



Bulletin of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

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New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.



68th ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Magnificent Mariposa



APRIL 25-27, 2017

Drury Inn

Albuquerque, New Mexico



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
24 Clubs	556 Paid Memberships
3 Youth Clubs	81 Youth Members

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

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Theme: Leadership-Education-Achievement=Promotion

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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 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 May 1, 2017

To visit the *Members Only* area on the website:
www.newmexicogardenclubs.org
NMGC User Name: nmgc Password: yucca
NGC User Name : Member Password: flight

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - SUZY ANDREGO



As I sit down to write my last article for the NM Gardener, I am reflecting on all the wonderful times I have had over the last two years. I cannot believe how fast the time has gone by! It seems like only yesterday that I was installed as your President! Together, every member of New Mexico Garden Clubs has helped me work towards my goal of "Planting Seeds for Our Future"!

My goals were simply to encourage members to plant butterfly gardens, habitat gardens and pollinator gardens. I also wanted members to feel confident as they leapt into leadership positions in their garden club, at their district level or at the state level. I hope we have provided many tools and learning opportunities for members to do this. And, I wanted to promote flowers shows by encouraging garden clubs to hold a small flower show for their members, providing a place to enter designs, enter horticulture that members grow, an opportunity for judges to judge and the experience of writing a schedule, planning the flower show and participating in all aspects.

I have truly enjoyed every minute of traveling all over the state during my term as your President. It has been my pleasure to accept all the invitations to attend garden club meetings, present Programs, do installations and be present at all the special events. I think attending garden club meetings and putting faces to Names and projects has been my favorite part of being president!

I want to celebrate all the wonderful Chairmen we have had during my term! I will mention just a few of the things some of our chairmen have done during my term as president. Our Awards Chairman, Debra Sorrell, has done a fantastic job with the awards! We have added new awards and grown other areas of awards, all with Debra's help! Our Blue Star Marker Chairman, Shirley Tetreault, has had a busy two years. We have dedicated three new markers in the state and rededicated one marker! As your flower show schools Chairman, I have seen 5 new judges get through schools, write their flower show schedule and pass their written exam. Our Butterfly Chairman, JoAnn Layden, has done a fantastic job keeping us informed of all the butterfly news around the nation and letting us know how we can help! Vicki Frye, our Bee's Chairman, created a new Bee award! Our Environmental Chairman, Mary Ann Moreno, saw that we completed another Environmental School Series. Our Horticulture Chairman, Ellen Reed, gave us some excellent articles in each NM Gardener to read and think about. Our Habitat for Humanity Chairman, Sonia James, made sure that we helped welcome each new family to a new house by providing a wreath to hang on each front door. Our Merchandise Chairman, Kathleen Flanders, kept us spending money on great butterfly and gardening items. Our Penny Pines Chairman, Isabel Olsen, updated and motivated us to support the Penny Pines Program, planting many new trees in the forests of New Mexico. Our Symposium Chairs, Christine Longthorp and Mary Ann Moreno, put on a fantastic judge's symposium which keeps our judges updated on the latest judging policies and procedures from National Garden Clubs, so that they are ready to judge your next flower show! Our NM Gardener Editor, Linnea Egbert, has done an incredible job with our State newsletter! She has kept everyone informed of what is going on around the state! Our Yearbook Chairman, Kathy Brown, has helped motivate each club to provide an informative and creative yearbook. Our Water Conservation Chairman, John Sorrell, has given us many suggestions to conserve water in our own home and garden. Our Archive Chairmen, Beulah Oyler and Becky Fuller, have kept our history organized and stored for the future! Our Personnel Chairman, Carol Stomp, has kept our personnel records up-to-date for our Nominating Committee Chairman, Maggie Rubino and her committee to find us new members to lead our organization. Our Recycle and Litter Chairman, Julie Foster, has given us many tips on how to deal with litter and many more ideas on creative recycling! Our Scholarship Chairman, Christine Longthorp, has given us a new and updated scholarship form making it easier for applicants to apply for a scholarship. Our Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Chairman, Mary Ann Moreno, has given out Smokey bear and Woodsy

(Continued on page 4)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

(Continued from page 3)

Owl promotional items all around the state and presented many schools and organizations with the tools and opportunities to make posters! Our Ways and Means Chairman, Juanita Ortega, has given us some great ways to support my president's projects! Our Website Chairman, Cindy Hills has made our website so easy to use! Our NM Garden Clubs website is filled with great information that each member, club president, district director and chairman can use as a form of communication, the latest state information, copies of our NM Gardeners, by-laws, our awards book, forms, brochures, contacts, sections for each district, and LOTS of photos! And, who can forget all the wonderful energy our Co-Resolutions Chairmen, Diane Peterson and Johnese Turri (a.k.a. Ms. Monarch's) put into our creative and inspiring resolutions at the end of each state meeting and convention! A Big Thank You to ALL our state chairmen!

