



Quarterly Newsletter of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Volume 49 No. 5

June/July/August 2020

# Summer 2020 Issue



District I Luncheon  
Rt 66 Dinner



Receiving a handmade gift from  
Colleen Hinker



District II Luncheon & Floral  
Art Presentation



District III Luncheon & Program



*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,

I am writing to you with the hope that you have safely weathered this virus so far and are continuing to take care of yourselves and family.

As you know, we postponed our Annual Spring Convention in Las Cruces originally planned for April 8<sup>th</sup>. We rescheduled for July, but have since considered this too soon and too close to the Fall Board, which will be held in Santa Fe on October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Therefore, the Annual Convention is now cancelled, and our Fall Board meeting is the only meeting this year. There are other factors too, that make it better sense to create a gathering with a higher participation.

One part of the Spring Convention that will be included in the Fall Board will be the awards ceremony. So, our plan is to incorporate everything required in the two days. New Mexico Judges Council will have its banquet on October 1<sup>st</sup> after the Executive Board meetings. Then, we will begin our NMGC business day after breakfast on October 2<sup>nd</sup> concluding the day with the Awards banquet and leaving all members free to leave after breakfast on Saturday morning to drive back to your homes around the state. Our National President Gay Austin will also be attending, and we're going to make this meeting extra special to show her our New Mexico hospitality.

Following these changes, our five District meetings will have different schedules, so please make a point of supporting and attending them and let's create new momentum as we recover from this extended lockdown. I have no concern over the resilience of garden club members. After all, we are constantly adapting to the weather to plant and care for our gardens, and this is just another storm.

Our clubs have had to hold off on installation ceremonies and spring and summer anniversary parties, many of which I was planning to attend. These will happen as we get the green light "to move about the cabin..." I will be happy to attend wherever you would like me to help celebrate and encourage renewed energy and focus with all New Mexico garden clubs.

Now, to the bigger picture. The National Convention in Milwaukee was cancelled for this month, and the South Central Regional meeting in Little Rock has been rescheduled for August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Several members from New Mexico plan to attend and represent our state. This will be followed by the National Fall Board meeting to be hosted in Fargo, ND. on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

I personally want to thank the District IV committees who worked so hard on our cancelled Spring Convention. You are recognized, and we are grateful to you all for your creativity and dedication.

I am aware of God's goodness in our beautiful state, and take comfort in the strength of each other. Let's look forward to better days.

*Christine Longthorp, President*



## Message from Our Parliamentarian, *Isabel Olsen*

All garden club meetings and activities have come to a halt due to the national and statewide restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. But that doesn't mean that business can't be conducted. This is a great time for clubs and districts to review and amend their bylaws.

Many club bylaws do not address electronic voting or emergency situations that may occur, and we should always follow our bylaws as closely as possible. In order to keep our organization functioning and moving forward some action may need to be taken. If your club is not compliant with your current bylaws, more the reason to review and update them.

A club president or district director can appoint a committee of three members to review and make the suggested changes. They would then present the recommendations to the club president and club officers for discussion and review. The proposals should then be sent to each club member for a vote to accept any changes to the bylaws. All members should be made aware of any action being taken and this can be done electronically or by letter for those members that do not have an e-mail address.

Committees should operate this way as well. Even though we can't meet face to face right now, it's even more imperative that we use our resources to communicate with each other. NMGC Officers and Board Members are in office for a two-year term. Most of the garden clubs do as well, but not all. Arguably, once an officer has completed a year of experience in a position, the second year is much easier. It also means the nominating committee has to find new officers less often. If you are electing new officers right now, follow your current bylaws for elections, the nominating committee members should be communicating with each other, and making their calls to members to fill the offices. Work your way through the election process and do not worry that the formal installation cannot be done prior to the new officers assuming office.

*I want to commend Lincoln County Garden Club of District V for not only following the proper steps to amend their bylaws but for also getting their yearly budget approved by all members. They achieved this electronically.*

For parliamentarian questions utilize your club and district parliamentarians.

I am always available as well.



## Message from Our First Vice President, *Debra Sorrell*

Well, this crazy new world we are living in has brought so many changes to all of our lives! I find myself writing this article as your new 1st Vice President without having ever been formally introduced in that position. Sadly, due to health concerns, our wonderful Carolyn Bedford had to move to Virginia. We have all been left without the benefit of her collaboration with President Christine Longthorp and the leadership of her future presidency. I was asked by the nominating committee to consider filling the vacancy and was very happy to say yes! My beginnings in garden club was to serve as Vice President under Christine, who was President of our club. This will be like going home! I am so looking forward to working closely with her again as we serve the clubs in New Mexico. I will do my very best to help New Mexico Garden Clubs thrive and grow!

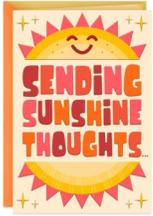
## MEMORIAL DAY



*"As we express our gratitude, let us never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter the words but, to live by them!"*

*John F. Kennedy*





THOUGHTS & PRAYERS NEEDED: NM Garden Clubs has two Members of District I that are not doing well. Esther Russel and Dianna Doddridge. They both have been very active members in the past. Please consider sending them a note or card. It would really brighten their day!

Esther Russell, 12008 St Mary's Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111

Dianna Doddridge, 1109 Walker Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112

## **Message from Our State Historian, Julie Foster**

Happy Spring Everyone,

I hope this finds you all Safe and Well. As long as we are tied to home and electronics lets go over a few Awards Points. Being NMGC Historian I have received 12 club histories this year.

Thank-you to those who put forth the effort of sending these in, which is wonderful but not half of the clubs in the state of NM.

The **Most Recent NMGC Awards Book** is online.

**BUT**, there is no reason to wait until the new year to do these reports. You can keep an email in your drafts and add to it on your own schedule, Then it will be ready to ship whenever you are ready to apply.

When you send in applications the first and second things you need to remember are **Due Dates** and the **Entry Cover Page, required by all award applications.**

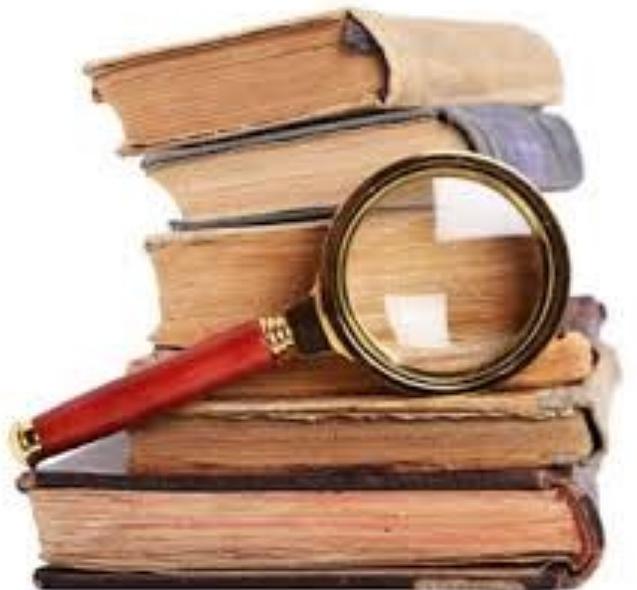
In Club Histories your brief Description of Projects, monthly Programs, and Flower Shows earn 15 points each (a few photos are a plus).

Followed by Awards, Achievements, Activities, Publicity, Participation, and conformance at 5 points each.

Let's see if we can get histories from the majority if not all of the clubs in the coming year, Pretty PLEASE.

I even did a first one in 16+ years for Artesia GC this year. I know shame on me, but better late than never.

Please, stay Well, and hope to see y'all Soon.



# 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.

*“Every part of this earth is sacred to my people. Every shining pine needle, every sandy shore, Every mist in the dark woods, every clearing and every humming insect is holy in the memory of my people. “*

From a letter written in 1883 to the President of the United States of America



Do you like what you are seeing here??? If so, join us for dinner and a hands on workshop at the NM Judges Council fall board meeting. Watch for more announcements and come make wearable floral art with us.

*Suzy Andrego, NM Judges Council President*



**Corresponding Secretary - JJ Huddleston**

**Annual reports are due to me by June 30th. All Officers, District Directors, and Chairpersons are to submit a summary of activities covering 1 June 2019 to 31 May 2020. Please send reports as a Word document to [jjhuddleston78@gmail.com](mailto:jjhuddleston78@gmail.com).**

**Thank you and stay safe.**

Message from Our Second Vice President,  
*Joyce Zaugg*



## STATE DUES are NOW DUE!!

We are living in unusual and difficult times. The coronavirus/covid-19 pandemic has us all taking extra measures to be careful and safe. Most of our clubs are not meeting and so collecting dues may be challenging for your club. We may need to go back to the old fashion way of sending in our member renewal forms and checks via the postal service.

Each club decides what their annual membership dues will be, but \$8.00 of that dues goes to New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. Your club treasurer sends me a check and an updated membership roster. I maintain a spreadsheet of all the clubs members, check to make sure the submitted dues matches the number of registered members, and then send the checks and membership list to the state Treasurer, Laurie Hixson.

The deadline for getting the roster and dues to me is July 1st. I know these are trying times so do the best you can.

I shared with you in the Spring New Mexico Gardener that our National President, Gay Austin, has challenged us to increase membership by 21% by 2021. It may seem impossible to recruit new members when we're not meeting regularly. Word of mouth may be the best option right now. Our club started a monthly newsletter last September. We once had a club newsletter, but it went by the way side when the editor moved and no one was able to commit to continuing to publish it. If you have a newsletter, ask new and long time neighbors if they would like to receive a copy. A newsletter gives new prospects an idea of what the club does in the way of long term projects, monthly programs and speakers, and charitable works. If you don't have a newsletter, think about starting one. It is a valuable tool for members and a great way to keep communications flowing.

I want to congratulate the Santa Rosa club for being the first club to send in their updated roster and dues.



## Message From District I Director, *Debra Sorrell*

In March, we had our annual Spring meeting, "You Make Me Wanna Sprout!", at the Route 66 Diner in Albuquerque. The retro atmosphere and food were really great! High Desert Design Club graciously made "ice cream sundae" centerpieces sitting on old 45 records. They were super cute and added to the 50's theme. Members from all over the district attended and every club was represented. Our speaker was Uptown GC member Steven Hong-Elder who did an amazing program on propagation....primarily of bulbs. We learned an incredible amount about how to divide bulbs and other plants to create new plants. There were wonderful ways to get a LOT of bang for your buck when you're buying new plants!

I was excited at that meeting to hear about all that our clubs were involved in. There was the usual springtime enthusiasm for getting outside again and starting new garden projects. Of course, that was the first week of March. Things, obviously, have changed pretty dramatically since that week. In addition to all club meetings being cancelled, all community based projects have had to be put on hold or figured out under social distancing guidelines. It's a crazy world for everyone right now and I pray that everyone has been staying safe and healthy.

The good news is.....gardening has never been cancelled!! I hope that everyone has been able to take advantage of all the extra time at home to make your gardens the best they have been in years. I know that's what I'm trying to do! Thank goodness that we have all been blessed with this hobby of ours! It takes us outdoors, back to nature and fresh air and creativity.....things that are beneficial to a healthy body, mind and spirit! I hope that we will soon get guidelines on how to go about getting back to our lives' activities and that we can continue to share our love of gardening with others. I anticipate that we will be able to figure out ways to have our clubs get back together and maintain safety. Until then, HAPPY GARDENING!!

*Due to changes on the NMGC board, there will be a change in the leadership of District I. We would like to welcome Sonia James as the new District I Director. She has served as the District I First VP for the past 3 years and is very ready to step into this position with a lot of experience and enthusiasm. Thank you, Sonia, for accepting this responsibility! We know you will do a fabulous job!*





## Message From Our District II Director, *Shelby Redondo*

*With the departure of Sue-Ellen De-Beer, Shelby Redondo has been voted in to the District II Director position. Welcome Shelby and we all look forward to working with you!*

Centerpieces and Design by Doris Jackson



## Social Media Chairmen, *Cindy Hill & Suzy Andrego*

**Did you know that NM Garden Clubs has  
a Facebook page  
& an Instagram page??**



**YES ..... WE DO!!**

**Find us and like us on Facebook or Follow us on Instagram**

We share lots of great information and photos.



Photo tours of gardens from around the state.  
Updates on information on what is happening at  
National Garden Clubs and at South Central Region.

***Want to share something ... email Cindy Hills  
([cinzh@aol.com](mailto:cinzh@aol.com)) or Suzy Andrego ([Sandrego@qwest.net](mailto:Sandrego@qwest.net))***



## Message from District III Director, *Johnese Turri*

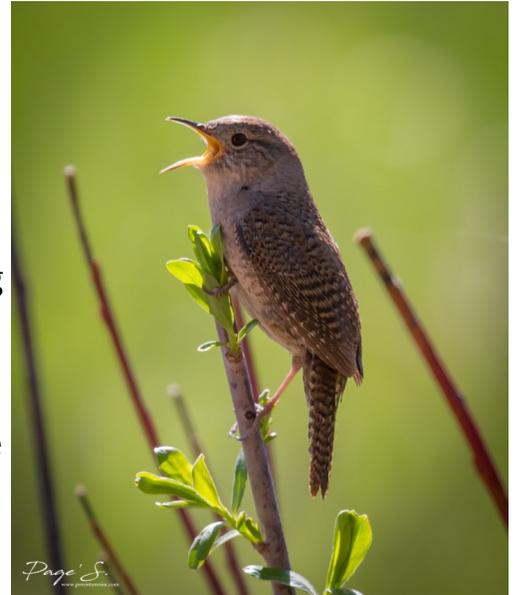
Spring has finally come to the high country mountains!! I just got my first Daisy and Iris blooms!!! Being at 9500 feet it takes a while for flowers and plants to get going!

Such a different spring with the Covid-19. It was so wonderful that we got to have our district meeting in Las Vegas right before this all happened. Amor de la Tierra has not met since February and have not been able to work on projects.

Angel Fire Garden Club is excited as the three glorious gardens have woken up! The meetings are on hold but the planning continues for work on the gardens. They have had several work days on these gardens with encouragement to social distance and wearing face masks. On May 11th they had a “drive by dues drive” paying event to encourage members to contribute to the club. It was good to say hello and see how everyone was doing!!

Santa Rosa Garden Club reports that they are doing well, are healthy and busy in their gardens. They decided to have their meeting in May which raised all of their spirits. They made succulent dish gardens, shared plants, ideas and food. They are still planning on making their usual 12 floral designs in June to take to businesses and city offices to celebrate Garden Week. They sure hope the businesses can accept their gifts, as a few flowers always give joy!!!

My wish to you all is to be healthy and enjoy your gardens. I hope to see you all soon!!



Janet Warner cleaning up the Vietnam Memorial!



Diane Peterson cleaning up the Shuter Library Butterfly Garden!



## Message From Our District IV Director, *Ellie Nordgren*

Not much has been happening with Garden Clubs due to the COVID-19 virus, and many meetings and programs had to be cancelled. However, because of the "Stay-at-Home" order, many of our members are spending lots of time doing their favorite thing -- GARDENING. Spring is the perfect time for planting, and many of us are growing more vegetables this year. One Gardener even cleaned out and organized her Potting Shed, something she has been wanting to get to for years, YAY.

Unfortunately, also due to the COVID-19 virus, the District IV Spring Meeting, "Dabbling in Daffodils" on March 13 had to be postponed. Much planning and preparation went into the meeting by the Sunshine Valley Garden Club, but the health and safety of all members was paramount.

We hope that all of you stay healthy and safe. We are all in this together and look forward to being together again soon. KEEP ON GARDENING, it's great therapy.



Mary Ann Moreno's driveway Rose garden  
& Suzy Andrego's driveway Rose garden

## Message from Our District V Director, Renate Reisel



At this time of the Corona virus many gardenclub meetings District meeting and convention have been cancel or delayed but as gardeners we know mother nature sometimes interferes with our plans as the Corona virus situation and we just have to adjust and plan for the next season.

Artesia garden club continues working on there new project beautifying the Artesia Museum a Nell Irbys and WWII Memorial gardens with a variety of different types of plants and flowers.

Home garden club members also maintaining a flower bed at Roswell local Zoo and adding seasonal flowers to the existing

shrubs and plants .

The clubs members were very disappointed that there annual gardeners market plant sale was canceled due to the city's closing all the public parks to encourage the community to stay home and save.

Morning garden club members attended with Home garden club members the dedication forHabitat Humanity each year both clubs enjoyed the event by supporting the new owners with garden tools gift certificate plants and each year Morning garden club planting a tree in front of the new house .

As most garden clubs Morning garden club is also very busy with the upkeep of there 3 butterfly garden and keeping all the container at the Fire stations in blooming condition with butterfly friendly plants

I am very sorry to pass on the message about the passing of Marilyn Barnes a wonderful member of Lincoln garden club District 5 is sending there condolences to the Lincoln garden club members

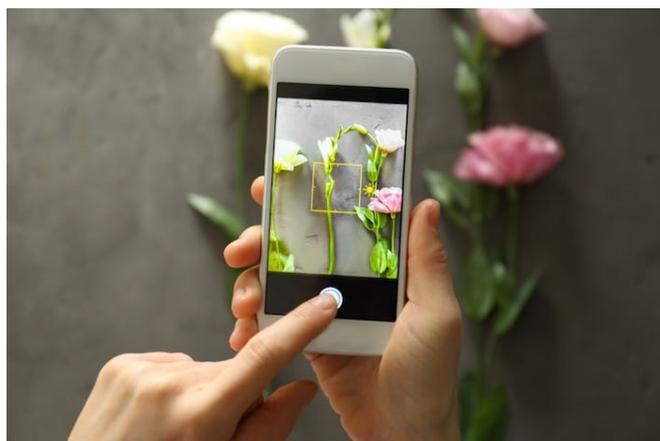
Lincoln garden club is a very busy club with so many different activities and working together on there yearbookfor for the coming season and planning on continuing with the Ruidoso public library garden and maintain a floral planter at the Capitan public library .

*I am grateful for all my problems.  
As each of them was overcome  
I became stronger and more able to meet those yet to come.  
I grew on my difficulties.*

J.C. Penny, 1875-1971 American retailing Magnate

## Photography Awards Chairman, **Debra Sorrell**

There were fewer photographs entered this last year but they were terrific! I was so excited about presenting this year's awards but, alas, that got postponed along with EVERYTHING else! Never fear! Those awards are in the waiting and will be distributed as soon as we can get together again. In the meantime, I hope you have all



been taking lots of new photos! We have each had more time to be in our gardens or out for a hike or a walk. I'm sure you have had terrific opportunities to catch some insect or butterfly or bird. Have you had a wildlife visitor? Did you plant an amazing new plant this year?

**TAKE PICTURES!!** And then be ready to enter them and share them with us next spring.



**FLORAL ART**  
by  
*President*  
*Christine Longthorp*



## Litter Control & Recycle Chairman, Julie Foster

In this situation for all those using expensive 3D printers to make face shields, why not save more plastic from the landfills and use 2 or 3 liter bottles cut out for face shields? They can be cut out easily, and the curved part raises it away for those who wear glasses, Or just need to have a little more distance for noses and face shape. Also can be disinfected easily.....

All you need is a clean bottle, scissors, a hole punch.....

They could be attached to a visor or ball cap, tied with ribbon, or elastic.

The no-tie elastic shoe things work too.



## Life Membership & Scholarship Chairman, Sue Ferguson

*You may not know that New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., offers an annual scholarship of \$2,500 to a student attending college/university in New Mexico and majoring in fields of study related to horticulture, and the environment. Requirements include that the student is a New Mexico resident and is an undergraduate junior or senior, or a graduate student pursuing a Masters Degree. The deadline to apply is February 1. Full details can be found at [www.newmexicogardenclubs.org/scholarship.html](http://www.newmexicogardenclubs.org/scholarship.html).*

*Perhaps you have a friend or family member you can share this information with. The Scholarships are funded by sales of NMGC Life Memberships. This membership comes with a Life Membership pin and membership card and costs \$40. Please check this out on the same webpage. Memberships make great gifts and the proceeds go to a very worthy cause. Do contact me with any questions. Thanks! Sue Ferguson, [sjferguson@plateau.email](mailto:sjferguson@plateau.email).*

## MEET OUR 2020 NMGC Scholarship Winner: Jonathan Lewis



The recipient of the 2020/2021 NMGC's Inc., \$2,500 Scholarship is Jonathan R. Lewis, Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, NM. Jonathan is a senior majoring in Environmental Science, with a minor in Wildlife Biology. He plans to get a masters degree in Hydrology, and work within the USA on water conservation projects. Some of Jonathan's extra-curricular activities at ENMU include President of the Environmental Science Club, President of the Entrepreneurs' Club, and Senior Peer Mentor - TRIO Student Support Services.

*In May, President Longthorp also found out Jonathan was awarded a \$4000 National Garden Clubs scholarship, in addition to his NMGC Scholarship. **CONGRATULATIONS Jonathan!***



**NM Garden Clubs has 23 Blue Star  
Memorial Markers Around the state  
as of 6/1/2020**



**2020 Blue (Gold) Star Price Increase**



Change is inevitable! Right now, our country is going through major change that has affected our lives in so many ways. Our Blue (Gold) star is an amazing program that has been a part of NGC since 1945, and we have seen many changes. These changes have only made us stronger in honoring our military men and women who fight for our freedom. Below are the prices that will take effect on **July the 1st, 2020**. There is still time to order your memorial markers before the price increase goes into effect. As your State Blue Star Chair, I encourage you to complete your plans. Go to the National Garden Clubs Inc., website, click on projects, then ongoing projects, and Blue Star. All forms and directions are at your fingertips.

Memorial/Highway Markers - Delivered with a 7' post	\$1,590.00 (Currently \$1,530.00)
Byway Plaques	\$530.00 (Currently \$510.00)
Replacement Posts	\$325.00
Refurbish no post - round trip freight included	\$800.00
Cap repair/refurbish no post - round trip freight included	\$900.00
Extra Shipping (western states) Memorial/Highway marker	\$50.00

**Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.**

**You can contact me at: Shirley Tetreault - NMGC Blue Star Chair,  
ammasangels@comcast.net, (505) 259-2263**



## Litter Control and Recycling Chairman, Julie Foster



Please look for changes in NMGC Awards Book, hopefully we can get it updated to include more than trash pick-up this year.

I would love to have recycle/ repurpose/ reuse projects listed, we all do it,

Those with outstanding ideas/ projects should be acknowledged.

Please, stay Well, and hope to see y'all Soon.

## 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. We need more plantations for NM to help with scarred areas. 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 so that the National President, Gay Austin and I can honor you in Santa Fe, for your thoughtfulness. **A BIG TREE THANK YOU to District I and Uptown Garden Club for their Support this Spring!!**



## 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 Fall Board Meeting.

**Things to remember: Do not include bank statements or recent personal information.**

# GARDEN CLUB NEWS from Around the State

## Socorro Garden Club, District IV

Unless anyone has a garden that they want us to tour in groups of less than 5 with masks....let us know! Thanks!

Thanks for Julie's tours of her irises this year. They were spectacular. She did lose her dad.

Also, Socorro Hospital Gardens bloomed nicely and look good. Out of the 3 roses planted one turned up missing, one died and the other looks good. Julie's sand, mulch, and river soil and the brick pavers look great.

Tamara Ireland and Stella watered the Point of Lands. The Point of Lands had many wildflowers blooming and was lovely.

Keep posting your photos on Socorro Garden Club Facebook page. Mary Gillard Pack posts some incredible photos of her yard and lovely flowers regularly. We appreciate you Mary Gillard Pack.

If anyone is thinning out your yard plants. Give us a shout maybe we can trade around. Also be rooting your plants for the Octoberfest.

May meeting cancelled at this time to uncertainty of re-opening due to covid-19 virus.

***Millie Sigman, President***

## Lincoln County Garden Club, District V

On a sad note Lincoln County Garden Club recently lost two of our very active members, Past-President Marilyn Barnes and her beloved dog Mary. They were both fixtures in the Club and will be greatly missed.

The March and April meetings of LCGC were cancelled due to the stay-at-home order and we are unsure about May. To stay connected we are putting together a Newsletter and have asked members to submit one or more of the following: funniest and/or worse gardening experience; gardening tips that work or didn't work; gardening questions; any gardening article of interest; what have members been doing to keep busy during the stay-at-home order?

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> the Director of Ruidoso Parks & Recreation, David "T-Bone" Tetreault, planted five trees in honor of Earth Day and Keep Ruidoso Beautiful. Two Spruce trees were planted at Village Hall and three Cherry trees at Wingfield Park. Lincoln County Garden Club donated \$150.00 toward the cost of the trees. In keeping with social distancing, LCGC Treasurer Mary Lemmond and T-Bone exchanged the donation by the new Spruce trees. (Photo provided)

We hope all of you are safe and following the guidelines. Let's hope this is over very soon and we can get back to



## **Angel Fire Garden Club, District III**

Spring has finally arrived in Angle Fire! Our three glorious signature gardens are just waking up. The tiny crocus and grape hyacinth are making their presence known. The bright yellow of the daffodils have trumpeted the arrival of spring and the anticipated hard work that is a gardener's pleasure. The gardens have begun to wake to the uncertainty of the times.

Angel Fire Garden Club is in a holding pattern just like most organizations in the nation. The May meeting has been postponed and all others are now a "wait and see" scenario. The Club is also waiting to see if things settle down before scheduling the "Angel Fire Garden Tour". The safety of members and the community is of the utmost importance at this time.

The only meeting thus far was held on Suzanne De Vos-Cole, Mora County Extension Agent, gave a wonderful talk, "Starting your Garden". Many of the members went home and immediately started to round up containers for plantings. The presentation was one of the best the Club has had.

The planning continues for cleanup and Vietnam Memorial Garden, the Angel Fire and the Shuter Library Butterfly Garden. Members are encouraged to social distance and to wear facemasks where necessary. The gardens will be beautiful to help give peace and tranquility to these disturbing times.

Each year a \$1000 scholarship is awarded to a graduating Moreno Valley student. This process is underway and will be awarded the end of May.

Page Steed is managing the Facebook page. It is keeping the community informed about all aspects of gardening and what is happening in the Club. This has been so valuable to all of our members. Thank you Page.

Most of our social situations have been severed with the Covid-19 situation. After the long winter in Angel Fire all members welcome the opportunity to see friends and neighbors at the Club's meetings. That is not happening. Also, the business side of the Club is still functioning and needs to be financed. On May 11<sup>th</sup> the Club will have a "drive by" dues paying event to encourage members to contribute to the Club. Social distancing will be observed and masks will be worn. It will be good to say hello and to see how everyone is doing.

Good luck to all of you! Remember.... we are all in this together. Protect yourselves and others. Hopefully, everyone can catch up in Las Cruces in July. Stay safe.

***Susan Schultz, President***



pattern just like May meeting has "wait and see" things settle Garden Tour". of the utmost

March 9<sup>th</sup>. Extension Agent, High Altitude home and ers for seeds and was one of the

planting of the Village Median Volunteers will be wear facemasks beautiful to help

turbing times. ed to a graduating

## Morning Garden Club, District V

Morning Garden Club, Roswell, NM met in March for what turned out to be our final meeting before recessing for the summer. The club celebrates the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding this year. Laura Read, and Judith White who joined the club in the 1960s shared reminiscences of those early days with us. The club had a steady membership of 50 at that time, and new members were assigned a mentor to help them learn design, and horticulture. Great emphasis was put on all members entering the Flower Show at the Eastern New Mexico State Fair. Attire was very formal, but sensible shoes were worn.



We had planned to have a celebration of the club's birthday during National Garden Week at our Butterfly Garden in Cahoon Park, but now that is on hold. Our work around town continues with tending the Alena Garden at the Historical Museum Annex, two Butterfly Gardens in Cahoon Park, and planters at various locations. Hopefully we'll be able to meet again safely in the fall, but for now are staying in touch via Facebook, emails, and phone calls.

***Sue Ferguson, President***



***ALL Through my life,  
the new sights of Nature  
Made me rejoice like a child.***

Marie Curie, 1867-1934  
Polish Born French Chemist



## Artesia Garden Club, District V

I hope all are well and practicing safety precautions to remain so. It looks like Mother Nature is



finally going to let us start spring planting. We should all have a wonderful start to garden this year finally, all this extra time to get everything just right is not going to waste in my district.

So far since this shutdown, I have shelled and canned nuts, cleaned and canned stuff from my freezer, Prepared a few meals for distribution to Senior Center patrons, worked on Museum Garden planning, Helped members with transportation to appts, shopping, and minor vehicle issues, Made lots of Hi, How ya doin' phone calls around the states. Discussed when we are going to have our get back together picnic with my members. Will we be able to have ECF the end of July conversations, who knows at this stage? All we can do is check on our family, friends, neighbors, and try to keep busy. Until then stay busy, try to put a little cheer in a few peoples day every day, with just a phone call.

### ***Julie Foster AGC President***

**Artesia Garden Club UPDATE:** has been working on Artesia Museum garden beds this year continuously throughout the past few weeks. We have obtained donations of plants and compost from Renate Reisel (DV Director), Home Depot, Tractor Supply, and Walmart. We have been refurbishing the beds that AGC put in the past, most of which haven't been touched in least 15 years. We have done Nell Irby's and WWII Memorial Gardens, as well as front flowerbeds, with perennials, annuals and bulbs so far. In the coming weeks we shall continue with Herb, Vegetables, and spot fill ins. We have much to do yet, but they are starting to look wonderful and full of color.



## El Jardin Encanto Garden Club, District I

### Gardening Through Stressful Times

Thank goodness for gardening! The COVID-19 virus has turned our world upside down and has added stress and uneasiness to our lives. Our garden club meetings and field trips have been canceled, yet we try to stay in touch via e-mail and the occasional phone call. Still, we miss the group interaction and camaraderie that we're so used to having.

However, there are some advantages to this "new norm". Old projects and repairs that were put off because there was never enough time to get them done are now being completed. The old shed now has a new coat of paint, a new garden bed of flowers has been planted and vegetable gardens are now springing up in many yards. Individuals who have never gardened before are now taking up the hobby and are being introduced to its benefits.

Luckily, we garden club members have always known that gardening is a positive way of relieving anxiety and look forward to putting our hands into the soil every spring. Sunlight, fresh air, being in touch with nature and creating beauty are all mood elevators. Along with the added physical benefits, gardening helps keep our minds and bodies on an even keel.

As another way of keeping members connected, we have asked our group to send pictures of their gardening and landscaping activities. Marissa Thompson, NMSU horticulture specialist and fellow garden club member shows her gratitude to her postal worker (right). A water-filled vial taped to the mailbox filled with sunny, beautiful daffodils brightens the day. Marissa also exchanges tulips in the bouquet as the daffodils start to fade. Surely flowers and a thank you note puts a smile on this essential worker's face.



Carolyn Fink repaints a gate; one of four being spruced up in her yard (left). "It's a project I've put off for quite awhile but now I have plenty of time to get it done," she laughs. Carolyn continues by saying she has been working in her green house, overseeing a new liner installation in her swimming pool and fighting with ground squirrels. Members also have sent pictures showing how they have been keeping active. Pictures of flower and herb plantings, yard art, beautifully xeriscaped yards and even a snapshot of nurtured babygoslings have been received. After all the pictures are collected, a collage will be made and showcased for members' enjoyment. Members of El Jardin Encanto Garden Club continue to stay busy, involved as they look forward to better days to come.

***Adrienne David, President***

## Home Garden Club, District V



The Home Garden Club of Roswell is rolling with the punches. February was our last regular meeting and what a nice turn out. Isabel Olson ran both the meeting and gave the presentation. The program was on creative design arraignments with 20 members in attendance. Our members showed some excellent artistic skills with many types of media. The attendees were so enthusiastic about the workshop that we decided to have a design show at the Eastern New Mexico State Fair this October. Perhaps a second workshop in September would be in order to start our creative juices flowing for the fair show. I would like to extend a warm welcome to our four new members, Ann Howry, Deb Jones, Edith Malcom and Beth Neeb. Nice to see new faces and ideas.



The other event we participated in was the Habitat for Humanity dedication of a completed home. Several members attended and presented the proud family with a \$50 Home Depot gift card behalf of the entire club.

Our members like everyone else in the country have been on some kind of "lockdown" type situation. That has prevented us from having our Monthly meetings in April and May, but has not prevented us from gardening. We found that having more time at home means spending time with projects and special plantings. Many of us (myself included) have launched into garden projects that were only an idea 5 years ago! The second caveat to this situation is the ability to share our projects and the fruits of these projects with other members electronically. Our club has taken to internet and social media to share photos of our flowers, landscaping, irrigation and garden friends via Facebook or regular old email. This idea was initiated by Renieta Reisel

along with Jan Smith and Isabel Olsen.

Our annual plant sale in April was cancelled as well. The membership decided that we would forgo a sale this year and instead opted to trade with one another plants that were destined for sale. This was done electronically with plants left on doorsteps all in a perfectly safe and legal manner!

The show must go on! So in preparation for next year our members have electronically selected new officers for the 2020/20201 year. That sounds so Si Fi does it not? We will just keep our fingers crossed and hope things return to normal so this does not have to be the normal situation. Regardless of the impersonal nature of the internet, we selected the following members to the respective officer positions. They are; David Blount President, Jan Smith 1stVP, Judy Smith 2ndVP, Kathy Brown Secretary, Pat Greenwade treasurer, Peggy Voigt parliamentarian, Gloria Mendiola corresponding secretary.

Please join us in posting photos and comments during this prolonged home bound period.

***David Blount, President***

## Amor De la Tierra Garden Club, District III

**THREE FUTURE PLANTING SESSIONS:** Saturdays ...  
March 28<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup>, and April 25<sup>th</sup>! Please come and enjoy this city beautification project with us!

Jean Ganaway, Pam Davies, Cheryl Burlett, Carol Bess, Nancy Leippe, Lisa & Tom Jacobsen, Lillian Hoika, and Diana Springer gathered at the Pocket Park on Grand & Lincoln today, February 29<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. to share ideas and to make some fun plans for future plantings of the garden area. In addition to generally thinking about where plantings might best go, individuals had ideas for putting in specific perennials such as Virginia Creeper, roses, as well as Margaret Gorman's previously offered Russian Sage. Mickey Holley from Rough Rider Antiques joined us and generously offered Red Hot Pokers, Hens & Chicks, and Day lilies. Planting from seeds was discussed.



Lisa suggested a seed binder for \$3.50 (2,000 square feet) or \$10.00 (6,000 sq. ft) to assist with germination. Carol offered lovely orange cosmos; also, Jean noted the striking beauty of blue flax together with golden California poppies; she likes Gay Feather as well. Pam shared the idea that daffodils would be lovely in the small tree grove area. Lisa, using the strong vertical wooden poles already there, thought of a great idea of using ollas (double 6" pots with a lid) & planting morning glory to climb the poles. Carol thought of Maximillian Sunflowers on either side of the wooden bench. Lisa, Nancy, and Carol liked putting Russian Sage along the walkway—sunken about 3' down into the berm. Diana, who can obtain river rounded rock, asked where a xeriscaped "rock stream bed" might look good; Nancy and others felt it could be nice along the berm near Grand. Lisa and others talked about Hollyhock placements. Covering a wall missing plaster with Hollyhocks, Sunflowers, Russian sage, etc. was considered. Lisa kindly recorded plant placement on an aerial map of the park.

As you can see, it was a busy and productive time followed by coffee and more at 'Dichos.' Besides the above mentioned plants, Lillian has penstemon seeds, Suzanne Andrego has day lilies & bulbs, Terra Liddel has 2 catmints + 1-2 Russian Sage, Nancy has Siberian Iris, Diana has white as well as pink yarrow, Carol has Datura, Erika Larsen has estafiate (*Artemesia ludovicana* or *frigida*), oregano de la Sierra (*Monarda fistulosa*), wood rose (*Rosa woodsia*), a capulin (*Prunus Virginia*). Carol, who has already planted seed, spoke about using cardboard and mulch for some areas for weed control prior to planting. Offering additional seeds were Carol (calendula & flax), Lisa (poppy), and Diana (Prairie wildflower seed).

Nancy came up with a saying: "If you are going to bring it, plant it." Lisa's map will be sent soon.

## Los Alamos Garden Club, District II

The Los Alamos Garden Club began 2020 with a very interesting garden craft project introduced by our member Joyce Zaugg. We made spacers and dibblers to enhance planting seeds. A spacer is very like a ruler, showing various widths between which one would want to plant different seeds. The dibbler is a wooden pointed stick which gives various depths for seed planting.



February allowed the members to find out the main points covered in the NGC's environmental school which was held near Philadelphia in August. The point emphasized by most of the well-informed speakers was: plant more trees! The school was attended by Ann Le Page.

Our scholarship committee granted our annual \$1500 scholarship to high school senior Kathryn Laintz, who plans to major in the environmental sciences.

As we are all aware, all of our lives changed in March, due to the Corona Virus epidemic, so March and April meetings were cancelled. Who knows what May will bring?

We are looking forward to the time when we can see each other again and give hugs!

***Ann LePage, President***



"Lady Banks Climbing Rose" in the home of Sandi Davis, Home garden Club, Roswell.

**FRIENDS are  
Like Beautiful  
Flowers in the  
GARDEN of  
Life!**

Garden Club is where we meet the BEST of friends!  
Shirley Tetreault & Esther Russell



## **Petal Pushers Garden Club, District I**

Petal Pushers broke new ground this spring with an officer election by EMAIL! The new officers, who began their terms on May 1, 2020, are: Ginny Longbotham, President; Melinda Merriam, Vice-President; Joan Karrie, Secretary; and Viola Johnston (Treasurer, continuing.) We'll have our formal induction once we can all get together again.

The program for our January was a discussion on Integrated Pest Management by Amanda Skidmore of New Mexico State University, Las Cruces who explained how beneficial plants and insects can help control pests in a way that is actually beneficial to the environment. In February, Suzy Andrego did her usual splendid job presenting "Bulbs."

Here are some notes from our members about their (mostly) gardening activities for the last several months as we eagerly await being able to return to normal living and garden clubbing.

Shirley Bray has planted new roses this year and is enjoying the company of her turtles, which have emerged from hibernation in her backyard. She's hoping that they continue to come to her studio door each evening for a late snack, as they've done in past summers.

Joan Karrie has had an eventful spring. Although spending most of the time working on her husband's new shed – insulating, putting up wallboard, spackling (and spackling again and again), priming, painting, and laying flooring – she did some gardening also. She put in her first herb garden, which is doing well now, after losing some plants to the freeze; she is attempting to identify all the plants in her yard, most of which she inherited from the previous owner; and she is doing her usual yard cleanup and summer-long chamisa bush pruning. Unfortunately, Joan lost about 15 of last year's iris rhizomes to the local pack rats. She's going to buy more at the iris sale at the Albuquerque Garden Club in July, but won't plant any more of them near those hungry rodents!

Ginny Longbotham, our new President, has been busy cleaning and pruning her yard. Her bulbs, lilacs, and wisteria are her spring favorites and all the roses are beginning to burst.

Caryl McCoy doesn't have room for a garden. Here's her note: "I must be getting desperate - I washed some windows yesterday!"

Melinda Merriam, our new VP, has a xeric English garden in the front of her house which she just enlarged because last year's flowers grew too large for her original plans. In the backyard, the fruits and vegetables are growing like crazy. Now, with the pre-growing season projects completed, she is building a mosaic pebble patio. She used a chainsaw for the first time to cut thick limbs to use as a small palisade around a patio-side planting bed.

Pam Walker is managing the new vegetable garden at her son's house and teaching her granddaughters about growing their own food. She's enjoying the chance to spend the time outside.

And finally, Luann Wolfe, one of our newer members, is putting in her first container garden.

### ***Joan Karrie, President***

**UPDATE:** May 1, 2020, new officers of the Petal Pushers Garden Club: President, Ginny Longbotham, V President: Melinda Merriam, Secretary: Joan Karrie, Treasurer: Viola Johnston.

Plus three new members ( Diane McKenzie, Marca Dickie and Collette Tolen) and one returning member (Bev Nixon).



## Pecos Valley Youth Garden Club, District V



February the children were busy creating their own small fantasy garden we supply a lot of materials for the children to choose from recycled materials and new material is always available .

It is always amazing to see what each individual child is choosing for their own little garden they were busy with

Cutting painting and also working with a glue gun soil and plants.

March design workshop with Isabell Olsen was cancelled due to the Corona Virus and the kids were a little disappointed but I decided we still can have a workshop by via mail and the children received seed package by mail and the parents send a big thank you by email.

April class was by drive through at my place to pick up plants and craft materials for painting birdhouses plaster craft paint and brush were included and it is really incredible how easy it was to make the children happy and many parents mentioned they were so happy to receive plants and seed as they were all ready to start with the gardening.

***Renate Reisel, Chair person***



### **SHARE THE BEAUTY DAY**

is an event clubs in District I help with, making small floral arrangements for nursing home residents that are distributed all around Albuquerque. Plant materials are all donated.



## Valley Gardeners, District I

Valley Gardeners Club Motto: "Conserve that thy descendants may have abundance forever". Valley Gardeners currently has 37 members. We meet at 7:00 pm the second Thursday of most months. Los Griegos Health and Sciences Center 1231 Candelaria NW.

In February, Debi Harrington presented a make and take Tussie Mussie workshop. Members and guests chose a cone, ribbon and flowers. Both men and women participated. The Tussie Mussies were all different and creative. It was a lot of fun as members designed and visited with each other.



In addition, members met at Los Ranchos AgriNature Center to begin planning two raised beds. We discussed the possibilities for our pollinator and kitchen beds. Valley Gardeners was chosen to receive a grant of gardening tools from the Ames Companies, Inc. as part of their partnership with National Garden Clubs. One hundred applications were submitted from all across the country. This grant and these tools are in conjunction with our future endeavors at Los Ranchos AgriNature. We are all hoping that we will be able to get out there this summer to begin.

Members have kept in touch with emails and phone calls. Many had movie and book suggestions. Here are some of those suggestions. There are a couple of British garden-related productions you might enjoy. A movie with Kate Winslet about a female French gardener called "A little Chaos"; A British TV series with one of their well-known gardeners, Monty Don, called "Big Dreams, Small Spaces".

Some book suggestions: Susan Wittig Albert mysteries. The herb series is set in Pecan Springs, Texas, and herbs feature in all the titles: A Dilly of a Death, Spanish Dagger, and Bleeding Hearts. There are blurbs on herbs and, of course, the plant has to do with the crime. Her Darling Dahlias series a garden club (The Darling Dahlias) in a small town in the South in the Depression. Another mystery series is by Robin Pearce (actually Susan Wittig Albert and her husband) set in England in Victorian times. It features the start of photography and fingerprinting. If you are a techy type then you can get some of these on your tablet.

We are looking forward to when we can all get together again. We hope you are all doing well. Take care and stay safe.

***Gigi Zacharias, President***

## High Desert Design Club, District I

The great thing about High Desert members is that they always look at the glass as "Half Full". They are optimistic and enjoy designing and getting ready for the next flower show. This year has been a little unusual with the Coronavirus hovering over us. However our members have created new ways of entertainment which may work into next year's projects. We have been cooking, cleaning, gardening, and sharing laughs and stories with other members. Our members are taking pictures for the 2021 awards book so I am hoping for a lot of entries.

High Desert is very involved in the "Share the Beauty Day" at the Garden Center. We usually create 800 floral designs from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and deliver them to nursing homes though out the city. Esther Russell who has been the Co-Chair for many years has decorated a little over 700 cans for this event. It is a special day for residents confined to a specific area.

Hopefully the Garden Center will reopen on the 15th of May and we will be able to arrange a distant get together. Our meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 in the Pinon Room at the Garden Center. Come join us.

### *Shirley Tetreault, President*



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

- |                                |   |                     |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| ♦ <b>June 30, 2020</b>         | <b>Reports are due for NMGC ANNUAL Report</b> |                     |
| ♦ <b>September 23-26, 2020</b> | <b>NGC Fall Board Meeting</b>                 | <b>Fargo, ND</b>    |
| ♦ <b>October 1-2, 2020</b>     | <b>NMGC Fall Board Meeting</b>                | <b>Santa Fe, NM</b> |
| ♦ <b>April</b>                 | <b>South Central Region Convention</b>        | <b>Las Cruces</b>   |
| ♦ <b>April</b>                 | <b>NMGC Annual Convention</b>                 | <b>Las Cruces</b>   |

# New Mexico Gardener

Quarterly Newsletter of the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. (NMGC)  
A Non-profit Organization  
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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## NMGC, Inc. President 2019-2021

### Christine Longthorp

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*Theme: "Growing in Harmony in the Land of Enchantment"*

### National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Gay Austin, President  
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Theme: Plant America

### South Central Region

Linda Lawson, Director  
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Theme: Unite -Plant America

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**VISIT the *Members Only* area  
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 August 1, 2020**