Farmer’s Market, Parades, State Fairs, Home and Garden Shows.
- Will the local hardware store or garden center allow you to put up an information booth? You can ask your local extension office for articles that may interest the public.
- Garden Tours – open your gardens and invite other clubs and the public to tour.
- Library Displays – ask at the library if you can put up a display – they are usually willing to help you find books to add to your display. Make sure you include information on how to join your club.
- Flyers around town – including an insert for new home buyers.
- When a perspective member attends, be sure to make them welcome. Maybe a small gardening gift when they join? Be sure to ask new members to help out – people do not always volunteer but are willing to help if asked.

Does your club have other ways to increase membership? Let us know -

## Trees and Shrubs - ISABEL OLSEN, CHAIRMAN



Photo by Linnea Egbert

Shrubs have a place in any garden and it is, in fact, impossible to imagine a garden without them. They provide so much: color, shape, bulk, a habitat for wildlife, and screen from your neighbors. Here in New Mexico, they are a dominant feature of the wild landscape. In many respects, shrubs form the backbone of a work-free garden, because they need very little attention unless they are used as hedging, where they need regular clipping. The most successful gardens are those that provide visual interest throughout the year. There are shrubs for every season; they bloom at different times of year. There are shrubs for different types of soils and climates, so you need to take into consideration which type of shrub would be best for a moist shade area, a sunny dry area or perhaps a gravel bed and rock garden.

Evergreens and conifers have a great feature, they hold onto their leaves throughout the winter. Some gardeners use these types for topiaries. Tight, slow growing shrubs are the ones to choose for topiary, with yew and box being the best. Topiaries can take several years to reach completion, so do not get impatient. Shrubs can be fragrant, come in a multitude of colors in flower and foliage. And let’s not forget the variety of variegated foliage to choose from. Before you head for your local nursery, I highly recommend that you access your garden carefully before you make your selection. If you like a big splash of yellow you may want Forsythia, Spanish Broom, or Winter Jasmine. If you like berries and autumn colors, you may want Pyracantha, Littleleaf Sumac or Mahonia. Some other shrubs that do very

well in our state are Russian and Texas Sage, Rose-of-Sharon, Lilac, Blue Mist, Butterfly Bush and so many others. Don’t forget, we have a Tree & Shrub award. So take photos of the trees and shrubs that you have planted this year and apply for the award according to the guidelines in the Awards Booklet.

## World Gardening - Sue Ferguson, Chairman

### *Give the Gift of Water*

Working with other philanthropic or civic organizations or national initiatives is one way National Garden Clubs members make an indelible impact. National Garden Clubs offers an impressive variety of national outreach programs that promote environmental and civic responsibility. One such outreach program is: **Global Partners Running Waters**

NGC has partnered with **Global Partners Running Waters Inc.**, a nonprofit organization working in cooperation with the United Nations, to increase access to safe water in Latin America. 1.1 billion people around the world currently get their water from rivers, ponds or other sources subject to contamination. Donations made through NGC will help to bring safe drinking water to villages.

Past NGC contributions helped complete a project at Ojo de Agua Quiche. Clean drinking water was brought into this village. Hours that villagers spent walking miles to fill jugs with water can now be used to plant food and raise animals. Global Partners Running Waters current major project is to bring potable water to 263 families or 1,578 individuals, in Los Llanos, Quiche, Guatemala. By raising funds to purchase simple filters that deliver clean, life-giving water, NGC members also reach out to Voice of Haiti, which provides relief to Haitian children in several sites damaged by the 2010 earthquake.

Donations may be made in any amount and will be acknowledged with a printed tax receipt. **All donations over \$25 will be acknowledged with a recognition certificate from National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

Make checks payable to: National Garden Clubs, Inc., and indicate "Global Partners" on the memo portion of your check. Please include the name that should appear on the recognition certificate.

Please mail checks to: National Garden Clubs, Inc., 4401 Magnolia Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110-3492

Also, please also let me know of your donation (ferguson@rt66.com) so I can report it to our Awards Chairman. Your club will receive a certificate of appreciation from New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., at the next NMGC Convention. Very many thanks. (The above information can be found on National Garden Clubs website [www.gardenclub.org/projects/outreachprojects](http://www.gardenclub.org/projects/outreachprojects).)

# NMGC CHAIRPERSONS REPORTS

## Ways and Means Committee Report - Juanita Ortega



We have some great new prizes to be raffled for our Ways and Means fundraising projects during the coming year. At the NMGC, Inc. Fall Board Meeting in Las Vegas, NM on October 27 – 28, 2016, we will have three fabulous prizes. The first is an expenses-paid trip to the 2017 Convention in Albuquerque on April 25 – 27, 2017, (estimated value: \$350), which includes convention fees, hotel and round trip gas expenses. To showcase our New Mexico pride, there are two beautiful turquoise necklace and earring sets, and two handsome sterling silver bolo ties. We will raffle these prizes at the 2016 Fall Board Meeting and at the 2017 Annual Convention in Albuquerque, to be held April 25 – 27, 2017. Raffle tickets are \$1 each, or six for \$5. I will be sending all Club Presidents information packets and raffle tickets in the mail very soon. Thank you for your support of our NMGC, Inc. President's Project.

## New Mexico Youth Activities Chairman - Esther Russell

I cannot believe it is already getting close to the beginning of the school year for our children. All three of our youth clubs have had a full summer of projects, activities and learning about horticulture, pollinators, design, planting and more.

The Blooming Gardeners have been working on horticulture and designs for the State Fair. They planted at the State Fair Grounds, made butterfly feeders, learned about butterflies, bees, dragonflies and other insects. Each member keeps a notebook with information they learn at each meeting. They get to take home seeds and plants to plant in their home gardens. They had lunch at their weekly meetings (thanks to Connie Elmore). The Pecos Valley



Garden Club had a summer camp at the Roswell Zoo, looked for frogs and turtles and had an ice cream social and swim party. The Ponderosa Pines Garden Club helped hand out lemonade at the Butterfly Garden dedication, they escorted guests and talked to them about the garden. They have also learned skills of public speaking and etiquette attending social functions. They used garden tools given to them by our New Mexico State Garden Club President Suzy Andregó.

Thank you Shirley Tetreault, Connie Elmore, Renata Reisel, Isabel Olsen and Jo Ann Trujillo Leyden for giving of your time and knowledge to our youth clubs.

I also want to thank our adult clubs for sponsoring the youth clubs. Thank you Uptown Garden Club, Morning Garden Club and Angel Fire Garden Club.



## NMGC CLUB NEWS

### District I Director – Mary Ann Moreno

District I members have been busy With Flower Shows and our annual Garden Tour to help raise money for the Albuquerque Garden center. The Council Flower Show April 15-16, 2016, a "Beatles," theme, I'LL FOLLOW THE SUN was a great success. District I members entered, won ribbons, Judged and had a great time. June 11, 2016 was the day The Albuquerque Council of Garden Clubs, Inc., held their annual garden tour to benefit the Garden Center. Ten home Gardens were on the tour in the older Altura Park area, in Albuquerque. Many of the homes were large and custom built with landscaping that included amazing water features, mosaics and pools. The tour also included homes featuring water wise Native plants, a spectacular tree house and animal structures for children. Several homes in the adjacent Twin Parks area featured large vegetable gardens, and many large Native Grass plantings, along with a home with Cottage gardens that included Roses, Daylilies and an Orchid Green House. A catered lunch was offered and over 750 ticket holders enjoyed the warm but fun day.

Members in District I helped with the Albuquerque Daylily Society annual Daylily Show on June 26, 2016 Members entered Daylilies, did arrangements, and Judged the Design Section

District I is planning events that all New Mexico Garden Club members are invited to attend. The New Mexico State Fair, (EXPO), September 8-18, 2016, will be starting soon. The Flower Shows at the Fair are sponsored by The Albuquerque Council of Garden Clubs, which includes; District I Garden Clubs, Judges Council, Plant Societies and Master Gardeners who help decorate, donate food and money, volunteer workers, set-up and clean-up for all shows, and basically do all the arrangements and bring in horticulture. Members are there for the general public, to educate, encourage and assist with entries. We are thankful that NGC, Inc., Judges from all over the state come to help judge and enter the Flower Shows. The NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR is also your fair, you are invited to attend and enter the shows. Your help with this huge event would be very appreciated.

You are all invited to our District I meeting and luncheon to be held at "El Pinto" Restaurant on fourth St, NW, on October 10, 2016, in Albuquerque. The restaurant opens at ten am, Coffee and a sweet will be served. Business meeting starts at 10:30am. A lovely Buffet of Mexican /Spanish specialties will be served. Drinks are included. Baker Morrow, New Mexico Horticulturist and Author will speak on Plants

(Continued on page 12)

# NMGC CLUB NEWS

## ***District I Continued from page 11)***

that grow well in New Mexico. His book will be for sale. Lunch is \$20.00 including tax and gratuity. Reservations required.

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Symposium to be held in Albuquerque, NM at the Albuquerque Garden Center, February 16 – 18, 2017. Claudia Chopp, NGC Design Instructor will teach a work shop on one of the new Designs on February 15, and also Teach the Design portion of the Symposium on the 18th. Gaye Austin is coming to teach Horticulture, Orchids and Hellebores. Christine Longthorp and I are Co-Symposium Chairman's and are working on all the details.

Also, get your traveling shoes polished and ready for the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., BIG TWO SOME Conventions, hosted by District I. New officers will be installed at both Conventions and we will honor our present officers. New Mexico President Suzy Andregio will preside over NMGC, Inc. Convention and Barbara Baker South Central Director will preside at the SCR Convention. The Conventions will be held at the Drury Inn, the place for fun, free breakfasts and free Happy Hour with goodies. A wonderful Tour of Bandelier National Monument, includes a box lunch, is being planned by District II. You will not want to miss the program on "Fairy Gardens." The dates are NMGC, Inc., April 25 – 27, the SCR convention will follow on April 28 – 29, 2017. Information on all these events, coming soon.

## **El Jardin Encanto Garden Club - Adrienne David**

This year El Jardin Encanto Garden Club will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October. To commemorate this important milestone, an afternoon tea is planned with all past and present members invited. We are already busy at work preparing for the big event. Recipes are being tested, place settings are being displayed and possible floral arrangements are being discussed. We look forward to strolling down memory lane and recapping the history of our club and the many members who have made it successful.



Another activity our club has planned is a hands-on workshop on how to press flowers that will be instructed by one of our talented members. In addition, several informative presentations have been scheduled on topics such as companion planting, use of medicinal herbs, how to properly over-winter a yard, and the care and planting of bulbs. Field trips are always a fun and popular with our members. This year we are going to the Bosque del Apache in November and later to Madrid in April to tour a sculpture garden by a well-known artist.

Christmas holidays also are an important time for our club to not only socialize but to give back to the community. A holiday luncheon is planned for the members along with decorating one of the many Christmas trees at the Harvey House in Belen. In the spring, our final meeting is a potluck where successes can be celebrated and improvements can be discussed and implemented for the following year. Our goal for the coming year is to learn, have fun, serve our community and continue the legacy of those who came before us.

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

I think we are going through a wave of excitement and **eagerness to learn** period. The members of High Desert Design Club are very motivated and continue to bring new and exciting challenges to our State. They are sponsoring a five week Intermediate/Advanced design class. The class is being held at the Albuquerque Garden Center on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. As they are creating their designs, they laugh, have fun and share their ideas with other students.

In August our club members will study the "Stabile" design. All members are encouraged to create a design to be discussed, however, it is not a must. In September we will participate in the New Mexico State Fair and August will be a design titled *Up Up and Away as a* theme from Balloon Fiesta.

## **Petal Pushers - Shirley Bray**

May's meeting was very interesting and stimulating. Mary Lou Skelton of the New Mexico Gourd Society was our guest. She spoke on the various species of gourds, their history, versatility, growing, drying and the various steps in preparing the gourds for interesting art forms. The cleaning, sanding and preparation process is much more involved than many of us realized. Thank you Mary Lou for sharing your knowledge and bringing in several of your completed beautiful gourds for us to see and appreciate all the work that went into the creative process.

"Tea on the Patio" was the meeting for the month of June. Our members Shirley Tanzola and Sue Wasson invited us into their home for a very relaxing meeting and "Tea on The Patio". Shirley and her daughter Sue both enjoy growing daylilies. They are members of the Daylily society and both have won awards. Thank you ladies for sharing your garden knowledge and taking us on a tour of your garden which featured so many beautiful daylilies.

We welcome guests at our meetings. We meet the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9:30 am most of the months at the Garden Center. Petal Pushers Garden Club provides educational programs at every meeting. We place emphases on private gardens and horticulture. We are looking forward to some very informative and interesting programs planned for the months ahead. Feel free to contact our president Carol Stomp (505-433-2466) or the Garden Center office for further details.

# NMGC CLUB NEWS

## District I *continued from page 13*)

### Trailblazers - Barbara Cole, President

Greetings Gardeners! Are you staying in or braving the heat and getting out?

May was such a pleasant month that our program was decorating Garden Party Hats - just in case anyone was invited to an outdoor gala. Our hostess, Dianne Lane, supplied the hats, as well as ribbon, flowers, and other supplies to turn our drab hats into very flashy ones! She also fixed a wonderful luncheon so we not only enjoyed the lunch, but the program as well and went home with full tummies and beautiful hats.

We continued to be concerned with eating in June when we visited the home of a friend of a member who had a Tree Garden which was 7 feet tall and about 3 ½ feet wide. The plants were planted in special pods which caused them to grow three times as fast as normal. They were watered every 15 minutes with water that contained all the nutrients they needed. We all brought something to put on a salad and our hostess took greens from her Tree Garden for our lunch.

We began our July meeting with a yummy potato bar and broccoli cheese soup. After being fortified by our lunch, we toured a greenhouse and garden of a couple that are friends of one of our members. They have a lovely greenhouse that includes a pond with fish! They had ripe tomatoes, globe artichokes, and grapevines to mention only a few of the greenhouse occupants. Outside were bee hives, raised beds and chickens.

If you are wondering about all this eating, we have changed our meeting time to 11:00 to accommodate a member's work schedule. So our meetings begin with food - sometimes a brown bag lunch, sometimes something more substantial but always enjoyable.

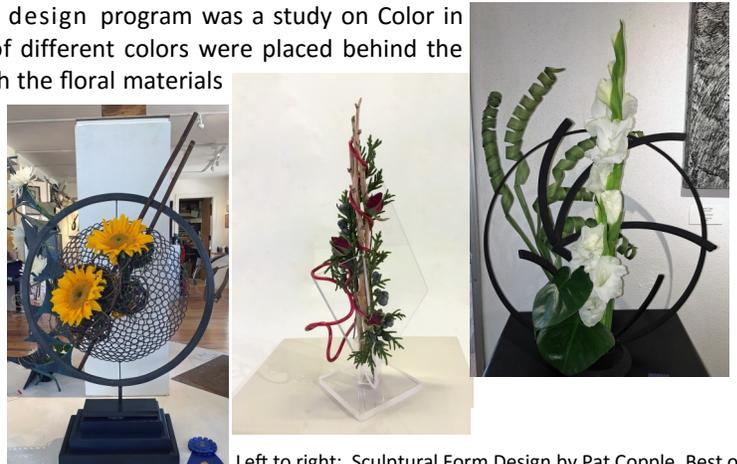
### DISTRICT II DIRECTOR - Doris Jackson

District II supported a very successful Standard Flower Show, "The Pulse of Life" held at the Fuller Lodge Art Center in Los Alamos for the opening of the show "Pulse" in the Gallery on June 17th. Floral Designers GC, Los Alamos GC and Summit GC all contributed in various ways for this show. Fuller Lodge is on the National Historic Register where the designs were in the Gallery and horticulture was displayed in the main entrance of the Fuller Lodge along with the Special Exhibit of Jemez Mountain Wildflowers by Chick Keller and the Pajarito Environmental Education Center. The designs were held over in the Gallery for display the next day.

All three District II clubs have had a busy summer with meetings and tours and tending our gardens on these hot summer days .

### Floral Designers Garden Club, - Juanita Ortega, President

Members of Floral Designers have had a busy summer. May's floral design program was a study on Color in Designing, titled "Oh, What a Difference it Makes". Backgrounds of different colors were placed behind the designs to see the effects on them. Some backgrounds contrasted with the floral materials and/or containers, creating excitement and boldness. Others complemented the designs to create calmness, unity or, in some cases, a lack of contrast. In June, our focus was the District II sponsored Standard Flower Show, held June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Fuller Lodge in Los Alamos. The theme of the show was "The Pulse of Life". Our members entered their floral designs in the Design Division and their flowers, herbs and arboreal branches in the Horticulture Division. Some of our members also entered their designs in the Santa Fe Iris Society Show and the Santa Fe Rose Society Show. July's design program will feature an All Foliage Creative design of any type, titled "Mean, Green Machine". It promises to be a different and interesting program.



Left to right: Sculptural Form Design by Pat Copple, Best of Show, a Small Design by Doris Jackson. and a Multi Rhythmic Design by Barbara Vance. Photos: Juanita Ortega.

### Summit Garden Club - Shelby Redondo, President

Members have suffered the heat as everyone else in New Mexico has. Working in our individual gardens has been challenging this summer. It has nearly been impossible maintaining everything alive; the heat and the critter explosion have added a new dimension to gardening. Rabbits and squirrels, including Alpert and Gray, have laid waste to vegetable gardens. Bears in Los Alamos County have destroyed birdfeeders, upturned garbage bins, killed livestock and even attacked a runner in the Jemez. There are a few tips for bear control. Take your feeders indoors each night and douse your garbage bags with a sprinkle of bleach. Most importantly, never get between a bear and her cub. As for rabbits, what can you do when you watch a rabbit scale a rock wall after it has completely nibbled the bottom stems of your beautiful snow peas? One bright moment this summer for Summit Garden Club members was the annual July Social. Everyone who attended enjoyed good food, good friendship and above all a look at the new 2016-2017 yearbook.



# NMGC CLUB NEWS

## District III Director Colleen Hinker

Our Members have been busy with their gardens and fighting the hot weather, grasshoppers, and lack of moisture. Santa Rosa Garden Club is hoping for at least some Horticulture in their Flower Show which is held the First Weekend in August. Angel Fire Members have been invited to join us so they may learn the how-to's of how to put together a Show! Members of both clubs, plus many guests, enjoyed the Angel Fire Garden tour with beautiful weather all day.

During Garden Week, over two dozen letters were sent out to all interested parties in the Counties in District III in hopes of finding gardeners in the eastern part of our state who might be willing to start a club in their area.

Colleen and Fred Hinker have been busy organizing the project to move the Blue Star Memorial in Clovis to a new location in the Veterans park on the West side of town. There are many vets that have offered to help and the re-dedication should be in the next few months when the weather cools off.

Our members are working toward a fun State Board meeting in October and hope to see all your there. The Harvey girls will join us and a tour of the Historic Castaneda Hotel next to the Train Station is included. Our meeting will be in the Historic Plaza Hotel, downtown, with great shopping within walking distance! Come and join us!!

## Angel Fire Garden Club - Johnese Turri, President

Angel Fire Garden Club is having a wonderful summer. We started off with the dedication of our Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker and Butterfly Garden dedication in June at our Shuter Library. JoAnn Layden had her Ponderosa Pines Youth Garden group in attendance to recite butterfly poems and sayings. We were so happy to have Suzy Andrego, Shirley Tetreault and Debra Sorrell here for this occasion. It was so great to have so many locals attend, creating a greater awareness of the club.

We've had great monthly meetings with informative presentations on blue birds and their habitat, creating butterfly feeders and a presentation on how to envision your garden. We've also been busy keeping our 3 signature gardens looking good with weeding and planting.

The Annual Garden Tour was on July 16th. We were so pleased with the 6 awesome gardens and landscaping on this year's tour as well as having 7 of our local artists at the host gardens. Included on the tour this year was our newly dedicated Butterfly Garden. JoAnn had her youth group in attendance there during the tour. We had about 200 people who took part in the tour and we were so happy to have Suzy Andrego and several state officers and chairs be with us also.

Our wonderful tour committee, lead by Suzanne Coyle, worked so hard to make this a memorable experience. Jo Brennan, besides getting her garden ready for the tour, worked tirelessly on our tour brochures, cutting out each individual butterfly by hand!

Our decorated hat contest, during the post tour luncheon, is growing in popularity and it's so great to see so many attendees compete! We had a great time decorating the hats to sell at the tour. The silent auction was a great success, with so many generous donations from our local individuals and business. A new addition to the luncheon was a presentation by Lori Priest from Ace Hardware in Taos. She demonstrated the art of floral design using garden flowers.

We are enjoying our wonderful weather with our gardens in full bloom! You all are invited to come and see us up here in the cool mountains!!



NMGC President Suzy Andrego & Angel Fire Garden Club President, Johnese Turri



Winners of garden hat contest



Wonderful group of attendees

# NMGC CLUB NEWS

District III *continued from page 15)*

**Santa Rosa - Carolyn Bedford, President**



Flower Show Judges, Debra Sorrell, President Suzy Andrego and Sarah Bianco, a student judge at the Guadalupe County Fair, Santa Rosa, NM



Carolyn Bedford wins the "Award of Distinction" for her all foliage arrangement



District III Director, Colleen Hinker and Santa Rosa Garden Club Member, Kathleen at the Guadalupe County Fair in Santa Rosa,.

**District IV, Nancy Ketcham, Director**

The Blue Star Memorial purchased by **District IV** has been installed in Bataan Memorial Park in Santa Clara. The dedication will be on Thursday, October 6., at 10:00 A. M. followed by the District IV Fall Meeting. We are looking forward to this event.

**Evergreen Garden Club** continues to meet at the Grant County Extension Meeting Room in Silver City. We are planning the Blue Star Memorial Dedication and a fall flower show at the Grant County Fair.

**Mesilla Valley Garden Club** does not meet in June, July and August, however, we did have a great lunch and social at our May meeting. On May 27 several of our members met at President Charlene Brock's home and created a lovely wreath to be placed by our Blue Star Memorial in the Las Cruces Veteran's Park. The wreath materials all came from the gardens of those in attendance. On Saturday, May 28, with the help of some of the creators, it was placed by the Memorial and spent the weekend there through the City ceremonies on Monday. Two July meetings were spent planning our programs for the upcoming 2016-17 year. Some very interesting meetings are planned.

The **Sunshine Valley Garden Club** had a potluck meeting in May at the home of member, Doris Adams. The Club's new officers for the 2016-2018 term were installed and we had a program on sunscreen and bug spray just in time for Summer. In June, the Club met for a luncheon on the Bamboo Terrace of the Elephant Butte Inn. This was a casual get together as we don't meet in July and August. We'll be looking forward to our next meeting in September.

**District V - Judy Preston Director**

District V gardeners have been dedicated to helping make their respective communities beautiful and colorful for the summer tourist season. Morning and Home Garden Clubs joined together planting beautiful planters making Main Street Roswell so colorful and pretty. The clubs also have maintained local gardens, the park and zoo, Bitter Lakes Wildlife Refuge Center and the grounds at the Sunset Villa Nursing center in Roswell.

Julie Foster and the club in Artesia have certainly kept busy with their local activities as well.

Lincoln County Garden Club, has been busy with field trips, luncheons and projects to beautify their community. The Lincoln County Fair and Flower Show was once again successful and members were happy to have State President Suzy Andrego on hand for the show.

As Fall approaches, our club officers are busy planning activities for the coming year. I look forward to seeing all District V gardeners at the October District V meeting.

**Home Garden Club - Pam Davis, President**

Home Garden Club has been very busy this summer and we continue! The Spring River Park and Zoo garden is in full bloom and the Bitter Lakes National Wildlife Refuge garden has a few new native plants. Thank you Branka Barrett, Karen Davis, Kathy Brown and Isabel Olsen for making our namesake gardens grow and show with pride!

Earlier this summer HGC teamed up with Morning Garden Club, Keep Roswell Beautiful and Main Street Roswell to clean up and add some color to the 30 planters along Main Street. This has been an event that we look forward to each year so many can enjoy getting together and help to beautify our city. The plants are still glowing and look great.



# NMGC CLUB NEWS

## Artesia Garden Club - Julie Foster, President

Artesia Garden Club had 191 entries and 13 youth entries for 2016 Eddy County Fair Flower Show..

- Callie Kniepkamp took both Sweepstakes for the most blue ribbons and the Youth Award for her butterfly in the "Summerfields" class in design.
- Stacye Thurman took the "Best in Show" with her Artichoke bloom, also section winners in perennials, and herbs for her Dill.
- Joan Peeper took sweepstakes with 52 blue ribbons, also Designers Choice Award for her panel design in the "Homegrown" class, Arboreal Award and section winner with her pomegranate, also section award for annuals.
- Isabel Olsen took the Petite Award and the Award of Distinction for her "Show Ring" and "Parade" entries, also runner up in the potted plant section.
- Rita Rainwater took the section winner for her Poinsettia in the potted plant section.
- Julie Foster took the Artistic Craft Award for the "Rodeo" class
- I had flowers & stuff there for people to come in and create designs on Wednesday...

Lots of wow , this is nice, comments ... All over and clean up Saturday. Hope everyone has a great summer, see ya'll soon...



Judging with Suzy Andrego , Debra Sorrell , and student's Kathleen Flanders and Michael Ann Tart .



## Lincoln County - Nannette Tanner, President

### Shaping the Landscape in the Land of Enchantment

Our June meeting was a field trip to Oliver Lee State Park. Although it was a bit warm, the park is a beautiful area to visit. After a great lunch in Tularosa we went back to Alamogordo to pick up turtles from a master gardener for some of our members. They are great pets if you have a secure place to keep them!

We also held our annual plant sale in June at the Ruidoso Public Library. Everyone in the community looks forward to our plant sale. We are hoping to continue this event!

In July we made another trip over to White Oaks to *Isle of Sky* . The owner, Jamiee Zischke Tate gave us a very interesting talk on her grafting and gardening techniques. If you get the chance, go by *Isle of Sky*. The Lincoln County Fair starts August 2 and we will be busy receiving flowers and arrangements to be judged.

Our August program will be presented by Jamiee Zischke Tate, owner of *Isle of Sky* . We are looking forward to her expertise on gardening and natural enhancements to the soil. She is well known for her grafting practices on apple trees. That's all folks!!



Lincoln County Garden Club members at the Lincoln County Fair Flower Show



Lisa Peake and Cynthia Shafer of Lincoln County Garden Club taking entries for the Lincoln County Fair!



Entries are beginning to come in for judging at the Lincoln County Fair.

# September Guest Contributor, Stephanie Bestelmeyer, Ph.D

## Asombro Institute for Science Education – Bringing the Wonder of Science to Students

By Stephanie Bestelmeyer, Ph.D., Executive Director

*“Thank you for coming and teaching us all about leaves. I am in suspense to find out what will happen. I love every time you come because every time you come I learn something new.”*

This thank you note from a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student in Las Cruces is typical of the thousands received each year by staff members at the Asombro Institute for Science Education, a nonprofit based in Las Cruces. “Asombro” means “wonder” in Spanish, and this sense of wonder about science and the desert is exactly what Asombro’s five staff members, Board of Directors, and 100 volunteers bring to more than 17,000 K-12 students throughout southern New Mexico and far west Texas each year.

Many of Asombro’s innovative, award-winning science education programs help children learn about the plants, animals, soil, and rocks that make the desert such a unique place. Unfortunately, many of the children we work with have very little exposure to the outdoors. They reflect a growing trend where an average American child spends as few as 30 minutes a day in outside, unstructured time. This leads to gaps in knowledge and understanding of nature; a 2002 study that found children could recognize more Pokémon characters than actual species of very common animals in their environment!

Asombro’s talented staff brings the excitement of science directly to students through field trips, classroom visits, and science competitions in classrooms and at Asombro’s Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park in Las Cruces. Although Asombro offers dozens of diverse programs to meet student and teacher needs, all programs share several characteristics:

Programs cover the grade-specific state education standards, and they address science, math, language arts, and social studies.

Programs are inquiry-based. Students learn by doing, a technique proven to enhance understanding.

Locally relevant science is brought directly to students because of Asombro’s collaborations with scientists from the USDA/ARS Jornada Experimental Range, New Mexico State University, Arizona State University, and other research organizations.

Many Asombro programs take place at the organization’s 935-acre Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park north of Las Cruces. The site includes walking trails, picnic facilities, a 100-seat amphitheater, and science experiments that mirror experiments taking place at the USDA’s Jornada Experimental Range just north of the Nature Park. On full-day field trips, students participate in three to five hands-on activity stations that teachers choose from a long menu of age-appropriate activities.

As a nonprofit organization, Asombro relies on the generosity of individuals, clubs, and businesses in the region to sustain these efforts. We have been especially fortunate to receive the support of the Las Cruces Tour of Gardens for more than five years. This year, they are supporting hands-on science for 10 classes of deserving students. Thanks to their generosity, more than 250 local students will get the excitement of being in suspense and learning something new, just like the 4<sup>th</sup> grader who wrote the recent thank you note.

To learn more about the Asombro Institute for Science Education, please visit [www.asombro.org](http://www.asombro.org) or call the office in Las Cruces (575-524-3334). Together, we can bring the wonder of science and the desert to children in our community.



Asombro’s Science Interns project allows 5<sup>th</sup> graders to learn science with Asombro staff and then teach younger students at their school about their discovery. This “near-peer” teaching increases 5<sup>th</sup> graders’ science and leadership skills.



On field trips to Asombro’s Chihuahuan Desert Nature Park, students participate in authentic research projects, such as this study of plant growth under “rainout shelters” that reduce the precipitation falling on the plants.



## FALL BOARD MEETING

BY TRAIL OR BY RAIL, EXPERIENCE THE GREAT WEST IN LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO!



The Plaza Hotel

In 1846 General Kearny with his Army of the Americas, marched to Las Vegas, NM and declared from a rooftop on the plaza that New Mexico was now a part of the USA! Fort Union was built soon after nearby to protect and provision travelers on the Santa Fe Trail. Las Vegas was a political and economic center for the territory, when Santa Fe was still a village! In 1882 the Plaza Hotel was built, a tall, elegant Victorian structure. It has been host to many celebrities and was featured in many movies and on TV.

Later Charles Ilfeld built 'the Grand Emporium' next door, the biggest department store of its kind at that time, right next door! You can still read the slogan on the outside wall- "wholesaler of everything!" In 2006 this Italianate building was connected to the Plaza and refurbished with antiques and full bathrooms.

Our meetings will be held in

the grand ballroom and our meals will be prepared by Executive Chef, Amaury Torres. When you come expect exceptional food, accommodations and great shopping (in the heart of town)!

The Harvey girls will entertain us and give us a tour of the Castenada Hotel near the train depot (it is under renovation). Stay an extra day or two and drive out to Fort Union or to Mora for the weavers or alpaca farm or hike Hermit's Peak!! But remember, it will be winter in these mountains.

Reserve a room soon at the Plaza Hotel, 230 Plaza St. , 87701, 1-505-425-3591 or [www.plazahotellnm.com](http://www.plazahotellnm.com), mention NM garden Clubs.



The Castenada Hotel

### Calendar

- September 7-18 NM State Fair Flower Shows  
Albuquerque
  - October 2 El Jardin Encanto Garden Club  
50th Birthday Celebration
  - October 2 Eastern NM State Fair  
Horticultural Show, Roswell
  - October 4 District V Fall Board Meeting  
Ruidoso
  - October 6 District IV Blue Star Memorial Marker  
Installation, Silver City
  - October 6 District IV Fall Board Meeting  
Silver City
  - October 6 Eastern NM Floral Design Show  
Roswell
  - October 10 District I Fall Board Meeting  
Albuquerque
  - October 13 District III Fall Board Meeting  
Las Vegas
  - October 20 District II Fall Board Meeting  
Los Alamos
  - October 27 - 28 NMGC, Inc. 2016 Fall Board Meeting &  
Leadership Program, Las Vegas
  - November 11-13 NGC Landscape Design School I –  
Phoenix Arizona
- 2017
- February 16 NMJC Floral Design  
Hands On Workshop
  - February 17-18 NMJC Judges Symposium

New Mexico Gardener  
POBox 328  
Mesilla NM 88046

To: