



Bulletin of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Vol48No4

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Spring Issue



2018

FOOTSTEPS OF THE THREE SISTERS

69th ANNUAL CONVENTION

April 4, 5, 6, 2018

Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino

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	555 Paid Memberships
3 Youth Clubs	84 Youth Members

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

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NMGC, Inc. President 2017-2019

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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.

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

www.newmexicogardenclubs.org
NMGC User name: nmgc
www.gardenclub.org
NGC User name : Member

Deadline

Spring
Summer
Fall
Winter

Dates

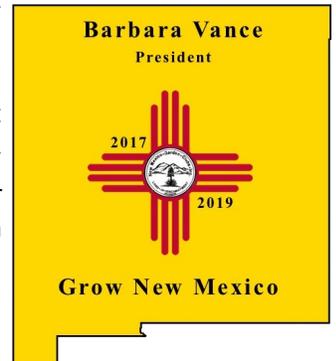
February 1
May 1
August 1
November 1

Articles/Photos for the next *Gardener* must be submitted by May 1, 2018

Barbara Vance



Spring is trying to make its way into New Mexico. Winter visited us only briefly and brought much needed moisture. We breathed a sigh of relief – hoping it would be the end of our drought. Now the weather forecasters are telling us that much of our state is still in a period of drought and we all need to be mindful of our water supply. Gardens and trees need to be watered to maintain what has already been planted. Think about xeriscaping when planning gardens and lawns. Use drought resistant plants to conserve water. When considering landscapes – think about combining colorful crushed stone “scapes” with greenery and flowers – a trend that is becoming more and more popular. Every little bit counts and can make a big difference in garden sustainability. Remember our themes:



Plant America, and Grow New Mexico.

Educational opportunities for 2018. Last November a new series of Flower Show Schools started at the Albuquerque Garden Center. School II will be March 23-25. Others will continue this summer and fall. Even if you don't plan to be a judge, you are welcome to attend to learn about horticulture, floral designing, and flower show procedures. Club year-books list programs about environmental concerns, garden tours, garden crafts, flower arranging and how to prepare for flower shows. Club President Reports at District meetings are a great source of ideas for a club or district program. Shared meetings and programs are a wonderful way to meet and make new friends. Membership teas/events are scheduled to attract new members, and renew friendships. **TEAM – Together Everyone Accomplishes More.**

District II clubs have been busy preparing for the 2018 NMGC State Convention, April 4-5-6 - to be held at Buffalo Thunder Resort - a few miles north of Santa Fe. The Official Call, Official Schedule, and Registration form are contained in this issue of the GARDENER. All members of New Mexico Garden Clubs are welcome to attend. Special speakers/programs have been planned, including tours and other activities. In our business meeting we will hear reports from our Officers, District Directors and Chairpersons. The Banquet will be on Thursday evening followed by the presentation of Top Awards. Friday morning all other Awards will be given out. The NMGC ANNUAL REPORT will be handed out. **See you There!**

Barbara Vance, President, New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Grow New Mexico



FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Christine Longthorp



Hello, Fellow Garden Clubbers:

After such a glorious Fall, Winter has, so far, been a “no-show”. Spring has sprung in my patio pots and borders, and my Bradley Pear is budding out. The Rio Grande is on my doorstep, and is flowing very high due to early snow melt. We may be facing another year of drought, which is such a challenge to members of NMGC as we plan flower shows and other club projects.

As always, NMGC members are resilient and creative, and collectively, we make our state more fruitful and beautiful every day. I encourage you all to come to Santa Fe in early April for our state convention. And, bring new people. I will always remember my first state convention and the enthusiasm I caught. Here I am, 38 years later, planning to attend another. Remember, if you’re not getting much out of your garden club, try putting more in, invest your time and talent, and watch it grow like your garden.

Old gardeners never die, they simply pop their clogs... Keep happy, keep gardening, and see you all this Spring...

NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

OFFICIAL CALL

69TH Annual Convention

“FOOTSTEPS OF THE THREE SISTERS”

April 4, 5, 6, 2018

Buffalo Thunder Resort

This is the **official notice** to all members of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. to attend the 2018 Annual Convention to be held at Buffalo Thunder Resort at Pueblo of Pojoaque.

All members of the Executive Committee, State Officers, District Directors, Club Presidents, State Chairpersons, are voting members of the Board of Directors. They are encouraged and expected to attend this meeting for the purpose of conducting business.

Officers- District Directors - Chairpersons are to report on the activities of their position since last convention, March 2017. Reports are due MARCH 1, 2018 and are to be submitted to Conni Elkins, Corresponding Secretary. The reports will be printed in the Annual Report to be distributed at the State Convention.

The Official Schedule and Registration, including hotel reservation information, are in the Spring issue of the *New Mexico Gardener*. Please register and reserve your hotel room early to take advantage of the special rate (deadline is March 14, 2018).

All members of New Mexico Garden Clubs and guest/s are welcome to attend the convention. Special speakers/programs have been planned including tours and activities.

A time to greet friends – meet and make new friends – enjoy the fantastic accommodations and the ambiance of this special meeting place.

Barbara Vance, President, New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Grow New Mexico



FOOTSTEPS OF THE THREE SISTERS

Hello all!

Spring is just around the corner and that means so is the 2018 Annual Convention! I hope everyone has enjoyed this mild winter even though for me it's meant watering my yard much more frequently than I'd prefer. But hope springs eternal and I'm hoping for a wet spring. Watch it will rain on our Convention. But that's not a problem--there's lots of great things for us to do and still stay dry.

We've secured some great programs for the Convention. For the Judges Council Banquet, Shelby Green and Pat Copple will give a design program highlighting the changes in the newly revised Handbook for Flower Shows. Both of these women are fabulous designers and you should not miss this presentation!

Our luncheon program brings a treat for all of us. Clayton Brascoupe is the Director of the Traditional Native American Farmers Association. TNAFA is active in the preservation and conservation of traditional and heirloom seeds. Through a variety of educational programs they support native communities, farmers and young people in community scale organic farming, with the end goal of ensuring a future in agriculture. Their annual Indigenous Sustainable Food Systems Design Course is a six-day intensive training in ecological design, natural farming and earth restoration, and natural healing both human and Mother Earth. I'm so excited to hear what Clayton has to tell us!

Our dinner banquet speaker, Roxanne Swentzell, ties in beautifully with what we're learning from our luncheon speaker. Roxanne, a world renowned artist whose works appear at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, the Denver Art Museum and the Santa Fe Convention Center is also a prominent permaculturist. Roxanne is one of the founders of the Flowering Tree Permaculture Institute. She will be talking to us about her experiences in the permaculture world. Topics may include creating a sustainable homestead, land restoration, plant diversity, seed saving, water catchment, or any of a host of other topics. This is another program you won't want to miss.

Along with the Convention sessions and ceremonies, we've included some very interesting activities. There are four different tours planned. Those of you who haven't been to this part of the state (or haven't been recently) will want to take the Atomic City tour. Georgia, our tour guide, is extremely knowledgeable and a fabulous tour guide. Members who went on the Bandelier tour at last year's SCR Convention can attest to her historical prowess. There's the tour of La Mesita Ranch, which was originally owned by the Pueblo of Pojoaque, sold to a wealthy easterner who built the present day buildings, and was repurchased by the Pueblo in the early 2000s. La Mesita has a very interesting history and the site is beautiful. It is a rare treat and is listed as one of the go-to place for weddings. The artwork around Buffalo Thunder is astonishing. Incorporating artwork from many tribes, it's one of the largest collections in the country. The collection is so large, they rotate the displays on a regular basis. In addition to the artwork at Buffalo Thunder, Pojoaque Pueblo has its own museum and educational facilities at the Poeh Cultural Center. We'll be going on a tour of the museum plus we'll be given a demonstration of some of their art classes. A rare treat to be sure. For those who come early, join us on Tuesday evening for some fun, camaraderie, and karaoke! Even if you don't want to sing, there's sure to be lots of fun.

There are also many activities to do in the local area. Pojoaque is a little known gem in northern New Mexico. Santa Fe is the oldest capital city in the country and has something for everyone. The Santa Fe Botanical Garden is offering a *What's Blooming* guided tour on Tuesday morning April 3rd at 9:30 AM. For those who like museums, there's a whole area called "Museum Hill" with at least one or two museums that will catch your fancy. The Don Quixote Distillery and Winery is right up the road from Buffalo Thunder as is Georgia O'Keefe's Abiquiu house (although it's a bit farther up the road). So there's lots for everyone to do should you bring significant others with you to the Convention.

We've reserved a block of rooms at Buffalo Thunder for our Convention. Single/Double rooms are \$99/night plus tax and Triple/Quad rooms are available for \$119/\$139 respectively. This is a great rate for the Santa Fe area. There is only a specific number of rooms at these rates, so it behooves everyone to reserve early.

Our Convention Committee has been working diligently to make this a memorable event. There'll be silent auctions, vendors, raffles and door prizes galore, so everyone can go home with lots of memories and tangibles!

We're looking forward to seeing all our old friends and making new ones at this year's convention. So make your reservations early to get in on all the fun and excitement!

Laurie Hixson, Convention Chairman
New Mexico Garden Clubs 2018 Annual Convention
"Footsteps of the Three Sisters"



NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
69th ANNUAL CONVENTION
"FOOTSTEPS OF THE THREE SISTERS"
April 4, 5, 6, 2018
Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino

2018 - OFFICIAL SCHEDULE

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

12:00 PM - 6:00 PM	REGISTRATION – Buffalo Thunder Resort - Pueblo 3 Ballroom
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	NMGC Executive Board Meeting
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	NM Judges Council Executive Board Meeting
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM	NM Judges Council General Meeting
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	NM Judges Council Banquet
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Judges Council Program: <i>"New Trends In Floral Design"</i> , a Design Program by Pat Copple and Shelby Green

Thursday, April 5, 2018

OFFICIAL OPENING OF NMGC, INC. CONVENTION

	Breakfast on your own
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION – Buffalo Thunder Resort - Pueblo 3 Ballroom
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Official Opening of NMGC, Inc. 69 th Annual Convention
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM	NMGC, Inc. General Business Meeting
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Luncheon
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Program: <i>"Revitalizing Traditional Agriculture for Spiritual and Human Need Through the Preservation and Conservation of Traditional & Heirloom Seeds"</i>
-	- Clayton Brascoupe
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	General Business Meeting continues (if necessary)
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Free time to visit the plaza – gift shops – museum – take a tour
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	President's Reception – Buffalo Thunder Resort - President's Suite
6:15 PM - 6:30 PM	Banquet – Introduction of Past State Presidents & Club Presidents.
6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Banquet Meal
7:30 PM - 8:00 PM	Memorial Service & Top Award Presentations
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Program: <i>"Creating Sustainable Lifestyles by Recreating the Design Patterns of Nature"</i> by Roxanne Swentzell

Friday, April 6, 2018

CONVENTION

	Breakfast on your own
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	NMGC, Inc. Awards Presentation
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Final Credentials - Resolutions
10:30 AM	Adjournment

Buffalo Thunder Resort - 20 Buffalo Thunder Trail, Pueblo of Pojoaque (12 miles north of Santa Fe)
The registration form is in this issue of the *New Mexico Gardener* or may be printed from the NMGC website

Barbara Vance, President, New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Grow New Mexico



NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
69th Annual Convention
"FOOTSTEPS OF THE THREE SISTERS"
APRIL 4 - 6, 2018

Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino - Santa Fe, New Mexico



2018
United States Mint image

Print your Name as you would like it to appear on your nametag:

Name: _____
Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Garden Club(s): _____

Please circle your classification (all that apply):

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| NGC President | NGC Officer | NGC Chairman | NGC Committee Member | NGC Life Member | SCR Director |
| SCR Officer | SCR Chairman | SCR Life Member | NMGC State President | Past State President | State Officer |
| State Chairman | State Life Member | District Director | Club President | Club Member | Flower Show Judge |
| Landscape Consultant | | Environmental Consultant | | Guest | |

Please mark either a **FULL TIME Package** or **PART TIME Registration**

Full Time Package includes: \$25.00 Registration fee, Lunch/Program, NMGC President's Reception, Banquet/Top Awards & Awards Presentation

NOTE: Full Time Package does NOT include Judges Program!

EARLY FULL TIME PACKAGE (Postmarked on or before **3/16/2018**)----- \$ 100.00 _____

LATE FULL TIME PACKAGE (Postmarked after **3/16/2018**)----- \$ 125.00 _____

NOTE: No refunds on registration after March 28, 2018.

NM JUDGES COUNCIL: (not in package plan)

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

NM Judges Council Dinner/Program, (Program only \$20.00)----- \$ 40.00 _____

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

PART-TIME REGISTRATION

Registration fee, mandatory for part-time registration----- \$ 25.00 _____

Thursday, April 5, 2018

Luncheon/Program, (Program only \$20.00)----- \$ 30.00 _____

NMGC President's Reception ----- \$10.00 _____

NMGC Banquet/Program, (Program only \$25.00) ----- \$ 50.00 _____

Friday, April 6, 2018

Awards Presentation ----- \$ 10.00 _____

CONVENTION TOURS—Description on page 8

La Mesita Ranch Estate----- \$ 25.00 _____

Atomic City Tours, Northern New Mexico ----- \$ 30.00 _____

Buffalo Thunder Resort Artwork ----- \$ 10.00 _____

Poeh Cultural Center and Museum ----- \$ 20.00 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

* *Special Dietary Needs: Please contact Laurie Hixson, hixsons@comcast.net or (505) 672-3483*

Please make checks payable to: District II, NMGC 2018 Convention and mail to:

Norma Tech, 15 Tecolote, Los Alamos, NM 87544 (505) 662-7424, nht_tech@yahoo.com

HOTEL: Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino, 20 Buffalo Thunder Trail, Santa Fe NM 87506

Single/Double Rate: \$99.00 (plus tax) **Deadline for special rate reservations is March 14, 2018.** Web link for reservations:

www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SFECGHH-NMGC-20180404/index.jhtml?WT.mc.id=POG.

Enter group code **NMGC** or call (505) 455-5555 and mention New Mexico Garden Clubs to receive special room rate.

Convention Special Events and Attractions



Convention Location

Situated in the pristine Pojoaque Valley, Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino boasts spectacular views of the breathtaking high-desert scenery and serves as your gateway to the extraordinary landscapes of northern New Mexico. Enjoy easy access to skiing (yes, it's possible even in April here), hiking, and fascinating cultural events or just lounge by the pool and enjoy panoramic views of the Sangre de Cristo and Jemez Mountain ranges. So come early—meet old friends and make new ones. Stay afterwards and enjoy all that northern New Mexico has to offer.

Tour Opportunities

- #1 Tuesday, April 3, 1 - 3, *La Mesita Ranch Estate* - \$25.00** **Preconvention**
La Mesita boasts four cottages and one Grande Hacienda. Each of these “residences” is unique unto themselves, with art and décor that bring together ancient and modern, and speaks to the land and culture of the Pueblo of Pojoaque. The residences were designed by legendary architect John Gaw Meem, who created the Territorial style of homes in New Mexico. The estate is situated on 140 acres of sprawling fields of green.
- #2 Wednesday, April 4, 3:30 - 5:30, *Atomic City Tours* - \$30.00** **Preconvention**
Join a long-time expert and learn about the history of the Pajarito Plateau, the surrounding area and Los Alamos. Visit the Los Alamos Historic District, including a brief stop at either the Bradbury Science Museum or the History Museum Campus, the Blue Star Memorial marker at the Memorial Rose Garden and the Demonstration Garden of native plants. Along the way you'll learn about the local history, topography, Manhattan Project and view of the Espanola Basin of the Rio Grande rift. (Limit 7 people)
- #3 Thursday, April 5, 3:30 - 4:30, *Buffalo Thunder Resort Artwork* - \$10.00** **Convention Free Time**
An art museum in itself, Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino is home to hundreds of pieces of unique art, sculptures and architecture—every room offers hand-designed furnishings and work by local artists. A knowledgeable guide will escort you around the resort where you will find works of art representing every native tribe within new Mexico. We hope you will take the opportunity to join us in exploring over 300 one-of-a-kind pieces throughout the gallery-like surroundings.
- #4 Friday, April 6, *Poeh Cultural Center, Museum and Demonstration* - \$20.00** **Post Convention**
Imagine authentic Native American arts and the opportunity to interact directly with a Pueblo tour guide. The Poeh Center emphasizes cultural preservation and revitalization through the arts and cultures of all Pueblo People—with a focus on the Tewa-speaking Pueblos Nambe, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso, Ohkay Owingeh, Santa Clara and Tesuque; and the Tiwa-speaking Pueblos of Picuris and Taos.

Also enjoy -

- Tuesday, April 3, 8 PM, *Karaoke*** **Preconvention**
Turquoise Trail Bar and Grill
- Friday, April 6, 11 AM to Noon, *Bean Display*** **Post Convention**
Buffalo Thunder Resort—Pueblo 3 Ballroom

A list of additional nearby attractions will be included in the gift bags

Vendor Information

Tables will be available for a nominal fee to sell garden related items. Garden clubs and members are invited to join some local vendors in participating in the Vendor's Lobby. For more information, contact Doris Jackson, drcjx@aol.com or 505--662-7563.

Sponsor Information

Would your organization like to help sponsor this year's Annual Convention? The Convention Committee welcomes any support. For more information, contact Laurie Hixson, hixsons@comcast.net or 505-672-3483.

SCR DIRECTOR ISABEL OLSEN



I just read a very interesting article in the newspaper that I must share with you. It states there is a growing movement of highly educated young Americans that are leaving their desk jobs to take up farming. The majority of these young farmers did not grow up in agriculture families and the number of farmers age 25 to 34 grew 2.2 percent between 2007-2012, according to the 2014 USDA census. In some states, such as California, Nebraska and South Dakota the number of beginning farmers has grown by 20 percent or more. We also have an organic movement going on. You may have noticed this as you shop in your local grocery stores. In the produce department we are seeing more signs indicating organic grown and on shelf items you will read the term non- GMO or GMO FREE and USDA organic on the labels. Selling at Farmers Markets has become all the rage. More Farmers Markets have blossomed in big cities and also in rural America. Households raising vegetables, fruit and including flower growers, has made gardening a popular form of outdoor recreation. So fear not... Gardeners are hardly an endangered species.

I know that many of our garden club members grow food and some garden clubs are involved with Community Gardens. Share with me how you **Plant America**, and please send your photos and information to my email address: isabelolsen.nmgc@gmail.com. I would like to feature you or your club in the next SCR newsletter, *The Communicator* or our website and Facebook page. Along with that, I also would like to provide the *Keeping In Touch* editors of your interesting projects, so keep me informed.

At the upcoming SCR 89th Annual Convention "*Wonders of the Coastal Prairie*" we will have a program "Giving Fields" which will tell us about a vegetable garden in Texas that children and volunteers maintain. We will hear about the Katy Prairie Conservancy and there will be a floral design program and hands on workshop "Petite Design" which for those attending will keep their design and container. This will be a convention that Gardeners and Floral Designers will not want to miss! There will be an additional perk; join us Friday night for Wine, Chocolate and Technology. For those who are curious, we will reveal more information in our next issue of *The Communicator* which will be published March 15th.

Be sure to inform the SCR Chairmen of your activities and projects so they can brag about your club in their reports. You can find their contact information on the SCR Officer & Chairperson List. I hope to see you all in Houston!

NMGC CHAIRPERSONS REPORTS

Awards, Sue Ferguson

AMES TOOLS GRANT

There is a new deadline for applications for AMES Tools for your club's gardening projects - April 15, 2018. The application and details of the grant process will be available on the National Garden Clubs website, www.gardenclub.org on March 1. Do take advantage of this great program.

AWARD SPONSORS NEEDED!

I am hoping to be able to give between \$15-\$25 to our first place award winners at the upcoming Convention, and am asking for your help to accomplish this. If you would like to sponsor an award, please send your check, made out to New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., and noting that it is for the Awards Fund, to NMGC's Inc., Treasurer, Laurie Hixson, 307 Potrillo Drive, Los Alamos NM 87547. You can choose a particular award you wish to sponsor, or whether you wish me to apply your donation wherever necessary. Our sponsors will be noted and thanked in the Awards Winners Booklet given out at the Convention. Thank you so much in advance for supporting the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., awards program.

Bees, Birds, Butterflies, Jo Ann Layden

Can't believe it's 2018 already! I was traveling for the last report of 2017 so missed my deadline for my report, my apologies to all of you. Larry and I did a Mission (medical) to Nicaragua in November and because I'm always on the lookout for them, did see some butterflies there but was surprised that there weren't a lot more of them. I believe we see more in the Angel Fire area even in cool weather than what I was seeing in warm Nicaragua. It reminded me that worldwide there is a problem with pollinator decline. I continue to encourage everyone to be aware of the different ways we as gardeners can help with this serious problem. Without pollinators human beings and really the entire earth cannot survive! That not only includes our bees and butterflies, but all pollinators which includes birds. This winter we have been in Mexico since December (will return late February). The weather is tropical in Mazatlan and although it's been great to see some butterflies there, I haven't seen them in great numbers. Probably the wrong time of the year. I was so tempted to travel to Morelia or Mexico City to visit at least one of the Butterfly Sanctuaries located near those cities, but we did not factor that into our travels. Some day I hope to accomplish that trip of seeing large numbers of butterflies (usually Monarchs) where they winter.

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued from Page 9)

Bees, Birds, Butterflies, Jo Ann Layden

The bees have also been visible and busy on all the beautiful flowers here in Mexico, but also not in great numbers, although I do see many beehives that honey farms have. I worry about what type of insecticides are being used here in Mexico since I know nothing about their methods if any, to control dangerous chemicals. There are many large acreages planted with corn and other crops and I see airplanes dusting them with pesticides! I'm looking forward to this summer in the Angel Fire area and hope my many pollinator friendly plants will attract and sustain the bees and butterflies! And I encourage all of you to plant a butterfly friendly garden.

Birds were plentiful in Black Lake (8 miles south of Angel Fire and where I live) this fall, and it was rewarding to watch them on our feeders. We had the usual Stellar Jays, Evening and Black-headed Grosbeaks, Chickadees, Nuthatches and Pygmy Nuthatches, along with an occasional Magpie and even Crows came by sometimes. We watched the ferruginous hawks hunt in our meadow as well as the Red-Tailed hawks, Golden Eagles and the Bald Eagles. Birds I watch here in Mexico are mostly the sea birds and I can spend the whole day doing just that! See you all for the Convention!

Blue Star Memorial, Shirley Tetreault

Blue Star & Gold Star Families Memorial Markers Price Increase. **Effective 1 May 2018 through 1 May 2020** the following prices will take effect for our Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial program. Please consider ordering your markers prior to that date.

Highway or Memorial (Large) Markers - \$1,530 (an increase of \$60.), Memorial By-way Marker (small) Markers - \$510. (\$20. increase). There is no increase for marker refurbishment.

Membership, Jan Smith

Increasing Membership

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.

Membership Dues Time!

It is time to collect membership dues from your Club Members. \$8 of your club dues is allocated to NMGC. Please send your membership list electronically to me. If possible, please use the spreadsheet distributed to you. Make your checks out to NMGC and indicate the number of members you are paying for on the check.

Mail checks to Jan Smith, NMGC, 2717 Onate Road, Roswell, NM 88201. Submit the list of members via email to jds7jds7@hotmail.com

Litter Control & Yearbook, Julie Foster

Thank-you and Congratulations to all that entered this year.



District I

Maple Levine, Director

The seed and plant catalogs are piling up and most of us have visions of “botanical garden worthy” yards firmly planted in our brains. We are lucky here that some of the days are warm enough to do some maintenance work and to welcome the appearance of crocuses and snowdrops peeping through the soil.

Our District 1 Spring Luncheon will take place 12 March 2018 at the Albuquerque Garden Center. This should be a fun event and it will be great to see all of our District friends and hear what activities are occurring by the various clubs. El Jardin Encantado will be our hostesses while the High Desert Designers will enchant us with original floral designs. Speakers during the luncheon will be Pamela Dupzyk and Jason Schaller both are educators at the Albuquerque Botanical Garden. Hope to see you all then!

Try to get outside and “Lose yourself to find yourself in your garden!” Make this be the year to complete all of those pruning chores! Just remember to apply adequate sunscreen and to protect those fancy manicures with garden gloves. (Tee hee.....as if!)

Unfortunately, I missed all of the fellowship and good times from our Fall Meeting in Las Cruces. Instead I traveled with DMAT (Disaster Medical Assistance Team) to Puerto Rico to help with disaster relief on that devastated island. While there, my team traveled to areas that few if any tourists ever see, and witnessed first-hand the struggles that people experienced.

Of interest to gardeners, it is important to know that Puerto Rico is the home of the only tropical rainforest belonging to the United States. While I never made it to El Yunque National Forest, I did go into the mountains on several occasions and witnessed the forests there. The rainforest is home to over 200 species of plants and trees 20 of which are only found in Puerto Rico. Also, there is an indigenous parrot that resides there too. We did not see any birds at all and there is worry that many were killed in the hurricane.

It was slow-going on the treacherous one-lane dirt roads stopping occasionally to navigate the switchbacks on the single-lane roads that did not have railings on either side. A false move would mean a free fall of what looked to be a thousand feet.

I do not need to expound upon how important rainforests are to the planet and to mankind as well. The Puerto Rican rainforest has suffered great losses but it is still very beautiful. We saw from a distance waterfalls, broken trees, and wild orchids. Slowly with the rain it is coming back to life.

The people that we brought food, water, and basic health care were all very grateful for our efforts and seemed that the majority of people came to us out of curiosity and to receive help.

One lesson learned from this experience will be: I will never take the rainforest, potable water, or electricity for granted again!



Maple Levine -
District 1 Director

High Desert Design

Writing a report for High Desert can sometimes be difficult because it is so exciting and we have so much fun. What causes this outbreak of enthusiasm? This President has concluded that if you give members a hands on project, someone to sit beside with the same interest—you will have a winner every time. Members will work as hard as they can to learn and share new ideas. They laugh, eat, visit and have fun. This is High Desert Design Club.

Our end of the year was extremely busy working the kitchen at the Holiday Fair at the Albuquerque Garden Center. An ending to a great and successful year...a fantastic party was held at the Presidents home. Everyone brought, food and gifts, relaxed and laughed.

January was off to a great start with our program on leaf manipulation. Jewel Cutter purchased leaves for everyone and the creations just started to flow around the room. There are so many different things that can be done using different types of plant material. Some members referred to “Leaf Manipulation” by Gail Emmons. This is a Beginner's Guide to Working with Leaves in a Contemporary Way. Others just took off on their own and shared with others. Attached are pictures of that meeting.

Our meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. at the Albuquerque Garden Center. Our program on February the 14th will be on weathered wood.



Dianna Dodridge



Manipulated
leaves



District II

Juanita Ortega, Director

District II members continue preparing to host the NMGC, Inc. 69th Annual Convention, “Footsteps of the Three Sisters”, to be held April 4th, 5th and 6th, 2018 at the Hilton Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino, just 20 miles north of Santa Fe. There are several special events planned, including four tours. On Tuesday, April 3rd, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., there will be a tour to La Mesita Estate. On Wednesday, April 4th, from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. there will be a tour of the Pajarito Plateau area and Los Alamos. On Thursday, April 5th, from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m., there will be a guided tour of over 300 pieces of artwork around the resort. A post-Convention tour on Friday, April 6 will take visitors to the Poeh Cultural Center Museum.

There will be three very interesting programs during the convention. On Wednesday evening, the Judges Council Program, “*New Trends in Floral Design*”, will be presented by Pat Copple and Shelby Green. All NMGC, Inc. members and their guests are welcome to attend the NM Judges Council Dinner and Program. On Thursday, the luncheon program “*Revitalizing Traditional Agriculture for Spiritual and Human Need through the Preservation and Conservation of Traditional and Heirloom Seeds*”, will be presented by Clayton Brascoupe. The Thursday evening banquet program on “*Creating Sustainable Lifestyles by Recreating the Design Patterns of Nature*” will be presented by Roxanne Swentzell.

Complete information on the Annual Convention is available in the Winter 2017-2018 edition of *New Mexico Gardener, Members Only* Page, News Section. We invite all NMGC, Inc. members and their guests to come early, enjoy the luxury resort facilities, go on the tours, and meet friends, old and new, at the meetings and programs. Mail your Convention registration forms by March 16, 2018 for the better early package price. Make your room reservations by March 14, 2018 to receive the special Single/Double room rate of \$99.00 (plus tax). We hope to see you all soon as we walk together in the “Footsteps of the Three Sisters”.

Los Alamos

Once again, the Los Alamos Garden Club had a very busy November. To fund our high school senior scholarship, we participated in the Festival of Trees at the local Senior Center, during which we rented table space for our Gently-Used Ornament Sale. For another fund raiser the club made fifty holiday wreaths. Members (and other helpers) drove to the Jemez Mountains to cut and gather the greens. We then spent two days making the wreaths and attaching the previously wired pine cones and the bows made by our members. A local bank allowed us to sell the wreaths in its lobby. At our November meeting, we made holiday candle holders. In December, almost every member attended our holiday luncheon at a local restaurant. In January, our speaker was our own club president who presented a program on local birds and their habitat.



Floral Designers

Floral designers met this month at the Buffalo Thunder Resort in preparation for the annual convention.



left to right: Anne May, Juanita Ortega, Doris Jackson, Laurie Hixson, Dorothy Crawford, Pat Copple, Shelby Green, and Diana Capshaw in front.

Summit

Summit members and guests met in November to share information on indoor plants. Favorites were African violets, Geraniums, and Snake Plant, also called Mother-in-law tongue Plant, so named because of its sharp leaves.

In December, we held our annual winter party and cookie exchange.

Continuing projects are the White Rock Community Garden, Bandelier Garden, and preparation for the State Convention in Santa Fe in April 2018.



Indoor Plants



District III

Jo Ann Layden, Director

District III has been busy as usual this year. Each year Angel Fire GC chooses at least one relief project for which we collect donations and this year it was "Free the Girls" service project. This organization exists to help girls rescued from sex trafficking to be able to make a living after they are rescued. Bras and the second-hand clothing market provide safe and powerful economic opportunity for women in the developing countries we serve. Gently worn, used bras were collected during the month of December. The Christmas party was held at the Girl Scout Ranch.

Amor de la Tierra in Las Vegas is planning to plant wild flowers at freeway exits/entrances and have had interesting meetings discussing such things as composting and biological deterrence of plant problems!

Santa Rosa Garden Club worked on Halloween decorations, holiday centerpieces and put together their scrapbook. They will be providing rose designs to the Senior center for Valentine's Day.

The three clubs are preparing for spring to arrive to begin their programs for the rest of 2018 and they will undoubtedly be exciting and as always productive. The 2019 Convention will be hosted by District III so our three clubs have lots of planning and work to do for this fun event.

Angel Fire

AFGC's Christmas Party was held at the Girl Scout Camp. It was festive and I was glad to see guests attend. During December our Club chooses at least one relief project for which we collect donations. This year we helped with "Free the Girls" service project. This organization exists to help girls rescued from sex trafficking to be able to make a living after they are rescued. Bras and the second-hand clothing market provide safe and powerful economic opportunity for women in the developing countries we serve. Gently worn, used bras were collected during the month of December.



The end of 2017, one whole year has flown by. This was a very educational year for not only myself but many members. Having our first Flower Show, learning about the entries, designs, schedules, set up, tear down, judging, displays and more! It was fantastic! I was so excited and proud of our members who stepped right up and took on this challenge. Ladies baked for the luncheon, helped fill all the committees we had, made their homes available for the judges, helped set up AND take down. We are blessed with some lovely friends!



Something that was also new to me this year was being part of the Awards entries. Oh, my, goodness! What admiration I now have for those who have done it in the past! Page and Conni were right on top of it the entire way! It has been so exciting ... and demanding. The process of recording everything that has been accomplished by our club is quite revealing. What we did correctly, what can be changed, and what we have learned. It's great to have this overview and start 2018 with our ducks in a row ... even if some little ones stray, we still will make progress!

I did a fun thing last month - I reviewed all our club's past scrapbooks. Our club was formed in 1991. I loved seeing some of the projects that they did and how our three signature gardens got their start. They were some awesome ladies! I am glad we gave them a chance to be honored as a past president at our Flower Show Luncheon. They worked so hard and I felt it was important to see their legacies live on. It was a very special time.

I am sure 2018 will be just as fun and challenging and I can't wait! Flowery hugs to all! - Shirley Sheriff



Russ Coyle speaking with Jo Mixon, Angel Fire's Chamber of Commerce Executive Director



Dolly and Mike Gilcrease with Michael Turri



Jo Brennan and JJ Huddleston

Santa Rosa

For the past quarter our club has been busy with designs. In October we made table decorations for the Methodist Church Homecoming. We use their basement for meetings.

November found us making fall table designs for our own homes with various flowers, pine & juniper boughs. By changing out the flowers in December most of these arrangements will last for two months. Three visitors joined us for this meeting. December was our spouse/partner white elephant gift party at the Hinkers. After dinner, we played games & opened/exchanged white elephants.

We look forward to more informative, fun meetings in the new year.

District IV

Judy Laird, Director

Where were you in 1968? Take a few minutes to remember. In Las Cruces a group of friends decided to form a new garden club called Desert Daubers. February 5, 2018 that club celebrated their 50th Anniversary Luncheon. NMGC President Barbara Vance presented citations and congratulations. Two of those founding members, Fern Gold and Nora Crisp, were in attendance receiving citations and carrying on the club's legacy that all their members enjoy today.

Sunshine Valley Garden Club hosted their annual Membership Luncheon on February 9th to invite potential members and get the word out that they are busy and provide programs from which gardeners in their area can benefit.

District Director Judy Laird visited a meeting of Flowering Desert Garden Club in Alamogordo. Their dedication to the public rose gardens is ongoing and enjoyed by the city residents. Donna Betty Turney treated us to lunch at a locally owned restaurant and a personal tour of her garden.

Mesilla Valley Garden Club will host a luncheon on March 13th for the three garden clubs in Las Cruces and looking forward to having NMGC President Barbara Vance as a guest.

District V

Nannette Tanner, Director

Our clubs in District V are Home Garden Club and Morning Garden Club located in Roswell, Artesia Garden Club in Artesia, Lincoln County Garden Club in Ruidoso and the junior group in Roswell, Pecos Valley Youth Garden Club sponsored by Home Garden Club. The children are so ambitious and enthusiastic about their projects. Their goal is to continue to improve programs and recruit new members. Great job Renate Reisel and to all those who are helping!

We are all working on the Fall Board Meeting which will be held on October 25 and 26th, 2018 at the Alto Lakes Country Club and hope many of you will attend his event. Our clubs continue to work on their special projects in each town.

Artesia

We had a wonderful tea party, with a program on the new NGC designs given by Christine Longthorp. November we celebrated the success of our District V meeting and discussed attending Fall Board in Las Cruces. We had a wonderful Christmas and decorating party December 8th with the staff at Artesia Senior Center. Everyone brought a dish to share and a dessert, with a nice brisket as entrée. We had an enthusiastic Chinese gift exchange and gather lots of gifts for our local shelter, some from the angel trees around town. Then we proceeded to decorate the numerus Christmas trees set up around the center. Created evergreen swags for front desk, tables, and counters and put up holiday clings on windows.

Past President and National life member Josephine (Jo) Threewitt passed on January 23rd 2018 at the age of 99. Past President and National life member Carolyn Belanus has moved into Good Life Memory assisted life center.

January meeting we went over award procedure's, upcoming conventions, and new fair flower show schedule. We created Valentine designs and floral vases for all tables and front desk in Senior Center. The Valentines dance was held Saturday evening, and the February Birthday Luncheon.



The above photos are from the Christmas Party and workshop at the Artesia Senior Center and this note followed: "Thank you! The flowers around the center are gorgeous. Thank you and the gals for all the effort you put in. You absolutely out did yourselves. We have had lots of compliments and of course, we tell them the Garden Club made them. P.S. the best one of all is in my office, I love, love, love it. How special and how pretty..... thank you!!!

Lincoln County



2017 Blue Star Memorial

Our opening meeting in February hosted Dr. Jim Miller who presented a very informative Tree Thinning Program. The annual Mountain Living Home and Garden Show had a booth attended by club members. Two Linden trees were planted at the Ruidoso Dog Park.

The LCGC celebrated their 50th anniversary at the May meeting, when new officers were installed. We created a 50th Anniversary banner to be displayed at public events. Cherry picking in Tularosa was a fun outing. Our Treasurer presented programs on Mason bees and seed bomb assembly at the summer program for children at Ruidoso Public Library.

A guest speaker from Mayhill shared a program about Native New Mexico Plants. More guest speakers from the Smokey Bear Ranger Station shared about indigenous endangered species and sensitive plants. The Lincoln County Fair in Capitan was attended by Judges Suzy Andrego and Debra Sorrell from Albuquerque for all the flower and plant displays.

The Future Fire Fighter Memorial presentation was attended at the Smokey Bear Park in Capitan, and a tour of the Capitan Library followed. This memorial will be the first in New Mexico!

Our most special event was the Blue Star Memorial Dedication Sept 26, at the Fort Stanton Military Cemetery. In attendance were Barbara Vance, Shirley Tetrault, Suzy Andrego, the Marine Corps. League Zia Detachment for Lincoln and Otero Counties, ENMU Ruidoso Community Choir, Lincoln County Garden Club Members, and several Veterans. A patriotic reception followed at the Fort Stanton Museum. This year we will continue honoring this memorial with landscaping. The October meeting was a Plant Exchange and our Holiday Luncheon was held in November. Our club has lots of ideas for our new year.



The Top Ten Reasons to Attend the 2018 New Mexico Garden Clubs Annual Convention at Buffalo Thunder – a few miles north of Santa Fe

10. Stay in a beautiful Resort Hotel with spectacular Art Work. Great price!!
9. No cooking or clean-up for 2-3-4 days (Make it a vacation).
8. Learn more about the “Footsteps of the Three Sisters” and other native American plant uses.
7. Shopping, shopping–silent auction, Vendors, Resort shops.
6. Maybe you or your club will get an award.
5. Get great ideas for club meetings.
4. Learn of the many opportunities for new studies sponsored by the National Garden Club, makes for new challenges.
3. Make new Garden Club friends from around New Mexico.
2. Renew the many friendships you have made thru Garden Club events District and NMGC. – Priceless
1. Again, know you are a part of great organizations (local Garden Clubs, District, State, Regional and National) that all share in the love of gardening; plants for food , floral design for adding beauty to our homes; landscape for beautifying our land; and care for the environment.

If you would like to add your own top 10 or less reasons, please send to Dorothy Crawford at: dorothymcrawford59@gmail.com and I will share them in the next issue of the Gardener.

Laurie Hixson

Vision of Beauty Calendar Entry

All members of clubs affiliated with National Garden Clubs, Inc. are invited to send photos as examples of skill and artistry for the 2020 Calendar. Any such qualified entrant is a Designer. All types of designs are requested: Traditional, Contemporary, New Trends, and those appropriate for seasons of the year and holidays. Photos of a small area of your garden, such as a "pocket garden," are also accepted for consideration.

Requirements

A 5"x7" digital print must be sent by mail, along with a current entry form. For clarity of reproduction, please also email a digital image, JPEG format, including the title and name of Designer, to the Chairman, ngcvob@gmail.com. The file must have a minimum of 300 dpi to be considered.

Only vertical digital photos, taken with a camera with a minimum of eight (8) mega pixels can be accepted.

Only quality, high resolution photos are accepted. Photoshop is strongly discouraged, unless done professionally.

The backdrop must be free of creases, wrinkles and patterns. Dark backdrops may require additional lighting to make designs clear and crisp. Flower show ribbons must not be included.

A maximum of five (5) entries per person will be accepted. Only one (1) backdrop for each entry.

Handle photos with caution to avoid scratches. DO NOT use Scotch tape or paper clips. Extra packing materials or padded envelopes are recommended. DO NOT put the Designer's name on the back of the photo.

All entries will be judged by the same criteria used to judge National Garden Clubs, Inc. Flower Show designs. Decisions of the judges are final. Please see judging criteria found in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*.

Once submitted, photos become property of National Garden Clubs, Inc. Designers of selected entries will be notified. No entries will be returned. National Garden Clubs, Inc. is not responsible for any lost, late, delayed, or misdirected entries.

Entries that do not comply with these guidelines cannot be considered.

2020 CALENDAR DEADLINE for both mailed and emailed entries: July 1, 2018

As we are working on the printer's schedule, any entries received by mail or email after July 1st will be held for the next edition of the Calendar.

Brenda Bingham
7 Lenape Trail, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

All entries submitted after June 1, 2018 MUST be mailed to:
Brenda Bingham
Pak Mail Box #219, 369 Montezuma Ave, Santa Fe, NM 87501-2626

Emailed entries should continue to be sent to ngcvob@gmail.com
until the deadline of July 1, 2018

ENTRY FORM

2020 *Vision of Beauty*

National Garden Clubs, Inc. Calendar

Name: _____
(print clearly, type, or use an address label)

Address: _____

_____ Zip _____

Garden Club or Affiliate: _____
Email: _____
Photographer: _____

Title of Picture: _____

Write a short caption (30 words or less) including components and botanical names of plant material.

By signing and submitting this form, Designer represents and warrants that Designer is the author of the original photograph(s) submitted with this form, and Designer hereby assigns to National Garden Clubs, Inc. Designer's entire worldwide rights, including worldwide copyright in and to the photograph(s) submitted.

Signature: _____

2020 CALENDAR DEADLINE for both mailed and emailed entries: July 1, 2018
Email photo (JPEG) to ngcvob@gmail.com, include the title and Designer's name.
Must also mail a 5"x7" digital print and completed entry form to:

Brenda Bingham, 7 Lenape Trail, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009

All entries submitted after June 1, 2018 MUST be mailed to:

Brenda Bingham

Pak Mail Box #219, 369 Montezuma Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87501-2626

Emailed entries should continue to be sent to ngcvob@gmail.com until the deadline of July 1, 2018.

Maximum of five (5) entries, one (1) backdrop per entry, one (1) entry per form. If duplicates are made of this Entry Form, please cut to identical size of this form. Entry Form is available on the National Garden Club, Inc. website, www.gardenclub.org

Once submitted, all entries become property of National Garden Club, Inc.

2018 Calendar

March 8	District III Spring Meeting Las Vegas
March 12	District I - Spring Meeting Albuquerque
March 15	District IV Spring Meeting Silver City
March 22	District V Spring Meeting Roswell
March 23-25	Flower Show School II Albuquerque Garden Center
April 4-6	NMGC State Convention Pueblo of Pojoaque
April 27-28	South Central Region Convention Houston, TX
May 21-24	NGC Convention Philadelphia, PA
July 20-22	Flower Show School III Albuquerque Garden Center
September 25-28	NGC Fall Board—Orlando, FL
October 25-26	NMGC Fall Board Meeting
November 16-18	Ruidoso Flower Show School Albuquerque Garden Center

New Mexico Gardener
POBox 328
Mesilla NM 88046

To: