



Quarterly Newsletter of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Volume 49 No. 6

September/October/November 2020

## ***Fall 2020 Issue***



***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,

Summer is winding down as we look forward to cooler days and watch as our gardens breathe a sigh of relief. Our tomato plants will have a burst of energy with cooler temps and more moisture, roses will start to bud out for their Fall show, and our Zucchini ( Goodyear Blimp) will be exposed as the leaves shrivel and die. We can divide our Irises and daylilies and plant Fall mums and marigolds in our patio pots.

2020 has been a non-starter of a year due to COVID with all shows and meetings around the country cancelling. We can just transfer the preparation on to next year so as a positive we are ahead with the planning. The best news is we have no record of a single NMGC member contracting COVID. May that be the case until this pandemic is just a bad memory.

We face our cool season with hope and plans to plant our gardens and beautify our world. Gardeners are eternal optimists who create good mental health. I am encouraging each club to explore the new “normal” and take advantage of the changes our communities have taken during our time at home. People have created outdoor living spaces or added to them with plantings, and some have begun growing vegetables in raised beds on their patios. Sometimes I follow people as they check out at Home Depot or Lowes and see their choices of plants knowing full well that they cannot grow them here in New Mexico—I’ll bet you have thought the same.

(continued on next page)

We have a pool of novice growers to tap into. Nurseries would love to have you sit at a table for a morning or two outside their shop and give out advice and membership information. Some clubs have already done this and have fun meeting new gardeners.

Another change are home schooled children. Some parents have now chosen to keep their young ones home, and part of their curriculum is nature and growing etc. I suggest you contact the home schooling department in your district and offer classes showing planting or whatever their interest may be. Cold frames with winter crops would be fun. We have lots of very knowledgeable members who can even teach a class on Zoom. For example, I would love to demo a flower arrangement or wreath making class. We may, in the future, also be able to hold a workshop following the CDC guidelines. This could build up our numbers and educate the public through outreach. Fantastic opportunity!

Our holidays are ahead with limited visitation. So, it provides for a more personal and intimate celebration which draws on our creativity. Decorating can make a difference to our well being and guard against loneliness and depression. Let's send pictures of our interior and exteriors to Suzy Andrego to show on our Facebook pages as we have with our Spring and Summer gardens. We may not be able to see each other in person, but we can enjoy a virtual visit.

I send my special good wishes to each and every one of you, and look forward to better times. Meanwhile, take time to smell the roses, and smile – even if you are alone...

*Christine Langthorp, President*





## Message from Our First Vice President,

### *Debra Sorrell*

Well, here we all are.....living in 2020, clearly the weirdest year any of us have ever known! I had been so excited to be asked to step in as the new 1st Vice President and now, nothing is happening anywhere. But, we WILL get back together, to learn and garden and share with each other. That will be glorious!! I am looking forward to the opportunity to travel our beautiful state with President Christine Longthorp and to see you all again. We need each other! Until then, stay safe, keep gardening, take lots of pictures and spread as much love around your world as possible!



## Message from Our Second Vice President,

### *Joyce Zaugg*

*I would like to thank all of our club Presidents & Treasurers who have sent in their dues and rosters. You are awesome.*

**As of this writing we have 433 members in 23 clubs. This does not include the two youth clubs.**

I'll report on the youth clubs as those numbers come in. I'm waiting for only a handful of adult clubs to send in their dues and rosters. When they do, I'll have some final numbers.

We are going through a difficult time with the Covid-19 virus and the suffering economy. Our clubs have not been holding our monthly meetings. It is hard to grow and/or maintain our membership when we aren't able to meet face to face. I hope somehow you have been able to keep in contact with each other. My Los Alamos club has tried to be innovative in their communication. We have had board meetings through Zoom and meeting in our back yards being sure to wear our masks and sitting 6' distance from each other. Instead of going to botanical gardens, museums, and farms for our summer activities, we have been meeting for Social Times at the Los Alamos Rose Garden. We wear our masks, bring our own chair, and practice social distancing. I hope you have been able to keep in touch and are staying safe and healthy.

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



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

**TAKE A MOMENT AND “LIKE” US on FACEBOOK!!**

**And .... “FOLLOW US” on INSTAGRAM!!**

**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))***





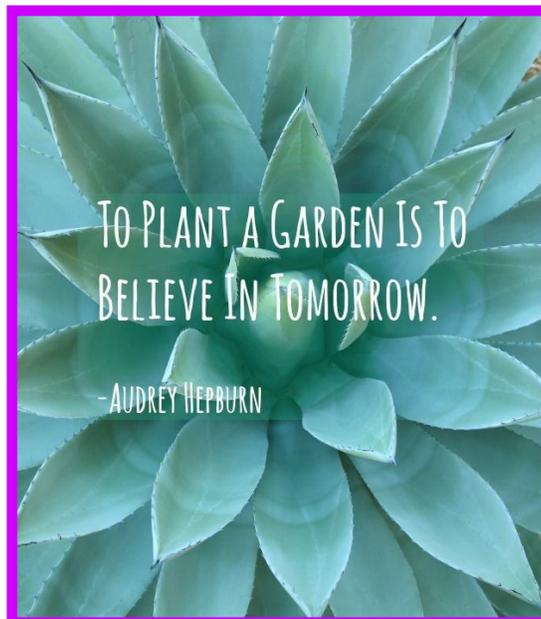
## Message From District I Director, Sonia James

Hello club members in District I. This has always been a favorite little poem of mine.

“ If of thy mortal goods thou are bereft,  
And from thy slender store two  
loaves alone to thee are left  
Sell one, and with the dole,  
Buy hyacinths to feed thy  
soul”



Looking forward to meetings, luncheons and conferences but mostly just “sharing” again.





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

I hope you all are doing well in these crazy times. I've not been with any of my garden clubs and I sure miss everyone! Thought I would share some nature pictures from our place. Hugs to you all!





## Message From Our District IV

Director,

*Ellie Nordgren*



District IV was very busy preparing for the District IV Meeting in TorC hosted by Sunshine Valley Garden Club and the NMGC Spring Convention in Las Cruces hosted by District IV. These two events were scheduled just months apart, which made for double the efforts. But, of course, everything was cancelled because of COVID-19. Now all the items done for these meetings are in storage, hopefully to be used in the near future.

Because of the pandemic, District IV clubs have not been very active, doing mostly computer sharing. They have been spending the extra time tending their individual gardens.

That's about it in a nutshell.



## Message from Our District V Director,

*Renate Reisel*

Roswell NM has in the summer time each Saturday a market day at the front of our courthouse lawn and Home garden club members taking advantage of this by selling each Saturday there garden plants and house plants.

As for my information on Facebook Lincoln country garden club also participated in a plant sale.

Artesia garden club members were looking forward for their flower show but as many other shows and meetings it was canceled.

Morning garden club members are busy with weeding and watering all butterfly gardens and container flower garden in different areas. Many of you last good friends family and longtime garden club members my condolences to all of you and remember the always will be in every one's hearts Each club has scrapbooks or photos to remember our garden club members

# Birds, Bees & Butterflies Chairman - Jan Smith

## Pollinators in your garden

It has been hot and if time to rethink my to be moved, what what new plants to

If you are doing the thought into including pollinators prefer. Dis-sustain the pollinators flower's color, shape, nectar increase or de-



by specific pollinators. There are several ways plants invite pollinators to visit – ultraviolet – bees can see ultraviolet light but not red light; Color Phases – many flowers change colors at different stages of development; Nectar Guides – contrasting patterns of flower shades direct pollinators to- Fragrance – distances. And with color and pollinators.

I recently ran *Bees*, by Xerx- that attack native plants. I some of those Native wild- (Agastache), Eyed Susan



(Solidago), Milkweed (Asclepias) , Purple Coneflower (Echinacea) . Trees and shrubs include – Mesquite (Prosopis), Rabbitbrush (Chrysothamnus), Rose, and Wild Lilac (Ceanothus). Some non-native plants that attract pollinators are – Catnip (Nepeta), Coriander (Coriandrum sativum); Casmos (Cosmos bipinnatus), Lavender (Lavandula), Russian Sage (Perovskia atriplicifolia).

I hope you will consider adding a few of these pollinator friendly plants to you garden next time you have a bare spot that needs filling in.

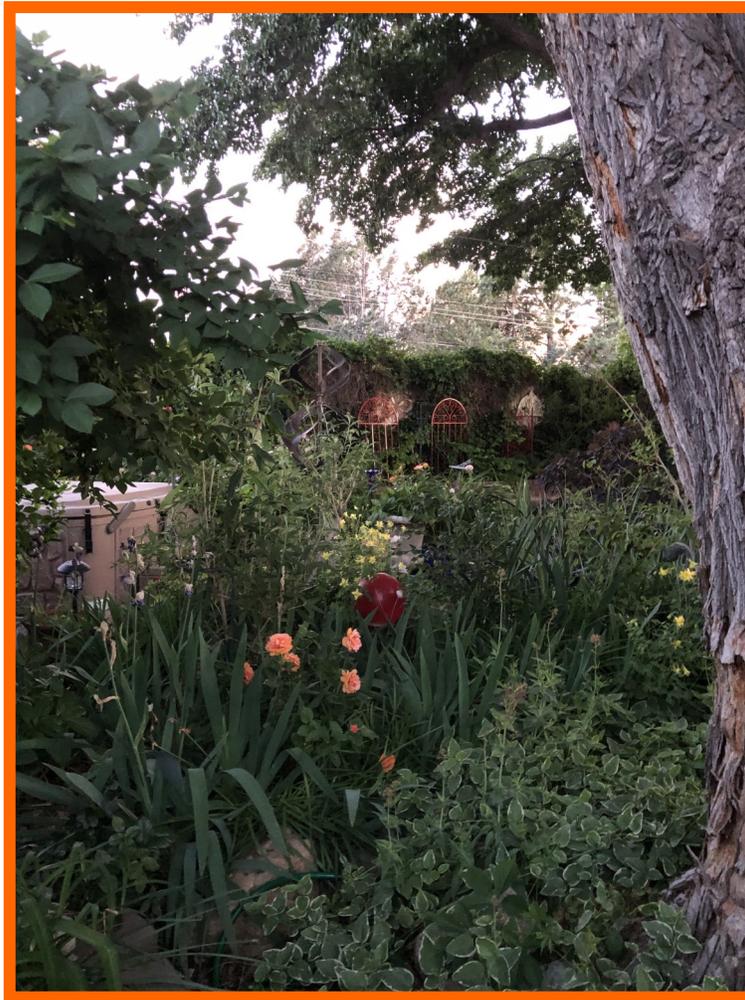
you are like me, I take this garden. What plants need needs to come out and put in the garden next year.

same, why not put some plants that bees and other versifying of blooms help throughout the season. A size timing, and pollen or crease the number of visits

ward floral rewards and attracts pollinators over long lastly flower shape together odor attract particular

across a book called *Feed the es Society*. They list 100 plants bees. It is always best to choose have pared down the list to that will grow in our climate. flowers include – Hyssop Aster (Symphyotrichum), Black (Rudbeckia), Golden Rod





*“Your mind is not a cage. It is a garden...and it requires cultivating.”*

Now doesn't this make perfect sense. Our mind is only a cage if we allow it to be and therefore why would we choose to do that to ourselves? Like a garden, our mind nourishes and grows only what we choose to “plant” in it. We also have the ability to “weed” when necessary and pluck out and discard those things growing that we realize serve no purpose or, indeed, hold us back or hinder us in the cultivation of our fertile, expanding mind.

*Daily Inspirational Quote Written by [CatherineBewTarot.co.uk](http://CatherineBewTarot.co.uk)*

The Accomplishments of Georgia Schoenecker,  
for the Member Award of Honor, 2014, written by Colleen Hinker

Mrs. Schoenecker first joined a garden club in 1956 in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin. There, not only was she an avid gardener on 40 acres, but supported her organization by holding several positions. She worked her way up the ladder by being Club President, District Director, and finally Wisconsin Garden Club Federation President in 1971-1973. After that, she was Parliamentarian. She co-chaired flower show schools and helped with the 1966 National Convention, and was chair of the Central Region Convention. At the state level, she compiled the first WGCF By-Laws and Procedures Manual and was honored by receiving the Mrs. Garden Club of Wisconsin Award in 1968. She also received Wisconsin Garden Club Federation's highest honor, the Lydia Shafer Award, in 1976. In Wisconsin, she was active in beautification projects (won a NCSCG Bronze Medal), Home and Garden Tours, a 10-day Milwaukee Flower Show, and was President of Ikebana International Chapter #22. It was here that she met a very interesting lady and asked her to join her Garden Club. She is still close friends with Kitty Larkin!



In 1979, she moved to Arkansas and organized the Fairfield Bay Garden Club with 35 members. She served as President of that club and of the Iris Garden Club, going on to be District Director, President of Judges Council, Recording Secretary, Second Vice President and Parliamentarian. Outside of Garden Club activities, she organized and was President of the Little Red River Audubon Society and was active in setting up a Bird Sanctuary in that community. She enjoyed participating in the annual Christmas Bird Count. And, she chaired whatever activities in which there was a need.

In 1990, we in New Mexico were lucky to get her. She joined the Oasis Garden Club in Roswell and served as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, President, and Parliamentarian. Again, she progressed to District Director, Parliamentarian, and Awards Chair. Then it was on to state offices. As the Environmental Chairman, she attended the Shell Oil Environmental Conference in New Orleans, LA, then returned to New Mexico, serious enough about the subject to conduct a state-wide conference in 1992. In 1996, the Roswell clubs combined and she volunteered to serve as President again. Then in 2003, two more clubs merged in the area, and Mrs. Schoenecker graciously offered to head up the merged membership.



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Before she became the Judges Council President, Mrs. Schoenecker has judged many shows as a Master Judge and gives interesting programs on design and horticulture. She served as a very capable Awards Chairman at the state level. Mrs. Schoenecker is currently the New Mexico Garden Clubs Life Member Scholarship Chair. In the South Central Region, she served as Little Control Chair and is currently the Publicity Chair for the region. As Scholarship Chairman, this talented lady designed and had manufactured our Life Member pin. In 2001, she established the Georgia B. Schoenecker Fund of \$1,000 per year to personally support our students and our future. To date, each year a qualified student received this support. Because of her thoughtfulness, she has received in 2001, the New Mexico Garden Clubs President's highest award, the Silver Medallion.

She is a Life Member in all three states of Wisconsin, Arkansas, and New Mexico, as well as a Life Member of NCSGC (1971). And, she has never failed to attend our State Conventions and Fall Board Meetings, typically accompanied by her dear husband, Fred. As a very active designer and judge, she has received too many blue ribbons to count for her garden and design creativity. She has given numerous programs throughout her Garden Club life on Design and Horticulture. She never tired with her encouragement to all members to get involved and participate. As chairman for Habitat for Humanity for the past 10 years, she contributes detailed reporting requirements.

Beyond Garden Club, she is active in the Southwest Designers Guild and in the Iris Society, where she has received many top awards for her design and horticulture categories. In her spare time, she cares for her own lovely garden!

### **Horticulture Chair – Ellen Reed**



Despite the corona virus caused cancellation of most actual plant sales, flower shows and club meetings, the growing season goes on. Nurseries opened on a limited scale and vegetables and bedding plants were available. The hot weather and intermittent showers with some watering have been good for most.

The seasons continues and we can still get out in our own gardens and not feel trapped indoors. There is hope by next Spring that a vaccine will have the virus under control and we can get back to enjoying sharing our gardens in person with friends.

Many garden club members have taken the opportunity to give our gardens a little more TLC and are enjoying the results. Observe the birds, bugs, and other inhabitants. Our yards and local environments are treasure troves full of incredible wonders.

The late heat has been hard on my tomatoes and we are all looing forward to cooler weather.

**Looking forward to seeing you all next spring. Until then share pictures via text, our NMGC Facebook page and Instagram to keep in touch.**

# Sunflowers



These flowers follow the sun's movement, they are useful and nutritious. They were domestically cultivated by Native Americans as long ago as 5,000 years, and was introduced into Europe in the sixteenth century. They are among the easiest annuals to grow. They love the sun and require plenty of water.

***Nannette Tanner, Lincoln County Garden Club***

## **ESTHER L. RUSSELL**

***Heaven has gained one powerful Angel.*** Esther Lou Russell, age 74, passed away peacefully Friday, August 21, 2020 in her home in Albuquerque. She was born in Santa Fe, NM on February 11, 1946. She married the love of her life Lyle D. Russell on September 22, 1967 in Portales, NM where they began their life together that would take them to Albuquerque and back to Portales where they started their family with their first son Gregory Scott. After homes in Massachusetts and Ha-waii (while Lyle was in the military), they again settled back in Albuquerque in 1973 and the addition to their family with son Michael Brent.



Esther was a true blessing to her family and anyone who was lucky enough to know her. She was the most caring person in the world, a true caregiver putting everyone's needs before her own. Caring, giving, loving, generous, thoughtful, trusting, talented are other descriptive qualities.

Family was always first with Esther. Her two sons, Gregory and Michael, were her pride and joy. She was their number one supporter throughout their lives. Esther loved her three Grandchildren (Faith, Kade, and Kyla) with a love that cannot be put into words and she was happiest when they were around her.

She could hardly wait for every Thanksgiving weekend for Faith and Kade to arrive and enjoy Thanksgiving and early Christmas shopping.

After the boys left the nest, Esther began working more and more on the hobbies she enjoyed the most. And that was designing and making various craft and flower pieces. She had an amazing talent and creativeness and loved to be in craft and flower shows throughout the year. She won many ribbons over the years with some of her crafts and flower pieces at the State Fair and other shows. She also enjoyed going to the various craft and flower shows just to view other individual's work.

Esther was a member of the High Desert Design Club and Uptown Garden Club and became very active in various club activities and projects. She always looked forward to the monthly meetings and going to State and District Club meetings as well. One of her favorite Garden Club projects was being co-chair of the Share the Beauty Day. This involved collecting empty food cans and turning/ decorating the cans into vase like containers for flowers that they would then distribute to the various nursing homes around Albuquerque. She took great pride and joy in this activity every year. Another project that Esther enjoyed was making and providing the bows for the Holiday Fair Center pieces.

## Recycling



This is my new purse made out of Recycled plastic bottles. Just thought I would share what great things they can do with recycled materials now.

Suzy Andrego

## Achieves Chairpersons, Becky Fuller and Beulah Oyler

Due to COVID-19, the Zuhl Library at NMSU is closed. The library will be open for the fall semester, however, so materials can be brought to the Fall Board and I will be able to archive them.



**Please do not include any treasurer's reports, checks or bank statements.**

**Remember archived materials are available to the public.  
Do not include anything you do not want the public to see.**

## Penny Pines Chairman, Mary Ann Moreno

Penny Pines is a National Garden Club project that started in the 1940's. Garden clubs continue Penny Pines program in our state as FIRE is a frequent visitor and devastates our National forests. Summer's here in New Mexico are extremely hot and we know more fires will start before cooler weather comes our way. Penny Pines really helps reforest the burned areas and gives wildlife a chance to recover. The baby bunnies and fawns will be grateful, along with bird's, butterflies, bees, and the smaller and larger Mammals. Have a Penny Pines jar or basket ready at your next Garden Club meeting and ask for donations. Your goal is \$68.00 which will buy a 200 Tree Seedling Plantation. You need to fill out a form, designate which forest you want the National Forest Service to plant seedlings in. With your check for \$68.00, made out to National Garden Clubs, Inc., and your form, you mail them to National Garden Clubs Headquarters in St. Louis. The address is on the form.



National Forest's in New Mexico are: Carson National Forest- Taos NM, Cibola National Forest - Albuquerque, NM, Gila National Forest - Silver City, NM, Lincoln National Forest – Ruidoso, NM, Santa Fe National Forest – Santa Fe, NM.

I have received two Penny Pines forms, One honoring Christine Longthorp, our NMGC President, from Uptown Garden Club and a second honoring Debra Sorrell, District I Director. I also received another call about a Penny Pines Planation, but I forgot to write it down!! SORRY!!

Call or email me for a form, I will send it out to you! [Jbmamoreno@gmail.com](mailto:Jbmamoreno@gmail.com) or (505)266-8498.



# GARDEN CLUB NEWS from Around the State

## Floral Designers, District II

It is with a heavy heart that I must announce the passing of Maggie Rubino. Maggie was a wonderful person and an extremely talented floral designer. We will miss her dearly.



Floral Designers has had a troubling time this year, especially with the Covid-19 pandemic. We did not meet from February through June. With the efforts of two determined members, we are revising our Bylaws to include virtual meetings amongst some other changes. Our July meeting was virtual and everyone attending felt it was a real success. Most of us were happy to have a reason to create and share a floral design and meet up. So for the time being,

Floral Designers is going virtual. This actually should work out for our members who might have missed a meeting but can now attend wherever they may be.

Our July program design was appropriately entitled “Resilience” with the design being designer’s choice. In preparation for a flower show which should have been held this summer, our August design is entitled “Books in Bloom” again with the design being designer’s choice. Upcoming programs include “Tomorrow’s Dreams” with the design type of Botanical Arts – Exploration and Harvest Moon” with the design type being designer’s choice.

***Laurie Hixson, President***



# El Jardin Encanto Garden Club, District I

We asked Members what they have been doing during this time and to show us with photos. These are some of the photos our members shared. **Adrienne David, President**



Lorraine Baca



Marissa Thompson



Nancy Simma



Linda Maxwell



Jan



Mary Lou



Tracy



Dianna



Adrienne



Shar Marquez



## Santa Rosa Garden Club, District III

Hi, all, this is my article for the Sana Rosa Garden club from June to August. Our members do not all live in town some as far away on ranches 10 miles! so our meetings are important to us! We love getting together and creating beauty in our community. In June, we celebrated Garden week by creating and distributing 12 floral designs (with signs) to businesses and local offices. that is when we heard there would be not only no county fair, but no state fair, no balloon Fiesta, and then, no flower show in Guadalupe county. July was spent searching for a venue for our favorite activity! I went to City Hall to see what else was going on- nothing- no car show, no WIBIT, no blue hole, nothing. So we had to give it up, BUT we have been having meetings- We need to get together and share Ideas and friendships.

We were honored by our State President Christine Longthorp and Suzy Andrego visit to demonstrate Floral design to our members. all are very creative and enjoyed the fancy flowers they brought for us to use. We also hosted the Artesia Club members visiting from their town. We enjoyed their ideas



and sharing of food! and they enjoyed the cooler temperatures. Garden Club is more than just a local club, it is friendship and beautification of our communities. Carolyn Bedford is still back east near her daughter, but with her health problems and the VIRUS, she can not come back to New Mexico yet. We miss her!!

***Colleen Hinker, President***

## Summit Garden, District II

Summit Garden Club has canceled all their meetings and activities since April due to the New Mexico health order that we can only meet in a group of 5 or less due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Since the population of our club is high risk, we decided in June to cancel all future meetings until it is extremely safe for us to meet. We may try a zoom meeting in the winter so that we can socialize. We have been able to work in the White Rock Community Garden throughout this pandemic. And Bandelier National Monument staff allowed us to return in July. Only two or three ladies go at the same time, we wear masks, we work different parts of the garden, and we drive our own car. Both gardens look good. Too bad we cannot tour our own gardens this year, because they look beautiful!

Judy Magelssen, President



## High Desert Design Club, District I

The Corona virus has been center stage for a few months, however, our members are still working on their creativity. Mary Noskin, Shirley Tetreault and Kate Yu entered the Virtual Flower Show "Perfect Vision". Those pictures are attached. It was exciting and educational to be a part of the National Flower Show presented via the internet. New Mexico is a great state and Garden Club is always an adventure.

One of our members hosted our ice cream social on July the 8th which was amazing. We all had on our masks, and our party hats. It was wonderful just to see our friends that we have missed for the past two months. We could see the smiles in their eyes and we knew that they were happy just being together.

High Desert Design Club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 in the Pinon Room at the Garden Center. We always welcome visitors and encourage them to join our group as well.

### *Shirley Tetreault, President*



**Kate Yu**



Sec A - Class 1 Botanical Arts done by **Mary Noskin**. We all see things differently. Alstrimeria, caspia, Sokidago, Aster, Ageratumm is the plant material.

## High Desert Design Club (Continued)



Design Class #4 "Peek-a-, I see you" is a transparency design by **Shirley Tetreault** with Green foliage, Coccus, Laurfolius, Ornamental Kal, Lavender, and Cushion Mums. The Container is an old Antique Oil Lamp.



The second one by **Shirley Tetreault** is the front and back of a decorated chair in the Botanical Arts Division. Sec B. Class 1 "Eye to Eye" using Yew as plant material.

## ***Los Alamos Garden Club, District II***

The Los Alamos Garden Club last held an in-person club meeting in February 2020 but we have continued our connections in various ways. Members of the club have been busy in the Memorial Rose Garden - pruning, moving mulch away from the rose bases, weeding, fertilizing, and treating roses as needed. The deer have been more frequent visitors to the garden this year so we don't have as many blooms as usual. Several new memorial roses bushes were also planted this year.

In June, Joyce Zaugg, creator and editor of the club's newsletter, *Over the Garden Gate*, invited members to share what they had been doing during the lockdown. A number of people responded and also provided some really nice photos of their projects or gardens in addition to their stories about spending more time gardening, reading, photography, working on projects at home, and visiting via Zoom.

On June 19, our club held a social hour in the Rose Garden. It was a little different but fun and wonderful to see some of our friends! Everyone who came provided their

own chair, drink, and face mask. We arranged in clusters of five, socially distanced. We plan to have another outdoor social at the end of July.

On June 28, we were very saddened to lose our dear member and 1st Vice President, Kathy Taylor, to a sudden and brief illness. Kathy was very active in our club as well as other local organizations. She was loved and will be missed by many.

Our board has conducted business via Zoom and one outdoor meeting so far. We will have to see what the coronavirus restrictions are in September but hope to be able to hold some outdoor meetings since not all of our members are comfortable with online meetings. Hopefully, there will be plenty of beautiful weather this fall!



Kathy Taylor

***Kersti Rock, President***



Judy Handy, Cindy Hills, and me working in the Memorial Rose Garden near Fuller Lodge on the day we were planting some new roses.

## **Socorro Garden Club, District IV**

Socorro Garden Club had a breakfast meeting in June with 4 members present. Socorro County Fair is tentatively planning to have the livestock show. The flower show is still tentative. In July 3 members made a day trip to Plants of the Southwest with lunch at El Pinto. Most members are busy with their yards and gardens during this very hot summer. In August we plan on a flower design project in the park on picnic tables with our masks on. Our members make regular contributions to Socorro Garden Club Facebook page.



***Millie Sigman, President***

## Morning Garden Club , District V

Morning Garden Club invited Roswell Mayor, Dennis Kintigh, to celebrate National Garden Week by joining members at the Alena Garden to read the NGC Proclamation. Over the summer we have had several work days tending our gardens around town, and have refreshed the many planters we maintain. We keep in touch via our Facebook page while meetings in person are on hold.

We were greatly saddened in May when we lost our very dear and much loved member Georgia B. Schoenecker. It was a privilege to have known her, to have learnt from her, and to have enjoyed her friendship. She mentored us all, and encouraged us to not only take club offices, but contribute to the district and state too, and always try to fulfill our potentials. We will be planting a tree in her memory in the fall at Peachtree Village where she and Fred lived for the last few years. We treasure all our memories of times shared with Georgia, and miss her very much.

### *Sue Ferguson, President*



The first photo was taken during National Garden Week at the Alena Garden, Roswell NM. From left to right: Renate Reisel, Sue Ferguson, Mayor Kintigh, Pam Davis and Vicki Hobson.



The second photo is of Pat Krakauskas, and Renate Reisel at the Butterfly Garden in Cahoon Park.

And the last is also at the Butterfly Garden. Don't need to identify these ladies.



## Angelfire Garden Club , District III

Hello New Mexico! It has been quite a summer season. Without meetings on the State, District and local level the Angel Fire Garden Club is feeling isolated from new friends and old.

The Club has continued to meet once a month, practicing social distancing to clean, pull weeds, and plant within our three Signature Gardens. The Butterfly Garden is looking great and the Vietnam Memorial Garden is delighting visitors despite the covid-19 virus. The Village Median has received a new much needed sprinkler system that has made life much easier.

We are planning a Zoom meeting for September to try and bring members together and we will have our annual seed exchange in October outside if weather permits.

There have been no meetings and no fundraisers. We have applied for grants to help us get through and plan for next year. Our membership numbers are down but, our spirits are high. We are all in this together and things will improve. After all we are gardeners and there is always a renewal in the spring.

Have a wonderful fall and we will look forward to a Spring of Hope!



*(Continued on next page)*



**In addition,** Virginia Lynch passed away (3-30-26 — 8-21-20). She was an amazing lady! She loved the AFGC and loved to volunteer her and I for things. I'll never forget one Garden Tour when we worked together on a wild flower arrangement! Heaven is brightened by her presence! Submitted by Kathy Davis

During the Seed Exchange the Angel Fire Garden Club will take up a collection for a Penny Pines planting in honor of Virginia.

I did not know Virginia but, many of our members did. She was very active and will be deeply missed.



***Susan Schultz , President***

## Lincoln County Garden Club, District V

The Lincoln County Garden Club, as with all of you, has been mostly on hiatus. We miss our meeting and we miss our comradery. However, we have completed one project and have two in the works. On June 28th, we took the plants we had collected for our typically May plant sale to the Farmer's Market at Enchanted Vine, Noisy Waters winery. It is a beautiful open space with everything from food to jewelry to clothing. Debbie Meyers took the bull by the horn or should I say the plant by the pot and organize the workers/members. She was a whirlwind! Needless to say, we sold more than we had in recent years. It was a delightful day and profitable. Many of the plants that we sold came from the old hospital garden. We will be creating a garden at the new Lincoln County Medical Center. We are waiting for the soil to be amended. Hopefully, we can get to planting this fall. Lincoln County Humane Society has opened their new building and had asked if we could help with some planting. We will be in touch with them as well. We wish we could have a big meeting with laughter and blooming ideas, but we need to be patient gardeners.

*Judy Petersen Ellis, President*



## Valley Gardeners, District I

We are grateful for the healthcare workers, frontline workers and all others whom have been required to go out and serve during this pandemic. This is a challenging time and we hope that members have been able to remain positive and hopeful.

Officers were elected via email, phone calls and texts. The new officers for this year are Gigi Zacharias, President; Jenifer Moreno, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Bill Shen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Michele Ann Tart, Secretary and Gina Thoma, Treasurer.

Dr. Richard and Donna Peck hosted us in their beautiful garden in Placitas. Fortunately, a few members were able to attend. The Pecks have a hundreds of daylilies and some Mrs. Peck hybridized. We toured the gardens and then Mrs. Peck shared her daylily knowledge and challenges. The weather was perfect and it was a beautiful day. The best part was being outside and being able to visit with some of our members.

Here are some things that Valley Members have been doing to keep busy.

Dorothy Duff who lives in the East Mountains reports that she and her husband, Will, been rearranging their landscape. That included removal of a tree and to transplant perennials. In addition, with too much time and too many seeds the annuals on their deck are all from seed. Dorothy says boy, are we saving money. Valerie Hertzler reports: In the gardening area I am returning the beds that had continually been problem beds (usually just could not keep them watered well enough for non-native plants to grow) back to native grass. I am encouraging or actually transplanting blue gramma, side oats gramma and buffalo grass into them. After all that the earth has provided me with I figured the least I could do was, as best as is humanly possible, leave it the way I found it. The reason I picked these grasses is the ecological importance that grasses play in maintaining the soil. One of their biggest contributions is that they are what hold our soil together and keep it from eroding during our rains and snowmelt. All three of these grasses are native to this area and will survive without additional water once established. With careful attention establishment can be achieved in one year. They also are a great forage for almost all native animals and many butterflies lay their larvae on grass stalks to over winter. My other big accomplishment was to take an honest look at how I was contributing to global warming and the destruction of our planet. COVID 19 has given humanity so many opportunities to see why changing behaviors is necessary. Last, but not least, I am taking classes on building an adobe home with the idea that I will build a home completely off grid on my 37 acres near the Wild Spirit Wolf Sanctuary one of these days.

Bonnie McLain started selling facemasks and other craft items at the Bosque Farms Growers Market the first of June. She will be there every Saturday from 8:00 am until noon until October 10th. Selling MANY masks and having LOTS of fun talking with people and buying fresh produce from the growers. Bonnie has also been busy working in her gardens. Beth Schneider has kept busy with her chickens, ducks, alpacas and her garden.

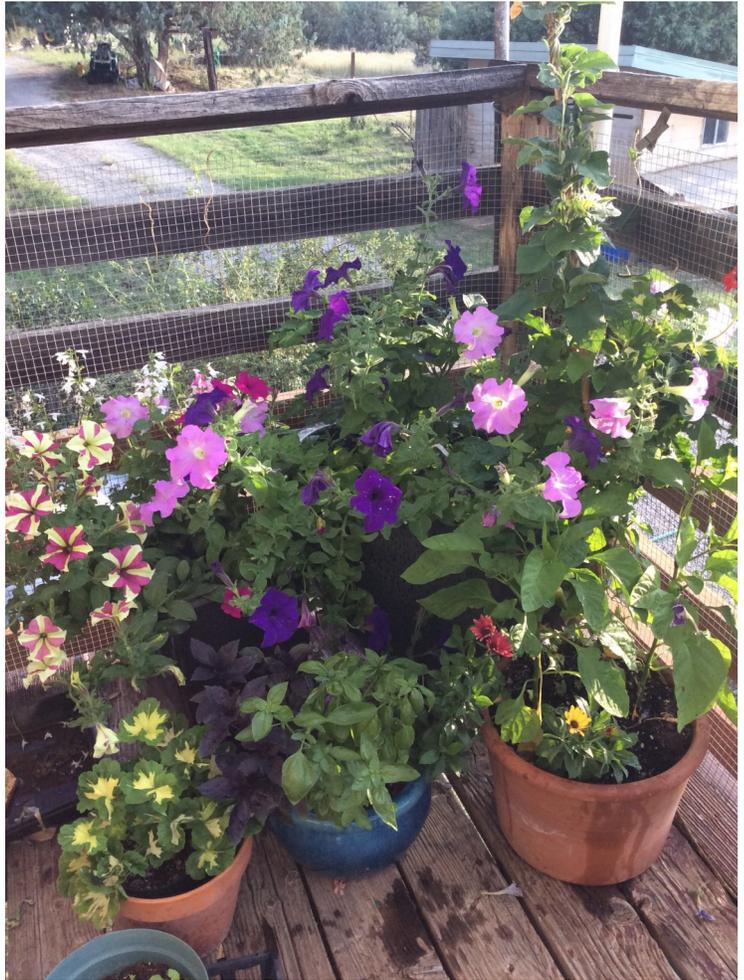
We are waiting until we can safely meet again. Stay safe and healthy and we look forward to when we see you again.

***Continued on Next Page***

## Valley Garden Club, District I



Too much time and too many seeds.  
The annuals on our deck ...all from  
seed. Boy are we saving money.  
Dorothy & Will—Valley Garden Club  
Members



Pictures from Member Bonnie McLain

## Artesia Garden Club, District V

June, we had a potluck picnic and a birthday party, while going over plans for our Eddy County Fair Flower Show. Then gathered petition signatures for the Governor's State Meeting in Santa Fe for our Local Representative. Made masks and extensions to distribute in community and send to Home Health care in Tor C. July was filled with more disappointment and cancellations.



We did our best to help alleviate these emotional disruptions by working our gardens,



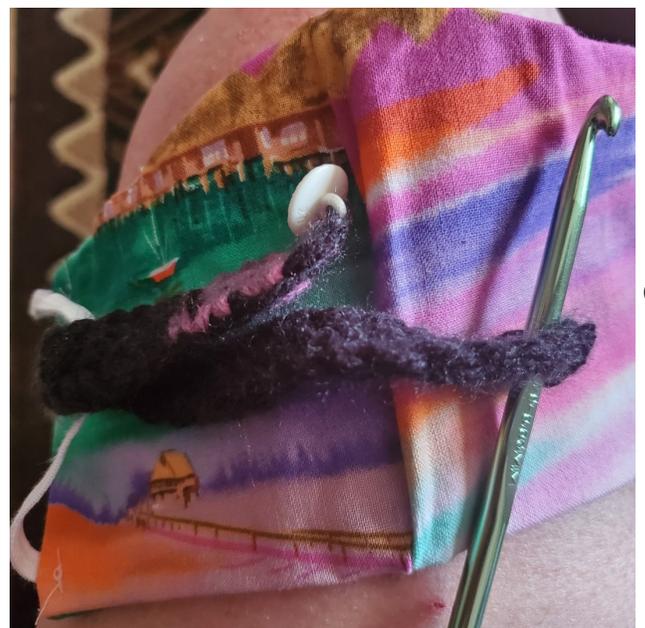
delivering wood burnt garden signs to Pecos Valley Youth GC leader Renate Reisel for their Zoo and Butterfly Gardens. Buying, picking, preparing, and delivering foods and meals to people in need due to current events. We supported shut-ins, with phone calls, distancing visits, needed trips to Drs., Shopping, Food Banks etc.. August we took a much needed excursion to Santa Rosa and Hinker's Spirit Haven Ranch. We took a huge picnic lunch and had a wonderful tour of the property. It was a well needed diversion

from the present worldly chaotic situation disrupting our lives. We all had a wonderful time it was very refreshing. Thank-you Fred And Colleen once again. Currently we are continuing to make face coverings and mask extensions.

If anyone has a stash of odd dime to quarter size toggle buttons we would greatly appreciate receipt them, They are almost as hard to find as TP was back in April, LOL.

Hope you are all doing well, see ya someday.

JULIE Foster, President



of

## Petal Pushers Garden Club, District I

Petal Pusher member are staying strong and healthy!!!

Many PP are working and sprucing up their own gardens with all the down time. Members have been working on reviving the Marie Torrens Courtyard Garden with new plants, including mums and iris. The Iris Society donated some from their sale and we much appreciated that donation. Pam Walker is doing a fabulous job spearheading the project. We will be asking for other club donations in kind and also doing a couple small fundraisers. We have set aside some funds to revive the garden.

June found four of us filling 28 cans with flowers from our gardens and a donation from Trader Joe's for Share the Beauty Day. Since we could not visit nursing homes, they were delivered to Casa

Esperanza and Barret House for their dinning rooms and also to Sub Stations.



tion of officers were installed at our July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

the Pinon Room and spread out. Thank you to Shirley and Christine Longthorp for participating. New Officers, Longbotham, President: Melinda Merriam, Vice Joan Karrie, Secretary; Viola Johnston, Treasurer. Joan named our Parliamentarian and Pam Walker will be our Representative. Welcome to our two new members;

Cockreham and Christine Longthorp. Ginny told a

story about the Garden Center History, Marie Torrens and Petal Pushers.

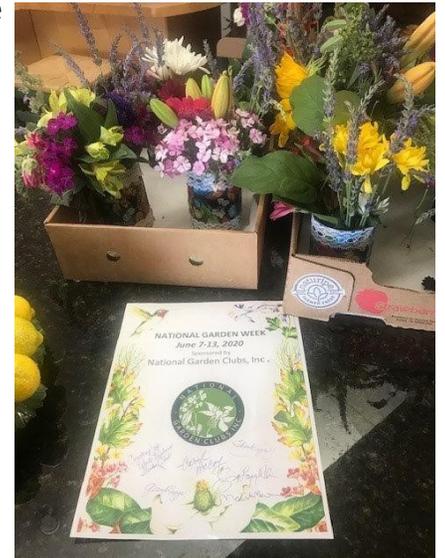
August found the PP meeting via Zoom and we had a wonderful presentation by Sara Moran-Duran with the NM State University Agricultural Extension Office in Bernalillo on the growth, propagation and use of herbs, spices and the occasional wild New Mexican plant.

Other members told about experiences during COVID. Melinda gave a new way to serve tomatoes, roasting in a convection oven at 350, rest and sweat and they come right off. Roast tomatoes in half and add basil and garlic to make Italian to-  
Joan Karrie is busy putting up peaches as they all came once. Becky Gaston told us to put a bucket of water rain barrel to catch mice, they try to take a sip and fall in and drown.



Dorothy Treadwell talk about drying Basil. A big thank you to Melinda, Diane McKenzie, and Pam Walker for learning and doing practice sessions for those who were not familiar with Zoom.

***Ginny Longbotham, President***





Painted Lady butterfly,  
 Milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*  
 and  
 Butterfly weed  
 (*Asclepias tuberosa*)  
*Photo Credit: Suzy Andrego*

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

- |                            |   |                            |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| ♦ <b>April 19-20, 2021</b> | <b>South Central Region Convention</b>      | <b>Las Cruces, NM</b>      |
| ♦ <b>April 21-23, 2021</b> | <b>NMGC Annual Meeting &amp; Convention</b> | <b>Las Cruces, NM</b>      |
| ♦ <b>May 17-20, 2021</b>   | <b>NGC Annual Meeting &amp; Convention</b>  | <b>East Rutherford, NJ</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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St. Louis, MO 63110  
www.gardenclub.org

## NMGC, Inc. President 2019-2021

### Christine Longthorp

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Phone: (505)480-5230 E-mail: christinelongthorp@gmail.com  
*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

## New Mexico Gardener Editor

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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**