The last place I will represent New Mexico Garden Clubs as your president will be in May at the National Garden Clubs Convention in Richmond, Virginia. It is at this convention that President Elect, Barbara Vance will be ratified as your new state President. In addition, our very own Isabel Olsen will be installed as our South Central Region Director, and Shirley Tetreault, as Alternate Director. I will be sure to take a photo for the summer issue of the NM Gardener!

Thank you all, for giving me the opportunity to serve as your state president over the last two years. I could not have done it without each and every one of our members! It takes ALL of us to make this organization a great one! Thank you for helping me "Plant Seeds for Our Future"!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Anderson', written in a cursive style.

Monarch Butterflies in the Southwest



The monarch is the jewel of the butterfly world but little is known about their migration in the western United States. YOU can help unravel the mystery! Join us for an exciting workshop featuring information about monarch biology, migration, and conservation plus an opportunity to join Citizen Science research in New Mexico and the southwestern United States. Learn about the history of chasing monarchs, the monarch life cycle and the importance of milkweed, *Asclepias*, the monarchs' only host plant.

The presenter at the Convention luncheon, Gail Morris, is the Coordinator of the Southwest Monarch Study, Monarch Watch Conservation Specialist and the Vice-President of the Monarch Butterfly Fund supporting research and development in the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve in Mexico. Southwest Monarch Study, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to monarch butterfly research and conservation.

Southwest Monarch Study - www.swmonarchs.org



Barbara Vance - 1st Vice President

SPRING - SPRING - GLORIOUS SPRING!!



Winter is finally fading into the past. Days are getting warmer and we look forward to getting out to begin working in our gardens. Many of us have “seasonal” gardens. We plant bulbs for spring enjoyment. Perennials are planted to start blooming by the beginning of summer. Annuals can easily go into areas that are a little bare and need a spot or two of color. How wonderful to be able to have “patchwork” gardens. Living in New Mexico is certainly challenging. We have so many different types of soil and elevation can be a factor in planting a garden. We had plenty of snow this year to help with the water needs for successful plantings.

I came across this Spring Quote:

“I don’t believe the half I hear, nor the quarter of what I see! But I have one faith, sublime and true, that nothing can shake or slay; each spring I firmly believe anew, all the seed catalogues say!” - Carolyn Wells -

Spring is a time of new beginnings – in our gardens and in our endeavors. A new beginning in our clubs, districts, state organizations as we elect and install members who have agreed to take on the duties of the various positions. As President Elect, I am busy reviewing and filling Chairman positions. What an interesting experience. I hardly get started with my inquiry about a person continuing in their position – most reply quickly they would like to continue and have enjoyed doing their job. WOW!! A great testament to our organization. We must be doing things right when people want to stay in their job. Having said the above - IF any of you would like to chair a particular job - please let me know as soon as possible -we will see what we can work out.

Information about the Officer and Chairmanship positions. We have wonderful tools to help us with these new experiences. Notebooks give us guidelines on how to carry out duties. We have listings of: Themes – Term Projects – Convention & Fall Board Rotation Schedules. A separate list of Officers and Chairpersons and a list of District Directors and Club Presidents. There are report forms and instructions for reporting at meetings. Each Officer/Chairman notebook will have a copy of the State Bylaws and Awards Handbook and other pertinent information. At the 2016 Fall Board meeting we had a fantastic “Leap into Leadership” Program that gave us information on how to be successful in whatever endeavors we should undertake. We learned the true value of “Teamwork” when building the “highest structure” out of dry spaghetti and marshmallows. We have had – and will have – officers who not only “lead” – they “guide” us along the way.

Programs are a very important part of our meetings – at all levels. This upcoming year – when scheduling Programs - look over the listing of chairpersons – in your district – around the state. Think about inviting a specific Chairman to talk about their project. There is a lot of knowledge and learning experiences to be shared. There are many Program opportunities to learn more about gardening – in its many forms: horticulture – wild flowers and native plants - landscape design – water conservation – study bees – butterflies - flower show schools – designing with flowers, etc. When planning Programs and events think about topics that will appeal to club members and attract people from your community. So much to learn and share!

Spring is our new beginning: So Prepare. Come along for the ride – we know not where. We will go from here to there! Last year we were “Planting Seeds for Our Future” - let’s see what develops these next two years!



New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

OFFICIAL CALL
68th Annual Convention
"The Magnificent Mariposa"
April 25, 26 & 27, 2017
Albuquerque, New Mexico

The convention registration form will be found on page 14 issue of the New Mexico Gardener and on the NMGC website.

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

12:00 noon – 6:00 P.M.	Registration – Drury Inn & Suites
1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.	NMGC Executive Board Meeting (Both Current & Incoming Boards)
3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.	NM Judges Council Executive Meeting
4:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.	NM Judges Council General Meeting
6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.	NM Judges Council Banquet
7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.	Judges Council Program- "Change is In the Air" A Design Program

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Breakfast on your own at FREE hot Breakfast at the Drury Inn & Suites

8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.	Registration
9:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.	Official Opening of NMGC, Inc. 68th Annual Convention
9:30 A.M. – 12:00 noon	NMGC, Inc. General Business Meeting
12:00 noon – 1:00 P.M.	Luncheon - Drury Inn
1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.	Program & Workshop – "Monarch Butterflies of the Southwest" by Gail Morris of Southwest Monarch Study
3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.	General Business Meeting continues (if necessary)
5:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.	President's Reception – Drury Inn
6:15 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.	Introduction of Past State Presidents & Club Presidents
6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.	Banquet - Drury Inn
7:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.	Memorial Service & Top Award Presentations
8:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.	Fairy Gardens by Esther Russell
8:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.	Installation of New Officers

Thursday, April 27

Breakfast on your own at FREE hot Breakfast at the Drury Inn & Suites

9:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.	NMGC, Inc. Awards Presentation
10:30 A.M.-11:00 A.M.	Final Credentials, Resolutions

HOTEL: The Drury Inn & Suites Albuquerque North, 4310 The 25 Way Northeast, Albuquerque, NM 87109 (800) 252-7772, or (505)341-3600, Single or Double Rate: \$99.00 (plus tax), Daily Room rate includes FREE Hot breakfast and happy hour. Mention NMGC, Inc. 2017 Convention. To ensure room rate, please book by April 1, 2017.

Suzy Andregó, New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. President

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
SOUTH CENTRAL REGION
88th Annual Spring Convention

“THE MAGNIFICENT MARIPOSA”

APRIL 28 & 29, 2017

Albuquerque, New Mexico

The convention registration form will be found on page 15 issue of the New Mexico Gardener and on the NMGC website.

SCHEDULE

Friday April 28, 2017

- 8:00 AM -4:30 PM Tour to Bandelier National Monument & Los Alamos Science Museum including sit down lunch
\$50.00 per person (Must have 40 to go)
- 5:00-6:00 PM Current SCR Exec board meeting
- 6:30PM Dinner and Program. *(Wear your denim to dinner for a SW BBQ banquet).*
Container Gardens from Milton McLain of McLain Greenhouses.
Milton will have plants to sell.

Saturday April 29, 2017

- Morning Free breakfast buffet on your own
- 9:00AM General Meeting – *(wear your pink to support NGC Project “ Plant It Pink”)*.
- 12 noon Lunch *(Wear your butterflies to lunch).*
Program: Pollinator plants for our Region, Curtis Smith, retired NM Extension Agent
- 1:30PM Business Meeting Resumes
- 3:00 PM 2 workshops arranged by SCR Director, Barbara Baker
- 3:00 PM Incoming SCR Executive Meeting
- 6:00PM Reception for SCR Director & State Presidents
- 7:00PM Dinner
Program: Design Challenge (to benefit the SCR scholarship).
Up to 8 designers will pay \$25 to create a design, funds going to scholarship fund. Designer will get to keep containers, mechanics and flowers used or the designer can choose to have their design auctioned off to raise more scholarship funds. Renée Blaschke will MC this FUN event for us. Sign-up to do a design and help us raise funds for the SCR scholarship!
- 8:30PM Installation of 2017-2019 SCR Board

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE!

Mary Ann & Jennifer Moreno, Convention Chairs

Drury Inn and Suites, \$99/night plus free hot breakfast and happy hour.
Information on Registration Form, page 16.

NMGC CHAIRPERSONS REPORTS

Plight of the Bumble Bee - Vicki Frye, Bee Chair

I had originally planned to write a different article for you. After reading about the bumble bee and doing a little research, I decided this was information that needed to be passed along.

We all recognize the bumble bee, a chubby bee dressed like a Steelers fan. Did you know that they pollinate many crops, including some berries, apples and grains?

I did not know that some of the 47 species in the US were in trouble. All of the bumble bee species face some level of extinction. Some have disappeared from 90% of their habitats. Reasons for this vary, from climate change, loss of habitat, some pesticides and disease.

Systemic pesticides can be a big threat. This type of pesticide survives in the plant long after application. Even a non lethal dose can effect the big bumble.

Disease, including fungus, is one of the biggest threats to some bumble bees. The Franklin Bumble Bee, found in the northwest United States has not spotted by researchers since 2006. Many researchers considerate extinct due to fungus.

We need to be aware of this situation and think how tragic it would be to lose the Bumble Bee. What can we do about the problem? It might be something different for an individual, depending on where you live and how you garden. Research and see if you can help.



Food and Herb Gardening - Colleen Hinker, Chair

The gardening, seed, plant catalogs are piling up!! Winter is a great time to peruse these publications, but it can be daunting!! Most of us have our special companies we like to do business with, but it is hard to ignore those lovely photos of the new hybrids. You need to have a plan! First, Throw out those carrying products that you can't use- fancy, expensive tools, or those with large quantities of seeds, bulbs, etc. (unless you are a commercial farmer) remember seeds do not last forever - bigger seeds tend to last longer than small ones. You can usually keep seeds in a cool place for 5 years without a significant loss of fertility. If you like to experiment with a new plant, get a small amount first, then order more next year if it suits your need; or better yet, save your own. There is a lot of information on saving on the internet. Then you will truly have a plant that grows well in your own area.

You need to check the address where the catalog nursery is located. Is it an environment close to yours? Check the USDA climate charts and see if the length of growing season is similar to yours. Check out what the catalog says about what the water needs are- amount and type, And the soil composition that is required by this particular plant. AND can you provide what this plant needs easily (and inexpensively). Remember, ground temperature is more important than air temperature to a plant. Ground in full sun will stay warmer than ground in the shade. You may need cold frames or a greenhouse to get some plants to germinate.

Don't be fooled by beautiful colors, large green leaves, tall promises. Think about if your landscape will be compatible with the plants you are attracted to. Will they be worth the trouble half way through the summer? Can they sustain themselves through the winter months? And can you look forward to enjoying them again next year?

Gardening Therapy - Renate Reisel, Chair

As I walk early in the morning in our garden with the first cup of coffee, most of the time it is very relaxing - no telephone or cell phone. Yet after the second cup of coffee, I start to putter in my garden thinking I need to water, or the weeds need pulling. But I am anxious to plant more flowers but the problem is, the weeds have to make room for the plants. Well you have to be optimistic, continue weeding and have confidence that tomorrow will be a beautiful day for planting flowers.

Inside each of us is a beautiful flower garden, this is the garden of the soul

With each lesson we learn ,the garden grows.

As we learn together, our individual garden forms a tranquil paradise

Sri Chinmoy, Garden Therapy Manual

Historian - Becky Fuller, Chair

Fellow Gardeners,

Thank you all for giving me a peek into your clubs. It has been an honor to get to know you. I appreciate your sharing advice and insights into garden clubbing all over the state. I look forward to seeing all of you at the convention.

Youth Activities - Esther Russell, Chair

We are gearing up for our spring convention in April. Suzy Andrego, New Mexico State President has a wonderful convention planned. I will be giving a short Program on how to make a fairy garden and I am looking forward to seeing all of you there. This should be a fun convention.

Our state youth clubs will be going full speed in a few months. These children are so enthusiastic and always willing to learn. All of our adult leaders are such a blessing to our state and our children. I ask that we all support our youth in any way we can.

NMGC CHAIRPERSONS REPORTS

Horticulture - Ellen Reed, Chair

What I have learned from others:

- Use your crooked horticulture stems in designs.
- Do not cut so much of your horticulture as to inhibit next year's bloom.
- The warmest spots in a garden are the south side of a north wall and the southwest inner corner.
- Other warm spots in a garden are near the patio, near the driveway, sidewalks and house walls.
- Tree roots dry out soil which is a good place to plant bulbs.
- Grow what you like for color and eating.
- Keep notes of your garden and what is happening.
- Tomatoes and bulbs grow well in pots. Grow cucumbers up trellises and beans around the roots of your tomatoes.
- Water your garden the night before cutting for a flower show.
- Use a water soluble fertilizer to feed your garden one to two weeks prior to a flower show.
- Compost as much as you can.
- Mulch your garden.
- Feed bulbs as foliage emerges and after bloom.
- Always deadhead Allium, Phlox, fertile hardy geraniums, Vitex, Buddlea, seed heads on crepe myrtles and daylilies, to prevent self-sowing.
- Prune spring blooming trees and shrubs after bloom to strong shoots. They bloom on last years growth.
- Prune summer bloomers after last spring frost to shape plant. Remove weak and/or crossing stems to encourage strong young blooming shoots.
- Divide crowded clumps of perennials and replant outer strong divisions.
- Dig bulbs after bloom as leaves fade. Replant Lycoris (spider lilies) immediately for fall bloom.
- Use a strong stream of water from the hose to dig around clumps of bulbs to avoid slicing them with a shovel or fork.
- Bone meal is NOT a good fertilizer. It is too alkaline for our NM soil.
- Super Phosphate (a fertilizer with a high middle number) supplies the phosphate necessary for strong bulbs.
- Plant early spring bulbs where their blooms can be seen from windows and at house entrances.

Penny Pines Reforestation Chairman - Isabel Olsen, Chair

In 1941, National Garden Clubs in partnership with the USDA Forest Service created the Penny Pines Plantation project. Our garden clubs have been participating in this meaningful conservation project through its generous contributions, and as a result, thousands of trees have been planted in New Mexico National Forests and in other states.

In 2016 the garden clubs of New Mexico gave \$1292.00, its highest monetary contribution to date for the Penny Pines project. I want to extend my gratitude to the members of these clubs and share with you who they are. In District I - Petal Pushers, District II – Los Alamos, District III – Angel Fire, District IV – Desert Daubers, Flowering Desert, Hi-Hopes, Mesilla Valley, and from the District IV Officers, District V – Home. Also President Suzy Andregio donated a plantation in my honor. At the NMGC Fall Board Meeting in Las Vegas, we collected enough money to plant two plantations in honor of our State President - Suzy Andregio. I would like to extend a big THANK YOU for your support and generous spirit! Penny Pines is the longest existing project for NGC, Inc. and it's a project that benefits our forest in New Mexico. To find out how you or your club can participate, go onto the National Garden Club website: www.gardenclub.org and click on projects. You can also contact me by email: issyolsen@yahoo.com.

Ways and Means - Juanita Ortega, Chair

We are looking forward to the NMGC, Inc. 2017 Annual Convention, in Albuquerque on April 25 – 27, 2017. The second raffle drawing will be held at this meeting. All non-winning tickets from the previous drawing, held at the NMGC, Inc. Fall Board Meeting in Las Vegas, NM, will be included in this raffle. There are some fabulous prizes that will be given away. They include a metal wind catcher outdoor garden ornament, two handsome sterling silver bolo ties and one Native American sterling silver and turquoise necklace and earring set. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5 and will be available at the Convention. Thank you for your support of our President's Project and best of luck to all!



Photos by Juanita Ortega

NMGC CLUB NEWS

District I - Mary Ann Moreno, Director

District I has eight Garden Clubs and one Junior Garden Club. Our last District Meeting was held October 10, 2016, at El Pinto Restaurant at 10500 4th Street NW. Morrow Baker was our speaker, a UNM Professor, Horticulturist and Landscape Architect. His book, *Best Plants for New Mexico, Gardens and Landscapes*, was for sale. El Jardin Encanto Garden Club celebrated their 50th Anniversary at the meeting and Luncheon. District I provided the beautiful cake to help celebrate the occasion.

I am asking all of the 8 Garden clubs in the District to help with our NMGC Spring Convention, April 25-27, 2017, and the South Central Regional Convention April 28-29, 2017, at the DRURY INN in Albuquerque, NM. Each Club is asked to bring 100 small items to put into the welcome bags. So far we have tissues, power bars, water, tooth brushes and Balloon Fiesta stickers. Sarah Bianco and Sonia James, are Co-Chairmen of the NMGC Spring Convention and Jennifer and Mary Ann Moreno are Co-Chairmen for the South Central Region Convention.

The upcoming conventions affect all NMGC members. We are hoping all Garden club members from around the state will also pitch in and help us with Registration desk, hostesses, pages, smiles, (bring presents), **attend the conventions** and add moral support to our District. Our District 5 member, **Isabel Olson**, will be installed as 2017-2019, **South Central Regional Director** at the **SCR convention**. District 2 member **Barbara Vance** will be installed as **President of NMGC, Inc.**, 2017-2019 at our **NMGC Spring Convention**. The Drury Inn Hotel is very friendly, has great staff, offers yummy evening snacks including two beverages, and a great hot Breakfast, all included in your room rate. So you all come to Albuquerque and bring your swim suit!

Our last District I meeting will be held on Monday, March 13, 2017, at Weck's Restaurant located on Louisiana NE. We will have lunch, installation of new Officers, receive District I Awards and honor our NMGC President Suzy Andrego. I have enjoyed my term as District I Director, and will still be here to help the new crew in any way I can. Adios Amigos.

High Desert Design Club - Shirley Tetreault, President

High Desert Design Club is ready for a new challenge. The *Handbook for Flower Shows* will be released in January 2017 and ready for use on July 1, 2017. The new book will give us a fresh start on all of the New Designs that have been established to enhance our creativity.

We will have our first Flower Show on August 11th and 12th at the Weems Gallery in Albuquerque. Members are very excited about this new venture that we hope will be a yearly event. Our designers will have an opportunity to meet with several local and state artists.

Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month at 1:00 p.m. at the Albuquerque Garden Center in the Pinon Room. January is a fun month with the creation of many different types of wreaths. Suzy Andrego did a demo on making wreaths with bandanas for our Blue Star Memorials and Kristin Thompson created wreaths with grape vine, mesh, and ribbon. Both were outstanding and created a frenzy of wreath making. In December, High Desert created four beautiful wreaths for the Habitat for Humanity homes. This was a great project with a lot of involvement.

Trailblazer Garden Club --Barbara Cole, Co-President

Is it spring yet? I didn't think so.

Trailblazers Garden Club decided some time ago to take November, December, and January off so we're waiting till February to get together. But while we're not meeting we've decorated the San Juan Regional Medical Center Christmas tree in November and un-decorated it in January. Very professional job if we do say so ourselves.

Then there was the Christmas get together at Barbara Papp's home. The food and company are always delightful. As usual, we collected toiletry items for the Family Crisis Center for delivery in January after the Christmas rush.

Our fall Programs were a demonstration by plant whisperer, Roselyn Ragsdale, of San Juan Nursery. Her topic? How to Plant a Large Planter with Many Plants. Before that we made suet balls, and before that we learned ALL about coffee.

So it's been an interesting run up to our winter vacation. So we're having another cup of hot cider, putting our feet up a watching the mercury drop.

District II - Doris Jackson, Director

District II Clubs have been busy with fundraisers, club meetings and social events during the late Fall and Holidays. The Spring District II meeting/lunch will be held Hotel Santa Fe on Tuesday, March 21, 2017. Floral Designers GC is the hostess club. There will be installation of officers for 2017-2019 and Pegi Naranjo Smith will give the Program on succulents.

Summit Garden Club

In October, we expanded our horizons and toured a research facility in Los Alamos - the New Mexico Consortium. This company specializes in plant biology, biomedical technology, advanced computing, and modeling analysis. Then in December, we held our annual holiday party and cookie exchange. This time, we also had a speaker. Landscape architect and Summit member Shirley Carter spoke on color in the garden. She focused on silvers and grays, especially Dusty Miller (Silver Dust variety), Cantolina (Lavender Cotton variety), Stachys (Helen von Stein variety), and Artemesium (Powis Castle variety). These plants are especially showy in the moonlight, and last well after last frost. In January, we traditionally hold no meeting, so we can rest for the upcoming gardening year.

Betsy Comly, Summit Garden Club

NMGC CLUB NEWS

District II Continued . . .

Floral Designers Garden Club - Juanita Ortega, President

Floral Designers did not meet during October, November and December of last year due to District II and NMGC, Inc. Fall Board Meetings and winter holidays. The January meeting was held at the home of one of our Los Alamos members. Following the business meeting, a Program on Abstract Creative Design, titled "Whimsical Imagination", was presented, using NGC, Inc. publications *Handbook for Flower Shows* and *Designing by Types* as references. It was followed by critique of all the members' designs. This was an especially good learning experience. The program was followed by a delicious hot soup luncheon, which was enjoyed by all the members. Our February Program will feature a Creative Horizontal Design, titled "Mountain Shadows".



Abstract Barbara Vance



Abstract Shelby Green



Abstract Diana Capshaw

Photos by Juanita Ortega

DISTRICT III - Colleen Hinker, Director

All our members would like to thank all who attended our Fall Board Meeting in Las Vegas, NM. The Plaza Hotel was a lovely place to meet with our friends all over the state and to share ideas and projects. We welcome you back at any time.

Angel Fire - Johnese Turri, President



We had a wonderful end to 2016 with our garden club!! We had a fun breakfast tailgate work party at the Memorial to get it ready for winter. Our November meeting was how to create a Thanksgiving Tablescape. Was fun to see how to incorporate deer sheds on your Thanksgiving table as well as how to turn your pumpkin and other fall items from your home into beautiful centerpieces.

Elliott, the Elk on the median, was decked out with Santa boots, nose & hat and a big beautiful wreath made out of an old Christmas Tree. Was fun to see him all lit up for Christmas! We participated in the Chamber of Commerce's 12 days of Christmas, a fund raising event where local businesses and organizations donated fun prizes which were given away in daily drawings. The garden club made a wreath using dried Mullen and wild irises with pine boughs cut from our properties. We made the poinsettias out of beer cans sprayed with red paint and highlighted with glitter.

Our annual Christmas party was great!! We had a decorated arch in the entrance to the restaurant. Every table had a very unique centerpiece made from rounds cut from aspen and pine in different diameters and heights with special Christmas decorations from our committee members added to the these rounds. It truly was an enchanting Christmas party!

All during December, we collected items for the Taos Men Shelter and for our local food bank. It was wonderful to see our donation boxes around town filled with generous donations. We are now getting ready for a wonderful 2017!! We've got a wonderful new board coming in and look forward to a fantastic year!!



Additional Photos on back page

Santa Rosa Garden Club - Carolyn Bedford, President

Santa Rosa Garden Club members have been busy browsing through the garden and seed catalogs for the upcoming spring planting season. In addition they had a great Christmas dinner party with spouses included where "white elephant" gifts were exchanged. Everyone had fun taking away the most popular gifts.

In January, the State Smokey Bear Chairman, Mary Ann Moreno, came to Santa Rosa to help us judge the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl posters from Santa Rosa and Anton Chico Grade Schools. The judging culminated in sending 10 outstanding posters with Mary Ann for the state competition. Pictures are included. Also in January we got together at the Hinker's home to do our annual scrapbook. Be sure and look at it at the convention in March. Waiting for the Spring Planting Season.



Colleen Hinker, Frances Speight



Katherine Esquibel judging



Katherine Esquibel and Colleen Hinker display the winning posters



Is this the best for this grade, Frances wonders

NMGC CLUB NEWS

District IV, Nancy Ketcham, Director

Mesilla Valley Garden Club - Charlene Brock, President

What a lovely Fall this has been. Winter is approaching and predicted to be on the wet side. However, celebrating Christmas at the home of one of our members is always highly anticipated. This year, as usual, Jerry and Helen Moser outdid themselves and were very gracious hosts. Unfortunately, our State President, Suzy Andrego, was not able to attend. President Charlene did share her experience at the State Fall Board Meeting in Las Vegas, NM, which also was attended by Beulah Oyler, Becky Fuller, Judy Laird, and Linnea Egbert.

At a very informative January Program in Mesilla on Orchids by Double Eagle Restaurant owner, Buddy Ritter, we learned there are about 30,000 kinds of orchids. Interestingly, they grow on all continents with the exception of Antarctica, but mostly are grown in temperate climates. They do take a lot of educated care, especially in New Mexico. After reviewing our By-Laws, Linnea and Charlene found that we have three members that qualify to be nominated as Honorary Members, having been members for over 25 years. In appreciation, Rosemary Maddox and Julie Mather were presented with MVGC's newly created Rose Award (with Suzy's permission) for their 30 years of membership. Beulah Oyler was also presented with the Rose Award for her 50 years membership. State President Suzy Andrego, along with Awards Chair Debra Sorrell, presented a beautiful engraved vase to Beulah and a Presidential Citation to each of the ladies.

Have you every walked a Labyrinth? That was the experience gained by our members that attended the meeting in February given by member Howie Dash. He first narrated a computer Program on labyrinths, explaining the different designs and purpose - to find yourself. Attendees were then invited outside to see his and wife Lilly's on the east side of their home and walk the 1/4 mile design. They also have one on the west side. Howie, also our Treasurer, shared that our club will be sending a check to the Penny Pines Chair to be designated for the Gila National Forest.



Above: President Suzy Andrego and Charlene Brock (left) 50 year member Beulah Oyler and (right) 30 year members, Rosemary Maddox and Julie Mather. Photo: Linnea Egbert
Far right: Walking one of the labyrinths at the February meeting. Photo: Janie Muhlig

Sunshine Valley Garden Club - Linda Brandis, Secretary

The **Sunshine Valley Garden Club** had a Program on composting at the November 2016 meeting. We learned the different methods of composting, how it works, the benefits, how to start a composting pile, how to turn it, what can and cannot go into it, and how to deal with various problems. It was very informative and many members were excited to give it a try.

We had our annual Christmas luncheon on December 9 at La Cocina Restaurant in Truth or Consequences. Many gifts were given and a good time was had by all at this festive holiday event. Also, as is our tradition, we delivered poinsettias to the Veterans' Home, Sierra Vista Nursing Home and Assisted Living. Another thing we did is take Names from the various Christmas trees in town at banks and Walmart and bought requested gifts for seniors, children or veterans.

The main topic for our January meeting was planning and preparing for our annual Membership Tea on February 10. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to increase our membership. We are looking forward to this *tea-rrific* event. Also, a committee was formed for the District IV Spring Meeting that the Club is hosting on March 7.

District V - Judy Preston, Director

District V Gardners have been busy this Fall and Winter hosting a variety of Programs that included the following topics:

- * Vertical Gardening - Succulents - Planning Information from the Roswell Parks & Recreation Department - The Benefits of Ladybugs in the Garden - Making Flower Arrangements
- * Members from District V also enjoyed attending the State Fall Board Meeting in Las Vegas and participating in the activities and tours.
- * Holiday luncheons and parties were attended by Artesia, Home, Morning, Lincoln County and the Pecos Valley Youth Garden Club.
- * Artesia made flower arrangements for the Senior Citizens Center and were studying and passing exams for Judging Classes.

The Pecos Valley Youth Club was busy making pine cone bird feeders, decorating pumpkins, planting bulbs in the ground and in large containers at the Spring River Park and Zoo, and decorating Christmas cookies. In January, they began 2017 learning about the benefits of Ladybugs in the garden. This **new** group now has around **30 members** of varying ages and has had a very successful year.

Since it is indeed difficult to "garden with snow on the ground", Lincoln County Gardeners were inside sitting by the fire with catalogues busily planning for the spring.

District V Clubs are happy that new members have been welcomed during this time.

NMGC CLUB NEWS

District V Continued . . .

Home Garden Club - Pam Davis, President

Our winter gardening continues... And meetings that have brought many new members into our club! We met in the home of one of our members and learned about "The Many Uses of Herbs & Essential Oils". Our December Christmas gathering was such a delight as members shared a delicious potluck luncheon. We gathered items to take to our local youth (16 yrs to 18 yrs old) in the NM Youth Challenge and had a fun time with our gift exchange! Spring River Park and Zoo was our selected guest for January and presented an outstanding Program on "Our Precious Native Birds". Our zoo garden is handling the mild winter with beauty, thanks to our diligent members taking great care of its needs.



Guests at the January meeting



Christmas Gathering

Lincoln County Garden Club - Nannette Tanner, President

Shaping the Landscape in the Land of Enchantment

This has been an extremely busy year, so it is time to sit and visit and eat! Our November luncheon was held at the First Christian Church in Ruidoso. It was a pot luck with members bringing dessert or salad to go with our main course, Taco Soup. It is hard to believe the year has passed so quickly! Members brought care packages for the Military and non-perishable items for the food bank.

We will start the new year with a Program on "thinning our trees" in February. In March we will learn how to feed our plants and in April we will plant a tree in Ruidoso to help "Keep Ruidoso Beautiful". Our installation of officers is in May. See you in April at the Convention.

Morning Garden Club - Janice Dunnahoo, President

Morning Garden Club has been busy, as always.

In December, we decorated the Southeast New Mexico Historical Society Museum, as we do every year for their *Holiday Open House*.

In January we were educated with a Program by Dana Moore-Smith R.N./epidemiologist, on Zika Virus! It was very informative and quite interesting. The Zika mosquito is in our county! (Health Study). February's Program will be presented by Rene McCoy on "Leaf Manipulation." (Design) We are looking forward to the Program presented by one of our own. In March we also look forward to a Program on "Vegetable Gardening" presented by the Chaves County Extension/Ag Agent, Sandra Key Barraza.

Sue Ferguson and Renate Reisel have just planted a Pink Garden (Plant it Pink-Planet Pink) in front of the Southeast New Mexico Historical Society archives.

We have recently made table decorations for Christmas at the Sunset Villa Nursing Care home, under the direction of Renate Reisel. Another Holiday project of Renate's was making mini wreaths and Gingerbread Men at the Los Pasitos Daycare and Learning Center.



NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
SOUTH CENTRAL REGION
88th Annual Spring Convention
"The MAGNIFICENT MARIPOSA"
APRIL 28 & 29, 2017

Drury Inn & Suites Albuquerque North Albuquerque, 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 circle your classification (all that apply): NCG Officer, NGC Chair, NGC Committee Member, SCR Officer, SCR Chair, State Officer, State Chair, District Director, Club President, Club Member, Flower Show Judge, Landscape Consultant, Environmental Consultant, State Life Member, Regional Life Member, National Life Member, Guest

Please make checks payable to: **District I, NMGC/SCR 2017 Convention** and mail them to: **Sarah Bianco, 13522 Terragon NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110, (505) 332-2090, sbianco@swcp.com**

Please mark either a FULL TIME or Part-time Registration area:

Full Time Package includes:

\$30.00 Registration fee, Dinner & Container Garden Program, Lunch & Program: Pollinator Plants for Our Region, SCR Director & State President's Reception, Dinner and Design Program to Benefit the SCR Scholarship.

OPTIONAL FRIDAY TOUR (\$50.00)

Bandelier National Monument & Los Alamos Tour & Sit Down Lunch at Bandelier (40 people minimum needed)

EARLY FULL TIME PACKAGE

(Postmarked on or before **4/7/17**) \$ 140.00 ____

LATE FULL TIME PACKAGE

(Postmarked after **4/7/17/17**) \$ 165.00 ____

OPTIONAL Friday Bandelier Tour \$ 50.00 ____

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

NOTE: No refunds on registration after 4/15/17. Registration fee is NON-REFUNDABLE.

PART-TIME REGISTRATION

Registration fee \$ 30.00 ____

Friday, April 28, 2017

Bandelier Tour & Lunch \$ 50.00 ____

Dinner & Container Garden Program \$ 35.00 ____

Saturday, April 29, 2017

Luncheon

Program: Pollinator Plants for Our Region \$ 25.00 ____

SCR Director's & State President's Reception \$ 10.00 ____

SCR Banquet

Design Program to Benefit the SCR Scholarship \$ 40.00 ____

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Special Dietary Needs: Please contact Suzy Andrego, sandrego@qwest.net

HOTEL:

Drury Inn & Suites Albuquerque North, 4310 The 25 Way Northeast, Albuquerque, NM 87109, (800) 252-7772, (505)341-3600,
Single or Double Rate: \$99.00 (plus tax), Daily Room rate includes FREE Hot breakfast and happy hour.

Make reservations using the Name: **NMGC/SCR 2017 Convention.**

Deadline for special rate reservations is April 1, 2017.

Foto Overflo



Angel Fire



2017

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| March 13 | District I, Spring Board Meeting
Albuquerque |
| March 21 | District II, Spring Board Meeting
Santa Fe |
| March 29 | District III, Spring Board Meeting
Las Vegas |
| March 7 | District IV, Spring Board Meeting
Truth or Consequences |
| March 23 | District V, Spring Board Meeting
Roswell |
| April 25 - 27 | NMGC, INC. 2017 Annual Convention
Albuquerque, NM |
| April 28 - 30 | South Central Region
2017 Convention, Albuquerque |
| May 18 - 20 | NGC Convention, Richmond, VA
(Installation Year) |
| September 12 - 16 | NGC Fall Board Meeting
St. Louis, MO |

2018

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| May 21 - 24 | NGC Spring Convention
Philadelphia PA |
| September 25 - 30 | NGC Fall Board Meeting
Orlando |

New Mexico Gardener
POBox 328
Mesilla NM 88046

To: