



Quarterly Newsletter of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

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December/January/February 2021-2022

Winter 2021-2022 Issue





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

President's Message

Greetings to NM Garden Club members

Fall took longer to close this year in New Mexico and was one of the most spectacular shows of leaf color in recent years. We had balmy days and azure colored skies and here in Albuquerque we have only just had our first freeze. Those who live in the mountains have had several weeks of freezing nights but it always amazes me how late tomatoes are the sweetest and the meatiest. Bulbs and Pansies are planted and leaves are ground up for mulch ready to put our gardens to sleep.

October was the long awaited Fall Board meeting held in Las Cruces and hosted by District IV. Chairman Judy Laird and District Director Ellie Nordgren whose expert organization and made it all very enjoyable. Our speaker was Dr. Paul Bosland from the NM Chile Institute at NMSU and his talk was fantastic with information on Chile "heat" and how to eat them as well as how to grow and cook Chile. This was followed by a field trip to the Institute and a visit to the Gift shop. I heard rave reviews from all who attended and out of the many, many colors of Chile my favorite is "Black Prince". Stop by when you are in Las Cruces next -you will not be disappointed.

It was a joy to see old friends and some first attendees in person and Suzy Andregio had made Chile fabric masks for us to wear so we were in "costume" so to speak. We covered much business and heard reports which brought us up to date and this culminated with an Awards banquet spanning two years. I personally had a great time handing awards to people who in spite of the pandemic continued to work and enter to get the recognition in our awards process.

One of the major changes that we voted on was the plan going forward to hold a Spring Convention in the usual rotation of Districts but our Fall Board meeting held in October will be held only for the Executive board, District Directors, and former President's to attend in the District of the current State President. This was to cut down on costs and the ever dwindling number of members willing to work to provide a public space to host this meeting. That means that we can all focus on the Spring Convention and support the host District with our presence and participation. (continued on next page).

President's Message continued

All that was discussed at the Fall Board meeting which will be posted on the website. If participation increases we are free to reinstate the membership forum again. The change is in response to the circumstances of today.

Following that, last Tuesday November 23rd, VP Debra Sorrell, Suzy Andrego, Past President and myself drove to Artesia for the day to look at the facilities and see how adequate they will be for the for our Spring Convention in 2022. We have decided to hold our Convention there at the Hotel Artesia on March 23rd and 24th. We have continued the format of holding an Awards Banquet on the last night and cutting out a breakfast and lunch on the third day. This will give those who live the furthest away to set off home early on the Friday. We have a speaker for the NM Judges Council meeting and a theme which is in compliance with our National President's theme. Her theme is "Plant America—play outside".

We chose "Prairie Playground of New Mexico. The Hotel is lovely—fairly new and very accommodating. I even knew the banqueting manager from La Fonda in Santa Fe. So under the District V hosts and the Convention Chairman soon to be assigned we are in good hands.

I am planning to attend many club Holiday parties around the State beginning with Mesilla Valley on December 7th. I am looking forward to the best year yet for NMGC in 2022.

May you all have a blessed holiday, and praying for us all to stay healthy, and strong, and above all, happy and grateful.



Christine Longthorp, President





Congratulations to All!

*TOP Award WINNERS
Presented at the Fall Board Meeting*

For the 2019 Award Year

Member of the Year

Dorothy Duff, Valley Gardeners

Design of the Year

Shirley Tetreault, High Desert Design Club

Horticulturist of the Year

Julie Foster, Artesia Garden Club

Special Achievement Award

Debra Sorrell, Uptown Garden Club



Congratulations to All!

TOP Award WINNERS
Presented at the Fall Board Meeting

For the 2019 Award Year

Member of the Year

Not Awarded

Design of the Year

Not Awarded

Horticulturist of the Year

Isabel Olsen, Home Garden Club

Special Achievement Award

Not Awarded

Message from Our First Vice President,

Debra Sorrell

All the leaves from my glorious Chinese Pistache have fallen now and it is a reminder that autumn is over. The long awaited Fall Board

meeting in Las Cruces last month was a welcome return to garden club activities. While our numbers were smaller than normal, it was so great to see the real faces of those who were able to attend. Zoom meetings are convenient but not the same as actual people! Many of us joined garden club for the friendships and social interaction that a club gives you.....in addition to learning how to garden in this beautiful and diverse state.

For me, this last couple of years have really pointed out how much we need each other! Having been forced to stay away from people and groups just reinforces that we were not meant to go it alone. I welcome the opportunity to spend time with all our members across the state and hope that, as meetings begin to happen again, I will be traveling a lot with President Longthorp. I have missed the learning, laughing and love that is spread throughout every event we attend!



As we move into winter, try to spend some time looking around at the wonders of our state....even in winter! Look, with childlike eyes, at the beauty of dormancy and snow (pray for lots!!) and birds and those trees that keep your warm fire going and the enormous, expansive skies. There is so much to love about where we live! Share it with those around you. Take heart that the winter is cold but short here. We are a very blessed state indeed!

Message from Our **NEW** Historian,

Ariel Seamon



Happy Holidays! Just to quickly introduce myself for those who don't know me, my name is Ariel and I spend most of my time with my amazing husband Andy and our two dogs: Jack and Zuko. I am a big reader (so book recommendations are always welcome!) and I love learning anything and everything new, especially about gardening. I am very excited to be stepping into the role of Historian for NMGC and I can't wait to get started!

I hope everyone has had a great year and enjoyed all the time that we have gotten to be together this year. Thank you all for staying safe and continuing to stay involved as well! Just a reminder that the Annual History Report for each club is due by February 1st. Please don't hesitate to send me an email if you have any questions about what to submit. I am happy to provide a copy of the form or help clarify any points. I'd like to highlight one question that I would love for you to elaborate on in detail on the form so that I can put a spotlight on it in future reports: What is one project your club did this last year that you are particularly proud of or was well attended or successful?

I am also planning on working with Suzy on NMGC's social media pages to try and generate some outside interest in the clubs and maybe intrigue some potential new members. As you gather together for club meetings, work on projects, attend community service events, or even when you are enjoying your own gardens, remember to take pictures and don't hesitate to email them over to me (with a brief description)! I am hoping to spread the amazing work of all the clubs, but also show how much fun we have in Garden Club! I hope you all have a fantastic holiday season and a happy new year! I can't wait to see you all again soon!





Message from District Director, Sonia James

I missed seeing everyone. Thank you Debi Harrington, District I 1st Vice Director, for sharing what District I has been doing!

Have a Great Holiday Season!

Message from Our District IV Director, Ellie Nordgren



**THANK YOU FOR
COMING TO FALL BOARD
in District 4,
Las Cruces!! We had a
GREAT time and LOVED
seeing everyone!**



Message from Our District V Director, Julie Foster

That darn Lynnette Walker got my photo And gave it to her sister to use in the NM Gardener. Can't wait to host the Spring 2022 Convention in Artesia!

See you all in March 2022!





Message from District III Director, *Johnese Turri*

“ Clouds in the sky very much resembles the thoughts in our minds!
Both changes perpetually from one second to another!” - Mehmet
Love this quote!! It is so true!! I wanted to share these beautiful
photos from up here in Northern New Mexico. I hope everyone has a
wonderful holiday season! Looking forward to 2022!!



Awards Chairman, Nancy Hartwick

The Extended Fall Board Meeting held October 27. 28 in Las Cruces, NM was a shining success. General Meeting tasks were accomplished, the luncheon program and field trip led by Chile expert Dr. Paul Bosland were deeply interesting, friendships were forged, and at the awards banquet on Thursday evening the attendees came together to celebrate the efforts of our members. Over 100 awards for 2019 and over 60 awards for 2020 were given out. **A heartfelt thank you to all who participated in the awards process.**

You help carry forward the shared mission with the National Garden Clubs, Inc, to promote the “love of gardening, floral design and civic and environmental responsibility.”

Award year 2021 is coming soon with award applications due February 1, 2022. Most or all you need to do to submit an application is contained in the awards booklet on the website www.newmexicogardenclubs.org by clicking the Awards tab. The Awards booklet contains step by step instructions on how to apply for an award. You can do it!!! I hope you will check it out and participate!!!!



Christine with Nancy

**THANK YOU Nancy and Nanette for ALL your
Time, Energy and Hard work!**

The Updated Awards Book, with all the changes that were voted on, will be posted on the website by mid December! WATCH your email for an announcement when it is posted.

APPLY FOR AWARDS ... ITS EASY AND FUN!!

Dahlias, Dorothy Duff

To Lift and Store or not ...that is the question

Dahlias are so much fun to grow but when you have had a freeze you know the season is over. Many people avoid dahlias because they hear about the need to lift, divide and store. Ah “too much work.” But actually there are several options for gardeners depending on the weather where they live and your energy level. So let’s consider the options.

Dahlias grown in the ground: 2 options

- Leave them in the ground, mulch and do not water. This may work as long as your ground does not freeze
- Lift them from the ground and store either as a clump or single tubers.

Dahlias Grown in pots: If you get even minor freezes it is *unlikely* dahlia tubers grown in pots will survive outside. However you can simply move the pot to a cool dark place such as a garage that does not freeze. You probably should not water unless the tuber starts to desiccate which you can check by reaching down in the soil and feeling the tuber.

Lifting dahlias: I wait until a hard freeze and the leaves the dahlia turn black. Next you should cut off the stem at about 6” and leave in the ground another two weeks or so. This allows the tuber skin to toughen so they store better. After lifting you need to dust off the dirt or wash them if in heavy clay and allow them to dry

Divide or not divide: Another consideration is whether to leave the tubers as a clump or divide for storage. Tubers that survive in the ground will eventually (usually after 2-3 years) need to be divided or they will produce few blooms. In that division you can lift and divide the clump in halves or quarters and replant.

If you have to lift your dahlias you can store either as a clump or divided into individual tubers. Storage is a huge topic and there are several methods. Often an individual has to try a variety of methods to see what works for them. Basically you want a cool place (40-50 degrees) that does not freeze and is dark (so not to encourage sprouting). Storing mediums include materials such as peat moss, wood shavings, shredded paper etc. Finally you need to check your tubers about a month or so later to be sure they are not totally drying out and if shriveling a bit...mist with water.

Of course the last option is to treat your dahlias as annuals. A tuber runs from about \$4-5 and up. They cost about the same as a big box store plant in a 4” pot. However you get a lot more bloom for the buck with dahlias. New Mexico Dahlia Society has their annual tuber sale in Albuquerque in April.

So give dahlias a try. Once in the ground they are a fuss-free joy to grow.

Dahlia Storage Photos



After a Freeze



Digging A Dahlia

Dahlia Clumps



Single Tuber



Clump Stored in a Box

More Dahlia Storage Photos



Single Tubers in peat moss & a plastic

My Dahlia Storage



Archives Chairman, *Becky Fuller Chairman*

Archives are Open and back to normal times and filings. I will get everything over there by the end of the month.



Penny Pines Chairman, *Mary Ann Moreno*

Penny Pines is a National Garden Club project that started in the 1940'S Garden Clubs and members continue the Penny Pines Project in our state as FIRE is a frequent visitor and devastates our National forests. Have a Penny Pines Jar or basket ready at your next Garden Club Meeting, and ask for donations. Your goal is \$68.00 dollars which will buy a 200 Tree Seedling Plantation. You need to fill out a form, so call or email for a form, and I will send you one, right away. Designate on the form which region the Forest Service will plant the seedlings. Send your check and form for \$68.00 made out to National Garden Clubs, Inc., To: National Garden Clubs Head Quarters, 4401 Magnolia Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63110



National Forest Regions in NM are: Carson NF, Taos, NM. Cibola NF, Albuquerque, NM. Gila NF, Silver City, NM. Lincoln NF, Alamogordo, NM., Santa Fe, NF, Santa Fe, NM.

At our recent NMGC, Inc., Fall Board meeting in Las Cruces, Suzy Andrego passed the Penny Pines jar and asked everyone to contribute to the project, so a Penny Pines plantation could be bought for our State President, Christine Longthorp. Everyone generously donated and NGC headquarters, will be issuing a certificate for Penny Pines, in Christine's name.



We should all HONOR a loved one with a Penny Pines Plantation. Do it soon so the Forest Service will be ready to PLANT TREES when the weather is warm and tree saplings will grow
Call me or email for a form, I will send it out to you. 505-266-8498 or jbmamoreno@gmail.com

Yours' in trees and flowers.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES Chairman, Lynnette Walker

Fall is finally here in New Mexico and hopefully it will bring with it the beginning of more frequent youth activities. Renate Reisel the Morning Garden Club Youth Chairman said that her Morning Garden Club still has not been able to give any workshops to their Learning Center due to COVID -19 school restrictions, but their club sent them a check to further education on gardening. ENMSF Morning garden Club members were able to present two enjoyable workshops for parents and youth which included design and painting/coloring. She also said that they plan on working with the children in the spring on container gardening.



Blooming Gardeners President, Shirley Tetreault, said that unfortunately due to COVID-19, the Blooming Gardeners have not had a group meeting for a while, but still keep in contact with the youth by getting them seeds and plants to enjoy.

DON'T FORGET TO REMIND ALL YOUTH THAT NMGC IS:

1. Having a coloring contest from the #Playoutside booklet from NGC (found on the NGC website) at two age levels K-5 and 6-12 with a prize for the winner of each age level. Monetary prize for K-5 will be \$10.00 and 6-12 will be \$25.00. Please have them send their coloring sheets to Lynnette Walker at 114 Skyland Blvd, Tijeras, NM 87059. Make sure they put their name, age and address on the back of the color page. **POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 31, 2022.**
2. Having a high school essay contest with the same subject as the NGC contest (found on the NGC website under awards #20 page 5). The state winner will receive \$25.00 and be sent on to compete at the regional level. Because the winning entries of the essay contest need to be submitted by the state chairman to the SRC chairman by January 1st, **we are requiring a deadline of December 1st to get them in to the youth activities chairman. (Lynnette Walker 114 Skyland Blvd., Tijeras, NM 87059).**

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest, Jennifer Moreno, Chairman

Children from first through fifth grade are invited to participate in the 2022 National Garden Clubs, Inc. Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest! The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. are giving students the opportunity to demonstrate through original drawings of Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl their understanding of wildfire prevention and basic environmental conservation principles. All poster entries must be sponsored by a local NGC-affiliated Garden Club. Smokey Bear posters must include Smokey's wildfire prevention message: Only You Can Prevent Wildfires! Woodsy Owl posters must include Woodsy's environmental message: Lend a Hand, Care for the Land! Posters should encourage children to take a personal role in preventing wildfires and protecting the environment.



Each entry should be 11 x 17 inches in size. The following information should be written on the back of the poster in the lower-right corner: the artist's name, address, home phone number, grade level, school, teacher's name, city, and state. Should school policy preclude giving students' address and phone number, please include the school address and phone number. Each poster must also show the name of the sponsoring local Garden Club as well as an address, phone number, and email for the local Garden Club. (Do not use a dark marker for this information as it may show through.) Deadlines for submitting posters to the NM state chairperson (which is me) is January 2, 2022. Please

send poster entries to my address: 305 Fairmount Park Avenue NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123. For complete rules, ideas, etc...go to the NGC website at www.gardenclub.org and then go to Youth Contests>Smokey Bear Poster Contest. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions! I'm here to help! Lastly, we are still needing five people to volunteer please to help with paying for the awards. We would like to award each 1st place winner in each grade level \$25 dollars. Please contact me if you are interested! Thank you!

Jennifer Moreno, State and SCR Regional Chairman
Email: Moreno_jen@aps.edu Phone: 505-217-4307





Garden Club News from Around the State

Mesilla Valley Garden Club, District 4, *Becky Fuller, President*

Mesilla Valley Garden Club: We have been a major part of the Planning Committee, along with our District IV Director, Ellie Nordgren, in putting together our long awaited NMGC Fall Board Meeting. In October our club had our first meeting since February of 2020. We were thrilled that some of Desert Daubers members attended and are considering the option of joining our club. We are struggling with membership as are many clubs in our district and around the state. Our meeting in November, "Growing an Avocado Tree from Seed" produced a new member, Cheryl Cooper and two Avocado trees over a foot tall. My seed is still just a seed but I have "high" hopes. We are looking forward to our Christmas party and New Year of Garden Clubbing!

Valley Gardeners, District 1, *Gigi Zacharias & Dorothy Duff, Co-President's*

Club Motto: "Conserve that thy descendants may have abundance forever".

Valley Gardeners has thirty-seven members that include four New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. State officers, eight State Chairpersons and fourteen Flower Show Judges.

Valley Gardeners did not meet in September because they were busy entering horticulture, designs and volunteering for the NM State Fair. It was fun to be back together in person at our October and November meetings. October was a busy month starting with the District I meeting and lunch. Valley had eleven members attend. Our October meeting was a "spooky spiders" presentation given by Jennifer Moreno. Jennifer debunked some myths about spiders and led a workshop where members made spiders out of tootsie pops, pipe cleaners and beads. It was a relaxing activity and it gave members the opportunity to visit and create something fun.

We had eight members attend the Fall Board Conference in Las Cruces and we all came home with lots of inspiration. Valley won First Place Standard of Excellence, Class III. Debra Sorrell won the silver medallion and Dorothy Duff won member of the year. Great job ladies, congratulations! Visiting the Chili Pepper Institute was informative and a real treat. Chilis of every size, shape, color and scoville units.

Most recently, Bonnie McLain led the group as we made flower arrangements in pumpkins. We plan to meet for a December social but prior to that meeting we will be grooming houseplants to give to residents at Saranam House a program that provides housing and social support to previously homeless families.

Valley Gardeners meets the second Thursday of most months at 7:00 pm at the Los Griegos Health and Sciences Center 1231 Candelaria NW

Valley Gardeners continued



Petal Pushers Garden Club, District I, Ginny Longbotham, President

We have had a busy and fun filled fall! And looking forward to the Christmas Season! In October we learned from Suzy Andrego how to make a Kokedama Ball. Two members, Viola Johnston and Ginny Longbotham attended the Fall Board in Las Cruces and learned all about Chili Plants. The next month, found us making Funkin Pumpkins for our fall decorations at home. We also met to make blankets for the Linus Project. Lots of fun conversation and catching up while working on our blankets. Coming up we will learn all about Daylilies from Debi Harrington and then in December we will enjoy a fun filled luncheon at Mimi's. Anyone who can will bring a donated need item for Barret House.



Los Alamos Garden Club, District II, Kersti Rock, LAGC president

The Los Alamos Garden Club resumed our monthly in person meetings this September. Zoom worked well for about half of our club but we missed seeing those members who were not able to use that platform. Therefore we were very happy to see some of these “long-lost” members again this September and October! Some of our other members remain at home for now but hopefully we will see them again before too long.



Joyce Zaugg by her hostess table at our October 20 meeting.

Our September meeting was followed by a yummy Fall Harvest Luncheon, hosted by Judy Handy and Linda Hoffman. In October, Ann May of the Floral Designers Club, gave a wonderful presentation on floral design for various holidays and the club enjoyed some excellent refreshments and Halloween-themed decorations provided by hostess Joyce Zaugg. Next month, we will have a member discussion and sharing on house plants and how to care for them. Some of us are working on some starter plants in small pots to be shared at that meeting.

On October 26, Doris Jackson and I traveled to Las Cruces for the New Mexico Garden Clubs Extended Fall Board Meeting hosted by District IV. The NMGC Executive Board Meeting and NM Judges Council meetings were held Wednesday afternoon.

These meetings were followed by the NM Council Judges Dinner and a hands on program titled “Challenge Design Workshop”. Attendees were all given the same number of identical materials and were asked to construct their own floral design. Everyone enjoyed using their imaginations and the results were all quite creative and beautiful.



One of the completed Wednesday workshop arrangements displayed on Thursday.

Doris Jackson and Kersti Rock



Los Alamos Garden Club Continued

Following the General meeting, we enjoyed lunch while Dr. Paul Bosland of New Mexico State University spoke to us about the fascinating world of chile peppers.

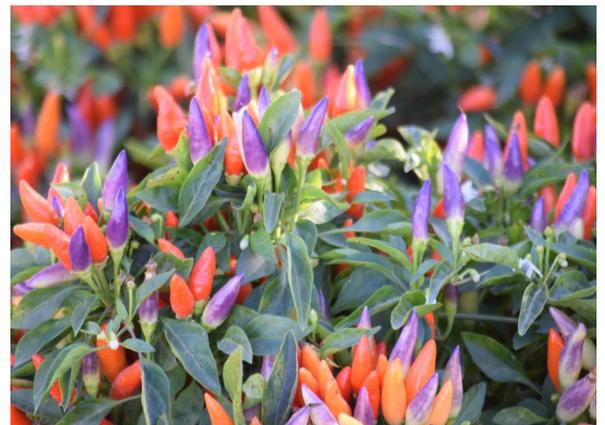


Dr. Paul Bosland of New Mexico State University describing the amazing diversity of chile pepper plants and their properties.

Dr. Bosland also conducted a tour of the NMSU chile pepper farm which was just a short drive from the hotel. One of the completed Wednesday workshop arrangements displayed on Thursday.

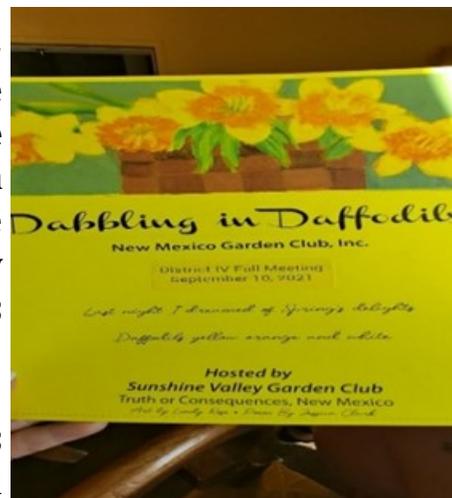
Thursday evening wrapped up with the Awards Banquet. LAGC was honored to receive several awards for 2019 and 2020. I was surprised and pleased to receive a Presidential Citation from Christine Longthorp. We were delighted that our member Selvi Viswanathan placed 1st in the 2020 Birds and 2020 Butterfly Gardening awards and also received 2020 Photographic Print of the Year!

The Extended Fall Board Meeting was fascinating, fun, and a great chance to meet our fellow gardeners from all over the state. Many thanks to District IV for such a wonderful job of hosting the meeting! The State Convention is being planned for late March. I sincerely hope it will be well attended. Let's keep New Mexico garden clubs alive despite our recent challenges.



Sunshine Valley, District IV – Linda Brandis, President

The Sunshine Valley Garden Club hosted the District IV Fall Meeting on September 10, 2021, at the Sierra del Rio Golf Course Restaurant in Elephant Butte, New Mexico. The theme for the meeting was “Dabbling in Daffodils” and Suzy Andrego gave a wonderful program on Daffodils which included a slide show. We had coffee and morning sweets, a luncheon with a specially designed cake, a silent auction, and everyone took home items from the tables that were used as centerpieces.



Awards were given to two of our Club members. Terri Clements received the ROSE Award and Lucille Lomeland the Daffodil Award.



The Club met on October 8, 2021. New changes were discussed: Our Yearbook will now start in January instead of September and run through December; the January meeting will be the Annual Business Meeting, as the year will now begin in January; Dues will be due in January

(prorated for those who recently paid); and during election years (even numbered) nominations and elections will be held at the January meeting, with Officers installed at our Annual Membership Tea in February for a two-year term.



Although we did not have a Flower Show at the Annual Sierra County Fair on Saturday, October 9, 2021, we did have a booth. Pamphlets, brochures, business cards and membership forms were available. Also at the booth were really cute seed bags to plant for the bees and a "10 Ways to Save the Bees" card.

Future meetings include the November 12, 10:30 a.m. at El Faro Restaurant, followed by lunch, then a trip to the Rio Bravo Art Gallery. A Christmas Luncheon is planned for Friday, December 10, 2021. The Club voted to have a "Garage and Plant Sale" in May 2022.

Angel Fire Garden Club, District III – Susan Schultz, President

What a busy time of year! Last year at this time I was canceling a few events and not scheduling others. What a difference a year makes. The Club is still wary about the epidemic but is slowly trying to return to normal.

In August the Club welcomed The Angel Fire Wetland Committee. They presented issues concerning preservation and ecological worries about the wonderful area here in town. A walkabout and tour was given and the exchange of knowledge was wonderful. August 14th saw the camaraderie between the two groups as seeds were planted and willows propagated in the quest for restoration.

Smiles all around to be out helping the environment. Susan Schultz, Latrille Joy and Terry Maxwell Nancy Priddy, Camille Thomason, Bill Maxwell and Page Steed.

September was a real working meeting! 14 members painted, glittered and sprayed ornaments for our up-coming fundraiser. So much fun was had. The ornament selling will take place on November 27-28. The Angel Fire Holiday Market in conjunction with ArtUp Northern New Mexico and Chamber of Commerce attracts a huge crowd. Hopefully, the Club's finances will improve with all this enthusiasm!

October's meeting found AAFGC member and Colfax County Extension Agent, Boe Lopez, giving a wonderful presentation about starting wildflower seeds and vegetables. Extremely valuable information was given. We then had a seed exchange! Boe gave out a wonderful assortment to all!

Boe Lopez Agent, Colfax County Extension and Angel Fire Garden Club member with Susan Schultz, President.

A November meeting was held to finalize all the plans for the holiday season. The Angel Fire Holiday Market Thanksgiving weekend was finalized! The committees have been hard at work! Gourd ornaments, handmade and painted clay ornaments, hand painted wooden ornaments and Christmas baskets to be raffled. And the Christmas party will be held December 8th at our very own Peruvian restaurant, the Mukuna Grill. This favorite function was sorely missed last year.

A great come back year! Looking forward to an even better one for
2021-2022!



Lincoln County Garden Club, District V, by Cynthia Schafer

The members of LCGC have been busy with wonderful programs the last several months. In July Vice President Debbie Myers presented a hands-on program about Pinecone Flowers. After demonstrating how to paint the pinecones, she provided members with materials to create “Red-Hot Pokers”, and blue jean pockets filled with painted pinecones.



The August program was presented by the sister of one of the members. Jessica Sheldon provided loads of information about composting in Ruidoso, which is far different from many parts of the country. Some of the challenges here are the lack of leaves, the relatively cool temperatures, and animals which deter on-the-ground types of composting. However, solutions and ideas were given and hopefully inspired members and guests to try composting.

In September members journeyed to Ft. Stanton, which is not too far from Ruidoso. Tim Roberts provided members with a tour of this huge and fascinating facility. Besides serving as a Fort on the Western front, the place also served as a TB Sanatorium. Following the tour, members drove to Capitan to have lunch and a business meeting under an outdoor pavilion.



October found the members enjoying a presentation by Club Secretary Judy Ellis entitled “The Language of Flowers”. The history of flowers is fascinating. Following a talk about the various flower meanings, Judy put together a Tussie Mussie which became a door prize.

November had no meeting scheduled, but a luncheon was held to say goodbye to a long-time member, Nanette Tanner. Nanette is returning to Texas and will be missed. She has been a hard-working member who has served in many capacities in Lincoln County Garden Club, as well as providing behind-the-scenes support to members and programs. We wish her the best in her new home.

We look forward to our Holiday luncheon in December and wish everyone the best of the season.

High Desert Design Club, District I, Shirley Tetreault, President

High Desert studies very hard on designing techniques January thru September getting ready for the state fair. October thru December we play a little and treat ourselves. We created Chili Ristras and sold them at our Council Fall Festival. All were sold and made a nice profit for the Council. In October we packed the Pinon room and made our own to hang in our courtyards. November was another fun, fall activity making Thanksgiving centerpieces of our choice. Everyone created in their own style. We also got on board with the UNM FOCUS program donating cash and coats for children in need. It was great to be a part of such a wonderful program. We hope to see you at the Council Holiday Fair on December the 3rd and 4th. We will be in the kitchen cooking.



Morning Garden Club, District V, Renate Reisel, President

As always Morning Garden Club Members are busy with a variety of different Activities

October started off with District 5 meeting and some morning garden club members attend plus went home with inspiration on colorful fall decorations presented by Debra Sorrell following the District meeting



our yearly flower show was canceled and replaced with an Expo of garden flowers. It was very well attended by the public and garden club members. Pat Krakauskas, Superintendent, encouraged members and the public to bring flowers from their garden. Our next get-together was decorating the outside of The Historical museum for the Christmas season.

At our November meeting we talked about how to improve and beautify our 2022 flower show. Plus all members were working on a small pumpkin design and talking about our upcoming Christmas program.



New Mexico Floral Artists, District I, Christine Longthorp, President

Hello from our talented group.

We meet on the 4th Monday of the month at 11am at my Flower studio in Albuquerque and having fun sharing and learning designs from the NGC Judges Handbook.

In August we created Small and Petite designs which some of us have avoided and found that it was a perfect design to make with minimal plant material. It was good to become comfortable making them ready for the State Fair Flower Show.

Our next practice in September was an luminary design and several of us entered this design in the State Fair Flower Show, some getting ribbons.

We cancelled our October meeting as it was the week of the NMGC Fall Board meeting in Las Cruces and so we combined the Multi-rhythmic design with a centerpiece using fruits and vegetables planned for our November meeting. I was good to demystify the Multi-rhythmic design and several members said it was even fun to do... Our Thanksgiving centerpiece was beautiful with such original components and something that would be lovely to grace the designer's table with.

Our schedule for 2022 is set and this year will end with a Holiday tea at my home for all members and guests. I am happy to report that this group is growing and flourishing as we go back to meeting in person. Please consider joining us to learn design and have the freedom to practice with good friends...



Uptown Garden Club, District I, Mary Ann Moreno, President

Uptown meetings were held during the summer and fall using the great outdoors as our meeting rooms. In August we met in Suzy Andregó's back yard, to construct a foliage mold container. The concrete mixture we used, came in several colors and was nice and gooey. Suzy's yard has many plants with large leaves, and we all had fun picking the largest specimens of "Bird of Paradise", Hosta, Elephant Ears and Sweet Potato vine. Our gorgeous creations were left to dry and were finished in a few days.

The New Mexico State Flower Shows, were held area of the Lujan building exhibits), and Uptown horticulture and artistic



creations ready to be



Fair, six in September in the remodeled (the old poultry and rabbit Garden Club Members entered designs in all sections of the



flower shows. Many ribbons were awarded, and many Design Sections were won by our members.



October saw us meeting at the home of Steven Hong-Elder. His wonderful gardens were amazing, and Steven cooked and served the members a delicious Breakfast. Everyone made a fall arrangement to take home and enjoy. Our business meeting concluded with the Installation of some Officers by Mary Ann Moreno President of Uptown Garden Club. New officers are First Vice President Steven Hong Elder and Secretary Lynette Walker.

Vice President Steven Hong Elder



Our Santa Fe, where the members visited the



November Meeting was a field trip to



wonderful Art Museum and had lunch at Skips. Great food and fellowship were had by all. December will see us meet at the lovely home of Ellen and Bill Reed. Alas, her fantastic gardens will be dormant, but Ellen's sunroom-green house may have Hoya's in bloom. We will feast on an early Christmas dinner with everyone bringing a dish to share, and maybe Santa will leave presents for us to enjoy! You are never too old for fun.

Pecos Valley Youth Club, District V, Sponsored by Home Garden Club

Pecos valley youth garden club had no formal meetings due to the virus parents are very concerned about big gathering and are to busy with the uncertainty about schooling, but some of our youth club members attend the ENMSF and Members enjoyed all the activities Morning Garden Club and Home Garden Club presented Two workshops one was choosing your own container and flowers they had a choice of small pumpkins cups or mug for making there own design the second workshop the children had a choice of painting or coloring both workshops were well attended and enjoyed by youth and seniors.



Blue Star Chairman, Shirley Tetreault

One of Our Blue Stars Was Missing

Many years ago in the Land of Enchantment there was a special garden club by the name of Las Sembradoras. For many reasons the club was not able to stay active. However as a final act, they purchased a By-Way marker which was tucked away and hidden for many years in a members home.

Plans were made for a dedication, however, it was hidden so well that it was now considered "Missing in Action"! Our marker has been found and we are in the process of locating that special place. As your Blue Star Chair I would like it to be dedicated in our National Cemetery in Santa Fe in District II. I am working on that approval now. This is a special way to honor all of our Veterans.



New Mexico Judges Council, Suzy Andrego, President

New Mexico Judges Council will be holding a Judges Symposium July 29-31, 2022, at the Albuquerque Garden Center.

Designs will be presented by Gina Jogan, National Garden Clubs Design Instructors Chairman.

Horticulture will be presented by Darlene Newell, National Garden Clubs Horticulture Instructors Chairman.

Remember: You DO NOT have to be a judge to attend. Attending a Judges Symposium makes you a better exhibitor. It also helps you understand what judges are looking for. Consider ATTENDING!

For more information, contact Suzy Andrego, Email: Sandrego@qwest.net

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| ◆ March 23 & 24, 2022 | NMGC Annual Convention | Atresia, NM |
| ◆ July 29-31, 2022 | NM Judges Council Judges Symposium | Albuquerque, NM |
| ◆ October, 2022 | NMGC Executive Fall Board Meeting | TBA |

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

25 Clubs

525 Paid Memberships

2 Youth Clubs

54 Youth Members

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

4401 Magnolia Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63110

www.gardenclub.org

NMGC, Inc. President 2021-2023

Christine Longthorp

2700 Vista Grande Dr. NW #89 Albuquerque NM 87120

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

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

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Mary Warshauer

E-mail: Mary@Warshauer.com

Theme: Plant America—Play Outside

South Central Region

Rose Knight, Director

E-mail: jkknight@suddenlink.net

Theme: Plant America—Embrace the Future

New Mexico Gardener Editor

Suzy Andrego

Sandrego@qwest.net

VISIT the *Members Only* area

on the our website:

www.newmexicogardenclubs.org

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.

Deadline	Date
Fall	August 1
Winter	November 1
Spring	February 1
Summer	May 1

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.

Articles/Photos for the next *New Mexico Gardener* must be submitted by February 1, 2022