



New Mexico Gardener
Quarterly Newsletter of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Volume 49 No. 4

March/April/May 2020

Spring 2020 Issue



Giving a Holiday Design Program



NMGC Environmental School 3



Desert Daubers Birthday Luncheon



Visiting the Red Mesa Wind Farm for Environmental School



Some of the many adventures of our President, Christine Longthorp



*Growing in Harmony in the
Land of Enchantment—
Christine Longthorp*

President's Message

Greetings New Mexico Garden Club members,

We welcome a new decade with enthusiasm and energy that new frontiers provide. New Mexico members come from a history of strong people who founded garden clubs many years ago. How much we have changed the vision of NMGC in those years!!!

I recently attended the 52nd Anniversary of Desert Daubers Garden Club and plan to attend Mesilla Valley's 90th anniversary in May, the year that National Garden Clubs was founded. Just imagine those meetings in the early days. What did they wear? What did they eat? What programs did they have? What were their projects? I remember Ladybird Johnson promoting roadside planting and encouraging us to "plant a tree, a bush or a shrub." We are her legacy. Michelle Obama also encouraged vegetable gardening, sustainability, and healthy eating.

Our Penny Pines Fund is helping to recreate forests where there have been devastating fires. Environmental schools continue teaching good stewardship of our land and resources and we will be taking a field trip to Red Mesa Wind Farm after studying the effects both positive and negative of windmills on our environment. Our Veterans are honored in many ways with "Wreaths Across America," where evergreen wreaths are placed on graves at National Cemeteries during the holidays. My President's project of creating a "Healing Garden" at the VA Hospital here in Albuquerque is progressing slowly and I hope to have more information at the Annual Convention.

Thank you to all clubs who invited me to teas and celebrations over the holidays. I so enjoyed meeting and getting to know you all. Spring brings District meetings around the State so I am off on my travels in March culminating in our Annual State Convention in Las Cruces. Those of you who attend, please bring someone from your club who has never attended an NMGC State Convention. It is so much fun and charged with energy. Make this our annual reunion and the first of many happy memories for new attendees. I clearly remember my first which was very formal. But, today my motto is "There is more manure than mink..." We can move mountains one shovel at a time as we support each other and make this Land of Enchantment a showcase for Garden Clubs.

Looking forward to seeing you all and watch for emerging signs of Spring...

Christine Longthorp, President

*The Master in the art of living,
makes little distinction
between his work and his play,
his labor and his leisure,
his mind and his body,
his education and his recreation,
his love and his religion.
He simply pursues his vision of excellence
in whatever he does,
leaving others to decide whether he is working or playing,
to him he is always doing both.*

- Unknown



Design by President, Christine Longthorp



OFFICIAL CALL
71st Annual Convention
Humming in the Garden
April 8-10, 2020
Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, Las Cruces, New Mexico

This is the official notice to all members of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. to attend the 2020 Annual Convention to be held at Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, Las Cruces, NM. 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. If any designated member of the Board is unable to attend, an alternate should be chosen as an official representative. Please notify the President if this is the case. The Board of Directors desires that non-voting members as well as voting members attend board meetings.

Officers - District Directors - Chairpersons - Report on the activities of their position since last convention (April 2019 Plaza Hotel, Las Vegas, N.M. Reports cover the period of May 1, 2019 - April 1, 2020. District Directors please give a 4 minute report on District activities, and special events of clubs in your District. Chairpersons give a 3 minute oral report on your activities. Contact me as soon as possible so you can be scheduled on the Agenda.

The Official Schedule and Registration form, 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 18th, 2020).

All members of New Mexico Garden Clubs and guests are welcome to attend the convention. Special speakers/ programs have been planned. This is an opportunity to learn more about our beautiful State of New Mexico, meet and make new friends.

Christine Longthorp, President, New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Grow in harmony in the Land of Enchantment



OFFICIAL CALL
71st Annual Convention
Humming in the Garden
April 8-10, 2020
Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces Las Cruces, New Mexico

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

The registration form will be found in the spring issue of the New Mexico Gardener and on the NMGC website.

Wednesday, April 8th, 2020

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| 12:00 noon – 6:00 P.M. | REGISTRATION – Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces |
| 1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. | NMGC Executive Board Meeting |
| 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 |
| 5:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. | NM Judges Council reception. |
| 6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. | NM Judges Council Banquet |
| 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. | Judges Council Program- Exploring NGC Designs with David Robson |

Thursday, April 9th, 2020

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| 8:00 A.M. – 9:00 A.M. | Breakfast on your own |
| 8:00 A.M.- 9:00 A.M. | REGISTRATION. |
| 9:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. | Official Opening of NMGC, Inc. 71st Annual Convention |
| 9:30 A.M. – 11:30 noon | NMGC, Inc. General Business Meeting |
| 11:30 A.M.- 12:30 P.M. | Luncheon |
| 12:30 P.M. -1:30 P.M. | Marcy Scott—Author of “Hummingbird plants of the Southwest”. Owner of Robledo Vista Nursery. Talk titled “Native plants for Hummingbirds”. |
| 2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. | General Business Meeting continues (if necessary) |
| 5:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M. | President's Reception – |
| 6:15 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. | Introduction of Past State Presidents & Club Presidents |
| 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. | Banquet |
| 7:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. | Memorial Service & Top Award Presentations |
| 8:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. | Professor Paul Bosland—Retired Head of Chile Institute NMSU. “Chile, New Mexico’s hot topic” |

Friday, April 10th, 2020

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 7:30 A.M.- 8:30 A.M. | Breakfast on your own. |
| 9:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M. | NMGC, Inc. Awards Presentation |
| 10:30 A.M.-11:30 A.M. | Final Credentials, Resolutions |

HOTEL: Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd, Las Cruces, NM 88011, (575)522-4300

Mention NMGC, Inc.2020 Convention for special room rate. Please book by March 18th, 2020

Christine Longthorp, New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. President

NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

71st Annual Convention

Humming in the Garden

APRIL 8-10, 2020

Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, Las Cruces, New Mexico

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

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Garden Club(s): _____

Please circle your classification (all that apply):

- NGC President, NGC Officer, NGC Chair, NGC Committee Member, NGC Life Member, SCR Director, SCR Officer, SCR Chair, SCR Life Member, NMGC State President, Past State President, State Officer, State Chair, State Life Member, District Director, Club President, Club Member, Flower Show Judge, Landscape Consultant, Environmental Consultant, Gardening 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/Program, Top Awards/Program & Awards Presentation. NOTE: Full Time Package does NOT include Judges Program!

EARLY FULL TIME PACKAGE (Postmarked on or before 3/18/2020) \$ 80.00 _____

LATE FULL TIME PACKAGE (Postmarked after 3/18/2020) \$100.00 _____

NM JUDGES COUNCIL (Not in Package Plans)

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

NM Judges Council Dinner/David Robson Design Program \$ 42.00 _____

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

PART-TIME REGISTRATION

Note: No Registration fee charged for Guests only attending the President's Reception.

Thursday, April 9, 2020

Registration fee — Mandatory for Part-Time Registration\$ 25.00 _____

Luncheon/Program\$ 26.00 _____

NMGC Banquet/Program\$ 35.00 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Convention Meals and Optional Tours—Please Select

Luncheon: Chicken Salad Croissant or Southwest Turkey BLT

Banquet: Flat Iron Steak or Orange Pecan Trout

Historic Doña Ana County Court House tour (\$20 to tour guide)_____

Iris Society tour, NM State Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum grounds (free) _____

Registration Deadline is March 18, 2020 after which the registration fee is non-refundable.

Please make checks payable to: District IV, NMGC 2010 Convention and mail to:

Nancy Ketchum, 246 Camino de Vida, Mimbres, NM 88049 nketch1@gmail or 575-956-3024.

Special Dietary Needs: Please contact Judy Laird jjL4600@sbcglobal.net or 575.522.4543.

HOTEL: Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd, Las Cruces, NM 88011, (575) 522-4300

Double/King Rate: \$105.00 and includes 2 breakfast vouchers/room/night. (Total with taxes & fees—\$121.28).

Special room rates inclusive from April 6 through April 11. Deadline for special rate reservations is March 18, 2020.

Web link for reservations: hotelencanto.com or call (505) 425-3591.

Mention "New Mexico Garden Clubs 2020 Spring Convention" to receive special room rate.

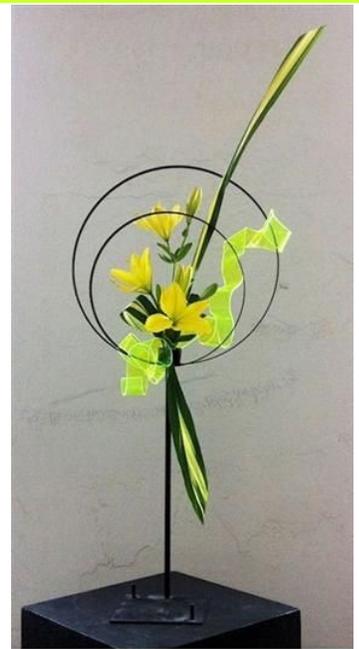
NM Judges Council Annual Convention Program

Exploring NGC Designs with Design & Horticulture Instructor, David Robson



David with a few friends on a tour of his garden in Springfield, IL last fall.

David Robson is a retired horticulture and pesticide safety specialist with the University of Illinois. He has taught for more than 37 years. He is an NGC Flower Show School and Symposium instructor, teaching Horticulture and Flower Show Procedures. He currently serves on the NGC Flower Show Schools Committee as Chairman of Horticulture and Flower Show Procedure Instructors.



**"Let the Sunshine In"
Best of Show
By David Robson**

NM Garden Clubs 71th Annual Convention Optional Tours

Tour #1 - Doña Ana County Courthouse

Tour the old Doña Ana County Courthouse built in the revival adobe style with exposed vigas and adobe style structure in 1937. Abandoned now, the three story building, from its courtroom, old jail annex, and rooftop views of the Organ Mountains has been featured on the Sci-Fi channel for its paranormal activities. Though not our usual type of tour, this courthouse complex is scheduled to be completely renovated into a 4-Star Hotel and Conference Center with restaurants and spa, so come see the 'before'. Your tour guide will be the former Director of Doña Ana County Detention and Correction Officer, Vicki Hooser. The cost, paid directly to the guide is \$20. Please reserve your space and FYI, although not difficult, there are four floors of stairs.



Tour #2 - Las Cruces in Bloom

The American Iris Society will be holding its April 2012 National Convention in Las Cruces. In preparation for this event, the local Iris Society Chapter has planted over 200 iris at the Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum. Howie Dash, NMGC 2017 Horticulturist of Year, is Co-Chair of the Convention. Howie will be giving us a tour of the iris planted at the museum. Eventually, during the 2021 Iris Society Convention, six gardens will be on tour containing over 6000 iris of over 650 cultivars from around the United States. This tour is without charge.





Message from Our First Vice President, *Carolyn Bedford*

Dear New Mexico Garden Club Members,

It makes me sad and regretful that I had to submit my resignation for the 1st VP position to our President Christine Longthorp. Sad because I will miss all the friends I have made through NM Garden Clubs and regretful because I will not be able to enjoy the vast and diverse terrain of NM and the ethnicity of it's people. At this time I am in Virginia enjoying normal health away from the high altitude and time will tell if this is a permanent or temporary fix. I have enjoyed all my associations with fellow gardeners and hope to renew those friendship at a later date.

Your Friend, Carolyn Bedford



Floral Design by President,
Christine Longthorp

It's Dues Time Again!

Annual Dues and Membership updates are due on May 1, 2020. They are considered late after July 1, 2020. Joyce Zaugg, 2nd VP of NMGC will send out last year's spreadsheet to the club treasurers soon.

Historian—Julie Foster

Thank-you to those individuals who took the time to send in their club histories.

This is important for NMGC as it shows the others in NGC how active and supportive we are in the many different venues of NGC objectives. I have received 12 club reports this year, and greatly appreciate your support in my new position as NMGC Historian.



Photo by President Longthorp

“Just living isn’t enough,” said the butterfly. “One must also have sunshine, freedom and a little flower.”

Hans Christian Andersen



Corresponding Secretary - JJ Huddleston

A new Clubs Presidents List and State Officers and Chairmen List were distributed this month to all through email circulation. If you did not receive a copy, please ask your club president for one.

Message from Our Second Vice President, *Joyce Zaugg*

As of this writing we have 531 adult members in 23 clubs and 54 members in two youth clubs.

Congratulations to all of our clubs with new members.
The following clubs have increased their memberships:

District 1

Blooming Gardeners (youth club)

El Jardin Encanto

High Desert Design

Moriarty

Valley Gardeners

District III

Amor de la Tierra

Angel Fire

Santa Rosa

District IV

Flowering Desert

Socorro

District V

Artesia



Our national garden club President, Gay Austin, has set a goal of 21% new members in the National Garden Club by 2021. She has chosen the phrase “Members Matter Most” as a motto to emphasize this growth objective. Everyone is encouraged to work extra hard to achieve this goal. Let me introduce you to Becky Hassebroek. She is the NGC Membership Chair. She and her committee have developed some resources that can be used by clubs across the country. One is a new brochure that talks about the advantages of joining a garden club. They’ve also come up with a “Wanted Poster” entitled “Garden Club Members Wanted.” It’s a creative design that is bright and colorful. If you’re interested in getting copies of these documents, contact Becky Hassebroek at NGCMemberships@gmail.com. Becky also has a list of 100 Ways to Recruit New Members which I’m sure she’d also make available to you.



Message From District I Director, *Debra Sorrell*

As I have been around attending club meetings lately, it's clear that the members of our District I clubs are feeling the strong pull of Spring! Plans are being made for planting projects, flower shows, expos.....all kinds of activities for personal gardens and community gardens alike. I love that about garden club people! We endure winter with our plant catalogs, longing to see the first bulbs of spring peeping out. The slightest hint of a warm, sunny day causes our hearts to stir with the anticipation of the wonderful things that are going to happen this spring and summer.

At the upcoming District I Spring meeting, we are hoping to contribute to everyone's spring fever in a big way! The theme is "You Make Me Wanna Sprout!" and we are going to learn some great tips on propagation from one of our own members. Steven Hong-Elder is a highly educated and knowledgeable horticulturist, who generously shares his love for plants and their care. All of our members will leave knowing new ways of cultivating plants. But, they also get time together with the other clubs nearby to exchange ideas for new and interesting programs. The annual luncheon will take place at the historic 66 Diner in Albuquerque with typical diner fare and a ice cream sundae to top things off!

District I is a very active group of clubs! There are amazing programs happening every month around the district.....African violets, native plants, design studies, field trips.....just to name a few. Each club is contributing to the community around them with a variety of projects and volunteerism. I am very proud to be a part of such a time honored organization committed to educating and valuing gardeners!





Message From Our District II Director, *Sue-Ellen DeBeer*

March 5th is the District II Spring Board Meeting. It will be held at Cottonwoods on the Green from 8:00-2:30. Our speaker will be Christine Longthorpe. Her subject will be "Unusual Ways to Use Flowers". The official call was sent out on January 23rd.. The cost to attend the meeting is \$30 and includes a catered luncheon.

The flower show that was tentatively planned for September 2020 in Los Alamos at the Fuller Lodge and Art Center has been cancelled. The Plein Air show that is scheduled for that time was not compatible. Perhaps in June of 2021 another show can be mounted using either the Southside Library or the LaFarge Library in Santa Fe. A tentative title might be "Books in Bloom".

I was able to visit the Summit Garden Club on November 4th. The program was presently by Shelby Redondo showing how she was able to landscape her yard in Los Alamos. She did both hardscape and plantings. It was a prodigious effort but is now a lovely area. Joyce Zaugg, 2nd Vice President of NMGC, Inc. is editor of Over the Garden Gate, a bimonthly newsletter to club members and others in the district. She does a wonderful job and obviously enjoys it.

My visit to the Los Alamos Garden Club on December 16th was not possible due to my forgetting the date. This was unfortunate, as I had been invited to their Holiday Luncheon at Cottonwoods on the Green.

The Floral Designers Garden Club had their holiday luncheon on November 14th at Maria's Mexican Restaurant in Santa Fe. We were a small group but we enjoyed our lunch. Normally we do not meet in November and December. Our January meeting was held at the home of Laurie Hixson, President. Our challenge was to create a multi-rhythmic design and enjoy a soup luncheon.

For those of you who do not know, I will be resigning as District II Director. I am moving to Pennsylvania to a retirement community to be closer to my family. Shelby Redondo will be assuming the directorship after the March 5th meeting.



Message from District III Director, Johnese Turri

I found this wonderful quote and thought it was appropriate for all of us gardeners!

"We are accustomed to consider Winter the grave of the year, but it is not so in reality. In the stripped trees, the mute birds, the disconsolate gardens, the frosty ground, there is only an apparent cessation of Nature's activities. Winter is pause in music, but during the pause the musicians are privately tuning their strings, to prepare for the coming outburst. When the curtain falls on one piece at the theatre, the people are busy behind the scenes making arrangements for that which is to follow. Winter is such pause, such fall of the curtain. Underground, beneath snow and frost, next spring and summer are secretly getting ready. The roses which young ladies will gather six months hence for hair or bosom, are already in hand. In Nature there is no such thing as paralysis. Each thing flows into the other, as movement into movement in graceful dances Nature's colors blend in imperceptible gradation all her notes are sequacious." ~Alexander Smith, "Winter," 1863

Up here in Angel Fire, we have no signs of spring yet. Beautiful white snow covers our valley now, but we know that we will soon start to see the beautiful green grass and all the wonderful wild flowers. It will be great to get our hands back into the earth and see what all we can grow.

We are looking forward to hosting our District Meeting in Las Vegas in March and for the Spring Convention where we can see all our wonderful gardening friends!





Message From Our District IV Director, Ellie Nordgren

“We Make Dirt Look Good”

We have six clubs in District IV. I have recently learned that Las Cruces has another club but it has not joined NM Garden Clubs.

District IV had our fall board meeting in Socorro on October 31st. When I left my house at 5:30a.m., the temperature outside was 10 degrees. I think my joints froze up. All in all a good time was had by all. Some wore costumes. See the picture below.

Most presidents gave a report. All clubs were busy planting, growing and presenting plants and eating what they grow.

Socorro Garden club is coming along great. They have 5 new members.

Hope to see everyone at the Annual Convention in Las Cruces in April. Lots of goodies to be had by all. Whew!!



Message from Our District V Director, *Renate Reisel*



Over the past couple month I visited Artesia garden club and was invited to there Christmas party following in January Julie Foster presented a program on creating a garden at there local museum the started the flower beds. With a big variety of spring bulbs Nancy Hartwick was also visiting Artesia garden club and presented information about awards and how to improve the funding for awards.

Home garden club meetings were very informative on good and bad bugs, followed the next month with there annual Christmas party ,started in the new year with a program given by Arborists Ruben Esquivel information on how to prune a tree. Each year Morning garden club members were helping with decorating the historical museum with a different theme each year and were busy in there January meeting taking all the decorations down and storing the boxes for the following year.

Lincoln garden club has no meetings from November-February but the had a holiday luncheon with there garden club members with a gift exchange and collected food items for the food bank in December weather permitting the are trying to work in February on the flower beds at there local Library.



Gardening and Herbs Chairman, Colleen Hiker

I received no applications to judge. They weather has been uncooperative for many without supplemental water. Now, in the winter, many plants are 'sleeping'. Gardeners have collected seeds for the coming growing season. Time to plan and prepare.

Trees and Shrubs Chairman, Sonia James

THINK TREES Convention WAS

Tremendous!!

The Think Trees NM Committee, an all volunteer group, puts on the Think Trees Conference each year in January.. It is, a two day session featuring tree experts from several Universities, companies, and similar entities lecturing on topics of interest to the greens industry.



In recent years the committee has held over one speaker for a Saturday morning session for general gardeners, Master Gardeners and interested homeowners.

This year, Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott from Oregon State University was held over for a lecture at the Garden Center on February 1st. she spoke on tree myths that don' seem to die down and countered them with research-based alternatives. She stressed the need for soil tests before adding products to the planting site. Home gardens are not corn fields and need different treatments than annual crops need, She is the author of How Plants Work. the Informed Gardner and The Informed Gardner Blooms Again. The two " Informed Gardner" books deal with some of the myths she covered at her lecture. Her books are in the Garden Center gift shop.

Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl Chairman, Jennifer Moreno



Thanks to all of you for helping this year's Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl poster contest by getting the word out in your communities! This year in New Mexico, we had 17 poster entries all sponsored by El Jardin Encanto Garden Club. The posters were completed by a 1st grade class in Los Lunas, NM and are all very colorful and very beautiful! Many thanks go out to the ladies of El Jardin Encanto Garden Club and the volunteers that helped them for their outstanding work with these young students, and for helping to supporting the poster contest!

As we look ahead to next year's contest, please help us spread the words of Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl: Only You Can Prevent Wildfires! And: Lend a Hand Care for the Land.

Photography Awards Chairman, Debra Sorrell

Photography Awards

Judging has begun for the 2019 Photographic Print of the Year! There were many wonderful entries in each of the 6 categories and from all around the state. The over-all numbers are down a little but, the quality is just as amazing as always. No matter where your special interests in garden club lie, EVERYONE takes



pictures.....of incredible sunsets, majestic mountains, fluttering butterflies, perfect roses, the neighborhood peacock, ants a-marching, etc. I hope that next year, you will consider sharing them with the rest of us, if you haven't before. The accumulation of all these photographs every year results in a pictorial archive of our incredible state. Plus, when you add your photos to the mix, you can leave the Spring Convention with your own hard copy of the Photo Awards book. I am happy to travel to your club to give a program on how to take better pictures with your smartphone. Whatever it takes to convince you to enter!

Awards Chairman, Nanette Tanner

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO BECOME A NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS AWARD SPONSOR!!

Make your Awards Sponsorship Pledge TODAY!!

Any and all donations are appreciated!

Send all donations the NM Garden Clubs Treasurer, Laurie Hixson. Then make sure to email me, Nanette Tanner and tell me which award you and or your club are sponsoring and the amount of the sponsorship! Thank you for your help!



Youth Chairman, Lynnette Walker

The Benefits of Gardening for Youth

Gardening is wonderful for children because it allows them to be outside away from their technology and stimulates physical activity too. When working in the garden, children help dig, plant, water, and even weed which gets their young bodies moving. In addition to the physical benefits, gardening also stimulates the cognitive development of children. According to Doctors Nimali Fernando and Melanie Potock in their article "Gardening with Kids: How It Affects Your Child's Brain, Body and Soul," a study showed that children who participated in gardening projects scored higher in science achievement than those who did not. They mentioned that children learn about many science topics such as vitamins, soil, water, seeds, germination and even photosynthesis through gardening. They added that you could add some math into gardening too such as: measuring growth, counting plants and even counting the individual flower petals. (<https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/gardening-with-kids-how-it-affects-your-childs-brain-body-and-soul>).

Many youth clubs throughout the state must already be aware of these benefits because they continue to hold events for children. Morning Garden Club in Roswell had several activities such as filling planters and Pecos Valley Youth Garden active by planting spring Violet leaves, planting the the Roswell Zoo, and creating Eastern New Mexico Flower Club in Artesia provides with the entering of designs Eddy County Fair Flower Gardeners in Albuquerque over the State Fair Grounds, educated the public about their club during the State Fair, and even created flower arrangements.



especially designed for children. Roswell had several activities building mini-terrariums. Club in Roswell was very bulbs, propagating African beds by the bird sanctuary at dish gardens to enter at the show. The Artesia Garden assistance to the local youth and horticulture at their Show. The Blooming beautified the planters all sampled yummy tomatoes, gardening while promoting

New Mexico is lucky to have such amazing youth clubs and activities that benefit our children both physically and mentally. The children are enjoying all the fun involved with gardening without even realizing they are also stimulating their brains at the same time. I foresee rising science scores for the children participating in all the gardening activities around our beautiful state.

Life Membership & Scholarship Chairman, Sue Ferguson

LIFE MEMEBRSHIPS MAKE GREAT GIFTS or HONORS for ANYONE!!

The white NMGC Member pin costs \$20, and the NMGC Life Membership pin costs \$40. All proceeds go to the NMGC Scholarship Fund. NMGC offers an annual scholarship of \$2,500 to a student majoring in Botany, Horticulture, or related fields, at a New Mexico college/university.

Order A Gift of Life Membership TODAY from Chairman Sue Ferguson, 5065 Bright Sky Road, Roswell, NM 88201, sjferguson@plateau.email.

THANK YOU!!

Civic Development Chairman, Maple Levine

Some Thoughts about Civic Development

Thank you if you belong to one of the clubs that applied for a Civic Development Award. Your work should and will be rewarded. I am also sure that some of the clubs in New Mexico have beautified their own communities even though they may be in some small ways.

Say you happen to be in a club that is very willing to attempt a project but you have members that are either disabled, or older and tired.. What to do then? Consider partnering with another community based service organization. Perhaps the said organization can share with expenses and offer some of the manpower.

Just remember when starting a project to take before, during, and after photos. You can write about the other particulars either as you go or before submitting the actual entry. Also, put up a sign while working to state the name of your club and perhaps the president's theme. Be sure that you stop and chat with people and enthusiastically describe who you are and invite them to attend a meeting. Who knows? You may get a new member or two!

Your Chairman is available to assist and can offer ideas and be a consultant if you have questions. Please call, text, or email at any time during the project.

Finally, because only a few of the clubs this year have rendered applications for the Civic Development awards, this Chairperson had a very easy task. Please in the future give the Chairperson a very huge and agonizing responsibility to choose the very best from many entries! Remember that trite expression..."If you don't enter then how can you possibly expect to win?"

Blue Star Chairman, Shirley Tetreault



It has been a while since we dedicated a Blue Star Marker in New Mexico, however, there are two that are still on the horizon. I always recommend that members stop and visit our Blue Star markers when traveling the beautiful State of New Mexico. It gives us time to think about what others are doing for us. Pictures are always welcome.



New Mexico Garden Clubs Blue Star Memorials & Their Locations



- 2018 District I - Rededication, Albuquerque Garden Center, Saturday, July 28, 2018
- 2017 District V - Ft Stanton Cemetery, Tuesday, September 26th, by Lincoln County Garden Club
- 2016 District IV - Bataan Veterans Memorial Park, Silver City, NM, Thursday, October 6
- 2016 District III - Rededication - Clovis, NM, Sunday, August 28 at 2:00 p.m. **
- 2016 NM Garden Clubs Inc. - Conchas Dam, Saturday, July 2 at 10:00 a.m.
- 2016 District III - Angel Fire GC - Angel Fire - Shuter Library - Sunday, June 12th at 3:00 p.m.
- 2014 District V - Home GC - Roswell - Gen. Douglas L. McBride Roswell Veteran's Cemetery
- 2014 Home GC - Roswell - Rededication - Court House lawn in Roswell, NM Thursday, September 18
- 2012 District I - Uptown GC - Albuquerque - Veteran's Memorial Garden on Louisiana, June 23
- 2011 District I - Uptown GC - Albuquerque Garden Center, July 11
- 2011 District IV, Socorro GC - Isidro Baca Veteran's Park, November 11,
- 2010 District III, Santa Rosa GC - Park at Guadalupe County Court House, November 11
- 2008 District III, NMGC Inc. - State Highway 60/84 Visitor Center, Texico, November 9
** Rededicated on August 28, 2016 in Clovis, NM
- 2007 District II, Los Alamos GC - The Lodge Memorial Rose Garden, July 4
- 2006 District IV, Sunshine Valley GC - Veterans Memorial Park, March 7
- 2005 District IV - Mesilla Valley GC - Veterans Park, Roadrunner Parkway, Las Cruces, NM, June 17
- 2002 District V, Home GC - Chavez County Admin Bldg, Roswell, NM, February 22
** Rededicated on Thursday, September 18, 2014 in Roswell, NM
- 2000 District III - Angel Fire GC - DAV Vietnam Memorial in Angel Fire, July 4
- 1997 District V - Mountain GC - Library Garden, Cloudcroft, corner of Burro and Swallow St. June 13
- 1996 District IV Robledo Mountains Vista GC - Ft. Selden Cemetery, Radium Springs, NM, October 16
- 1986 District I - Desert Planters GC - Memorial Rose Garden - Aztec, NM, August 21
- 1986 District IV - Sunshine Valley GC - Memorial Highway, Highway 80
- 1986 District IV - Town & Country GC - Gough Park in Silver City, NM
- 1962 District I - Trailblazers GC - Salmon Ruins, Hi way 64 San Juan County Archaeological Center



**NM Garden Clubs has 23 Blue Star
Memorial Markers Around the state
as of 2/15/2020**



Fort Bayard Cemetery, by Judy Laird

At the Fall 2018 District IV meeting, Lequita Lett, former NMGC President, shared with all of us “Wreaths Across America.” This program honors American veterans at National Cemeteries and Monuments across our country. At each location, volunteers place Christmas wreaths on the headstones and graves. These wreaths come from Columbia Falls, Maine and are distributed nationally in early December to volunteers, veterans’ organizations, and service associations. Although this national program was begun in the 1990’s, the tribute to those interred at Fort Bayard National Cemetery began modestly with four wreaths in 2009. Since then, with the help of many dedicated local citizens and nearby Silver City resident, Mary Cowen, a Gold Star mother, this project has increased to honor each of the over 4500 who are buried at Fort Bayard. In the last two years over \$90,000 has been raised in this endeavor. This tremendous outpouring from this remote, rural part of New Mexico is truly heartfelt.



District IV honors this community program with donations and our outgoing District Director, has chosen it to be her \$200.00 community service gift. In 2016, a Blue Star Marker was dedicated at the Veteran’s Park located near the cemetery by District IV.

On this quiet hilltop above historic Fort Bayard, the cemetery embodies history of our state, those who went to foreign wars, memorial stones for those buried at sea or lost in the explosion of battle, and those who simply wanted to remain with their comrades. Names on the marble headstones reflect Mexican, German, English, Polish, Asian, and many other continental heritages, reminding us that all who served were called Americans.



Butterfly Chairman, Jan Smith

Butterfly Garden Site Selection

As gardeners' we are all getting the urge to get out and work in our gardens. But a little planning will help in the long run. Now is the time to start planning where to locate your new butterfly garden. Planting a wide range of nectar and host plants is preferable. Check web sites for native plants that will grow in our New Mexico soil and weather. Butterflies may be attracted to your Buddleia shrub, but will linger longer and reproduce if you provide shelter, water, sun and a diverse group of plants.



Plant for Diversity

Choose a wide variety of shrubs, trees and perennials. Choose plants that grow at different heights and have different bloom times. It is always a good idea to plant more than one plant of a species. If you have a small garden or are not up to making drastic changes to your garden, consider using large pots and trellis' to grow a vine.

Shelter

Trees and shrubs create shade and windbreaks for birds and butterflies. These plants also provide roosting places for the night and hiding places from predators. Remember, many trees and shrubs are host plants for caterpillars.

Water

Butterflies need moisture. Who has not seen the pictures of masses of butterflies getting moisture from elephant dung! You can create a puddling area and grow moisture loving plants in your garden. Make sure it is sheltered from predators and the wind.

Sun

The sun is the most important thing for our plants and butterflies. Butterflies start the day basking in the warm morning sun before they begin their rounds on our plants. Flat rocks and sandy areas are great places for the butterfly to warm to the day.

Hopefully these few thoughts will help you find more butterflies in your garden this year.

Litter Control and Recycling Chairman, Julie Foster



I wish to Thank those individuals that took the time to apply for NMGC Awards this year. I also would like to Thank the Clubs and Individuals that put these practices into their daily lives, as it benefits all of us and our environment. I would love to see more applications next year, but you are all doing us a great service whether you apply for awards or not.

Penny Pines Chairman, Mary Ann Moreno

Penny Pines needs your Support!

As usual I am asking all Garden Clubs for help with our forests in New Mexico. Please pass the hat, bucket or can and fill it with change to buy trees for our state. Sixty eight dollars, (\$68), buys a plantation of 200 seedlings to reforest our scarred burned areas in all five NM forest regions. Please help, Smokey Bear will be so happy! And you will be heroes. Contact me by email and I will guide you through the process. You got the money, I got the time. If your Garden Club has already bought a Plantation, email me as I will honor you in Las cruces for your thoughtfulness. *Your Tree person, Mary Ann Moreno- Penny Pines Chairman*



Achieves Chairpersons, Becky Fuller and Beulah Oyler



We have not received anything to be archived, however, I wish to remind you that if you have something you wish to be archived please bring it to the Spring Convention. **Things to remember: Do not include bank statements or recent personal information.** We look forward to seeing everyone in Las Cruces in April.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS from Around the State

Lincoln County Garden Club

It started with Facebook. The Lincoln County Garden Club Facebook page to be precise. A question came from a local Ruidoso business, GoodLife Senior Living and Memory Care, about helping their residents with a gardening project. Many nursing homes now provide specially designed “memory gardens: and “wander gardens” for residents living with dementia. LCGC member Ann Lohrey volunteered to lead a committee of Club members to investigate what was needed at GoodLife and how LCGC could help with their gardening projects. Members Cinda Jennings and Pam McArthur accompanied Ann to the Assisted Living Center. Knowing there are so many benefits for those living in homes for Seniors, it made sense to LCGC members to respond to this request. For seniors living in nursing homes, the benefits of garden-related activities abound: From: “How to start a Garden Club for Seniors” <https://www.goldencarers.com/how-to-start-a-garden-club-for-seniors/4314/>. Ann and her Committee found what GoodLife wanted from Lincoln Country Garden Club was advice on what to plant to replace dead trees planted on the Center’s grounds. They also asked for ideas of what to plant for residents interested in gardening. Karen Wallace, GoodLife’s Administrator, volunteered her architect husband to build what was needed for raised beds. Some of the residents are capable of gardening on the ground and could participate in enhancing and tending plants in the existing landscape. Ann and her committee prepared an extensive report which included tree replacements of New Mexico Privet, Spanish Broom, Forsythia, or Purple Smoke Tree. Among high-altitude perennial suggestions are Russian Sage, Butterfly Bush, Catmint, Lavender, Elijah Blue Fescue, Dwarf Bearded Iris, Karley Rose Ornamental Grass, Furman’s Red Salvia and Salvia Caradonna. As an accompaniment to the plant ideas, LCGC Grant Committee will pursue a grant from the Ames Companies Tool Grant Program for a group of lightweight and mid-sized floral tools which may be helpful for use in garden therapy projects.

Programming for February and March include an Executive Board Meeting, February Program entitled: “Recipes from your Garden”, where members will bring recipes to be included in a club recipe book’ March meeting will involve members in an annual event of tree planting in conjunction with Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Department.



LCGC member Pam McArthur,
GoodLife Senior Living and Memory Care
Administrator Karen Wallace
LCGC Committee Chairperson Ann Lohrey

GARDEN CLUB NEWS from Around the State

Pecos Valley Youth Club, Renate Risel

The youth club spent time working on fall design in November each month the are excited about the project we offer the enjoyed working together on wood wall hangings. December some members had a marvelous time at McDonald's for an ice social.

We celebrated our 4 year in January and like each year we have a new youth president and second president the children are very excited about having the honor of being president and vice president and looking forward for their duties to preform starting with the creating a scrapbook and looking after the bird feeder at our local zoo.

Like each year we planted spring bulbs in a container the and decorated the containers with ribbons and colorful beads ones the children were finished with the project the went on to learn about geraniums propagating and how to care of the cutting.

Over the years I have enjoyed the children and see how proud and excited they are about their projects and achievements .

A thank you to Karen Henderson for her time and giving the children the opportunity to learn more about the art with planting spring bulbs.



Santa Rosa Garden Club, Colleen Hinker

Since our successful Flower Show at the Guadalupe County Fair, we have been concentrating on teaching our new members about Horticulture and floral design. They seem to prefer floral design. But did enjoy a trip out to Christy Johnson's greenhouses near Cuervo. This commercial set-up has just begun to plan and plant seeds for the plants to be ready in the spring, encouraging everyone to start thinking about their garden plans! In November we learned about 'all green' designs and incorporated them into what we call 'times X 2' designs. We add fall colors to use it for thanksgiving tables; then replace them with new flowers to make a Christmas centerpiece! We have very little greens in our gardens out here on the plains so all brought what they could from their gardens. Some members helped with the winter bird count and 54 species were found in one day! For February, We plan to make Valentine designs to share with people in town that may need a little cheering up after the snow storm!

All members and guests enjoyed an entertaining and fun Christmas party at Rose Passmores ranch, 8 miles south! Fellowship is always an important part of Garden Club.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS from Around the State

Artesia Garden Club, Julie Foster

We had a lovely Christmas Party in December, with lots of food, fun, and laughter. Our District V Director Renate Riesel joined us and made it even more festive with her Joyful energetic spirit. We had a lively Chinese Gift Exchange, and collected funds and gifts for our local shelter.

January brought us a new project refurbishing the flower beds at our Historical Museum. Our District Director Renate Riesel and Awards Chairman Nancy Hartwick joined us on a tour of the museums and gardens. They brought us gathered seeds, bulbs and some plant starts for the herb and vegetable gardens.

The following week we the planted spring flowering bulbs, in the beds along the front porch and steps. It was a beautiful day before the wind blew in the next round of our lovely changing NM weather, but we did get the bulbs in in time for the following days forecasted rain, which as usual didn't happen.

February we always do table decorations for the Senior Center dressing up for Valentine's Day Dances and Festivities.



Morning Garden Club, Sue Ferguson

Morning Garden Club's main project is the annual decoration of the Historical Society for Southeast New Mexico Museum, Roswell for the Christmas holiday season. This year's theme was "A New Mexico Christmas", and decorations with a south-of-the-border flavor were used. Our Decorations Chairman, Jan Dunnahoo, conducted a workshop in November for club members to learn how to make flowers using tissue paper. Then members went home and made the brightly-colored paper flowers that were used to decorate the rooms throughout the Museum. We decorated the Museum during the week of December 2 in anticipation of the Museum Open House, which was held on December 8. Around 400 visitors toured the house that day to see the decorations, to visit with Santa Claus, and have their photos taken against such a colorful backdrop.

At our Christmas meeting, we had a delicious finger-food pot luck brunch, and were entertained by the beautiful singing voice of Sean Lee, Pastor Grace Community Church, Roswell of much-loved Christmas songs and carols. Two red velvet heart-shaped ornaments for the Member Memorial Christmas Tree were dedicated in memory of Rene McCoy and Dru Cieszinski.

GARDEN CLUB NEWS from Around the State

Morning Garden Club—Continued

We used our January meeting to take the decorations down, and store everything away. Much quicker taking them down than putting them up!

In February, Jan Smith from Home Garden Club, was the guest speaker. Jan gave us a fabulous program on succulents, with many beautiful photos of her own plants. We learnt how to propagate them, growing conditions, where to obtain plants, and countless other tips. Jan brought many plants with her and members had fun drawing numbers to take them home.

Table centerpieces were taken to Sunset Villa Care Center in December to decorate the dining room tables for Christmas. In January we planted 100+ hyacinth, daffodil, and tulip bulbs at the Butterfly Garden in Cahoon Park. The bulbs had been donated by a local business at the end of the season.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| ◆ March 2, 2020 | District I Annual Meeting | ABQ, NM |
| ◆ March 5, 2020 | District II Annual Meeting | Los Alamos, NM |
| ◆ March TBA | District III Annual Meeting | Las Vegas, NM |
| ◆ March 13, 2020 | District IV Annual Meeting | T or C, NM |
| ◆ March 19, 2020 | District V Annual Meeting | Roswell, NM |
| ◆ April 8-10, 2020 | NMGC Annual Convention | Las Cruces, NM |
| ◆ April 24-25, 2020 | SCR Annual Meeting | Little Rock, AR |
| ◆ May 11-16, 2020 | NGC Annual Convention | Milwaukee, WI |
| ◆ September 23-26, 2020 | NGC Fall Board Meeting | Fargo, ND |
| ◆ October 1-2, 2020 | NMGC Fall Board Meeting | Santa Fe, NM |

New Mexico Gardener

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www.newmexicogardenclubs.org

Organized 1950

Incorporated August 5, 1952

24 Clubs

526 Paid Memberships

2 Youth Clubs

91 Youth Members

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

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on the our website:
www.newmexicogardenclubs.org
NMGC User name: nmgc**

Instructions for Publication

The *New Mexico Gardener* is published quarterly: March, June, September and December. The Editor reserves 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 Microsoft 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. Do not frame or otherwise enhance. 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

Fall
Winter
Spring
Summer

Dates

August 1
November 1
February 1
May 1

**Articles/Photos for the next *New Mexico Gardener* must be submitted
by May 1, 2020**