



Quarterly Newsletter of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Volume 49 No. 3

December 2019/January/February 2020

Winter 2019 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 to Garden Clubbers

This Fall has been fruitful and fun as I have visited each of our five districts. I have also visited most of the County, State and Club sponsored flower shows in August and September when members exhibited their finest and best to educate the public.

We came together at our District meetings, with District I being the first. The meeting was at El Pinto in Albuquerque with Director Debra Sorrell who ran a superb meeting. This meeting was well attended and Debi Harrington created colourful Autumn centrepieces. The very professional and memorable PowerPoint program was given by Suzy Andrego on bulb growing. District I awarded the Rose Award to Debbie Hasse from El Jardin Encanto who has gone above and beyond this year in supporting Garden Club objectives.

I travelled to Las Vegas, New Mexico, with 1st VP Carolyn Bedford to attend the District III meeting which was enthusiastically run by Director Johnese Turri. Our program was a tour of the Galinas River project. The recovery of the river thus far is impressive and has huge potential for the future. San Antonio River Walk has competition. Look out! The District III Rose Award recipient has been chosen but not awarded yet. The announcement will be made in the next issue.

From there we travelled to Los Alamos for District II expertly presided over by Sue-Ellen de Beer. Their Fall Rose Award winner was announced at the Fall Board Meeting in Albuquerque and it went to Sally Warner a long time member who supports all levels of Garden Club.



President's Message continued

I set off the following day for Artesia and District V which Director Renate Reisel made fun and informative. Gloria Mendiola was the recipient of their Rose Award which acknowledged her outstanding efforts in her Club and District.

District IV was my last meeting held at Bosque de la Apache Refuge on Halloween. We all dressed in costume with Director Ellie Nordgren at the helm, as Elvis, which created an atmosphere of fun for members. District IV chose Susan Miller for their Rose Award. Susan has been President of Socorro Garden Club for nine years.

To all of these Rose Award winners *Congratulations* and thank you for saying 'yes' when asked, we all benefit.

The culmination of this Autumn was the Fall Board Meeting held in Albuquerque on October 17th and 18th, at the Marriott Courtyard, hosted by District I. Our speaker was Heather White from College Station, Texas, who spoke about her Garden Club experience alongside her mother and how we can infuse excitement and enthusiasm at every level. It was very inspiring with lots of laughter and great ideas to take back to our Clubs.

As all our Clubs are busy preparing awards in time for their deadlines we look forward to the holidays and time with family and friends. My first six months have been enlightening and so pleasurable that I can't wait to meet you all again in the Spring.

Christine Lenthorp, President



Awards Chairman, Nanette Tanner



AWARD DEADLINES ARE ARRIVING QUICKLY

The deadline to submit entries for the Yearbook award and the Flower Show Schedule award is December 15, 2019.

All other NMGC awards have a February 1, 2020 deadline.

Yearbooks Entries go to Doris Jackson, and Flower Show Schedules go to Shirley Tetreault (see latest list of chairpersons for their addresses, etc., on our website).

The reason for this early deadline is because these two awards have a progression from state to region and then to national. Our winning entries need to be sent to the SCR Awards Chairman by February 1 by you and the earlier deadline gives our Yearbook chairman, and FSS chairman time to arrange for judging, etc.

"The New Mexico Garden Club awards program provides an opportunity for clubs and individual members to share their garden and garden-related talents and accomplishments".

We hope club members will review online and/or print the Awards Booklet from the New Mexico Garden Club website and open a discussion on what awards your club would like to apply for.

To review the Awards Booklet type the URL www.newmexicogardenclubs.org, click the 'Awards' tab, and then click on 'Award guidelines, NMGC Handbook' located in the left hand column.

The booklet contains general application requirements and guidelines, table of contents of state awards, and detail application guidelines for each award. All award applications must be received by the specific NMGC chairman by Feb 1 with the exception of the Yearbook and Flower Show Schedule award applications which are due by December 15. The NMGC Chairpersons are listed on the NMGC website under the 'About' tab followed by the 'Officers and Chairpersons'. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me.

Awards Chairman, Nanette Tanner



**NMGC AWARDS
NEED SPONSORSHIP**

We all love getting awards. I am happy to help with the process of getting the awards out to those that deserve them.

We have many members that do more than necessary to keep our garden clubs working. Sponsoring an award helps reward clubs and members for all they do.

There is a budget of \$350 that go toward that goal. BUT WE NEED SPONSORSHIP for THESE Awards.

So this is a reminder that you can donate toward our budget. **Any and all donations will be appreciated.**

Check with your club members and see what they would like to donate for these awards.

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



Corresponding Secretary – JJ Huddleston

The 2018-2019 New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Report was distributed at the Fall Board meeting in Albuquerque by Conni Elkins, 2017-2019 Corresponding Secretary. The report was provided to each Officer, Chairperson, District Director, and Club President. Club presidents, please share the annual report with your members.

The report has also been posted on the NMGC, Inc. website [www.newmexicogardenclubs.org] in the Members Only section.

NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

71st Annual Convention

Humming in the Garden

APRIL 8-10, 2020

Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces

Las Cruces, New Mexico

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

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Garden Club(s): _____

Please circle your classification (all that apply):

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

Please mark either a FULL TIME Package or PART TIME Registration

Full Time Package includes: \$25.00 Registration fee, Lunch/Program, NMGC President's Reception, Banquet/Program, Top Awards/Program & Awards Presentation. NOTE: Full Time Package does NOT include Judges Program!

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

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

NM JUDGES COUNCIL (Not in Package Plans)

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

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

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

PART-TIME REGISTRATION

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

Thursday, April 9, 2020

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

Luncheon/Program \$ 26.00 _____

NMGC Banquet/Program\$ 35.00 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Congratulations

to the following New Mexico Garden Clubs

(new) Life Members



*Gail Crites
Cinda Jennings
Mary Noskin
Linda Hoffman
Shirley Sheriff
Darice Ambrose*



ARE YOU a *NM Garden Clubs LIFE MEMBER?*

You COULD BE!

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

Order Yours TODAY from Life Member/Scholarship Chairman Sue Ferguson, 5065 Bright Sky Road, Roswell, NM 88201, sjferguson@plateau.email.

THANK YOU!!



Message from Our First Vice President, *Carolyn Bedford*

Greetings from Santa Rosa, It seems like Fall didn't happen this year. We have trees with leaves covered in ice. The grass looks like we have had a light dusting of snow. Hopefully this cold storm will move out of our area and we will still have some fall weather. Christine Longthorp, New Mexico Garden Club President and I attended a meeting of District I at the El Pinto Restaurant in Albuquerque.

Debra Sorrell, Director, organized a great meeting with all the clubs reporting. Suzy Andrego gave a program on bulbs which was very

informative. I traveled to Las Vegas for the District III meeting. Amor de la Tierra is delightful and very enthusiastic. They showed us the progress that has been made on the Gallinas River to cut down on erosion and make it more friendly for people. It is a community project that includes the garden club. Johnese Turri, District Director, did an excellent job of organizing this meeting. The next trip Christine Longthorp and I took was to District II in Los Alamos. Their new director, Sue-Ellen de Beer, planned a delightful lunch and meeting. We heard what each club had been working on and some of their plans for the future. They showed pictures of the new wreath to be hung in the Fuller Lodge and made by 2 of the Los Alamos members. It has been fun for me to visit these districts with Christine and get to know more garden club members. On October 17-18 we attended the Fall Board meeting in Albuquerque. We had several first time members in attendance, all of whom Christine honored. Happy holidays to you all.

Carolyn Bedford



Message From District I Director, Debra Sorrell



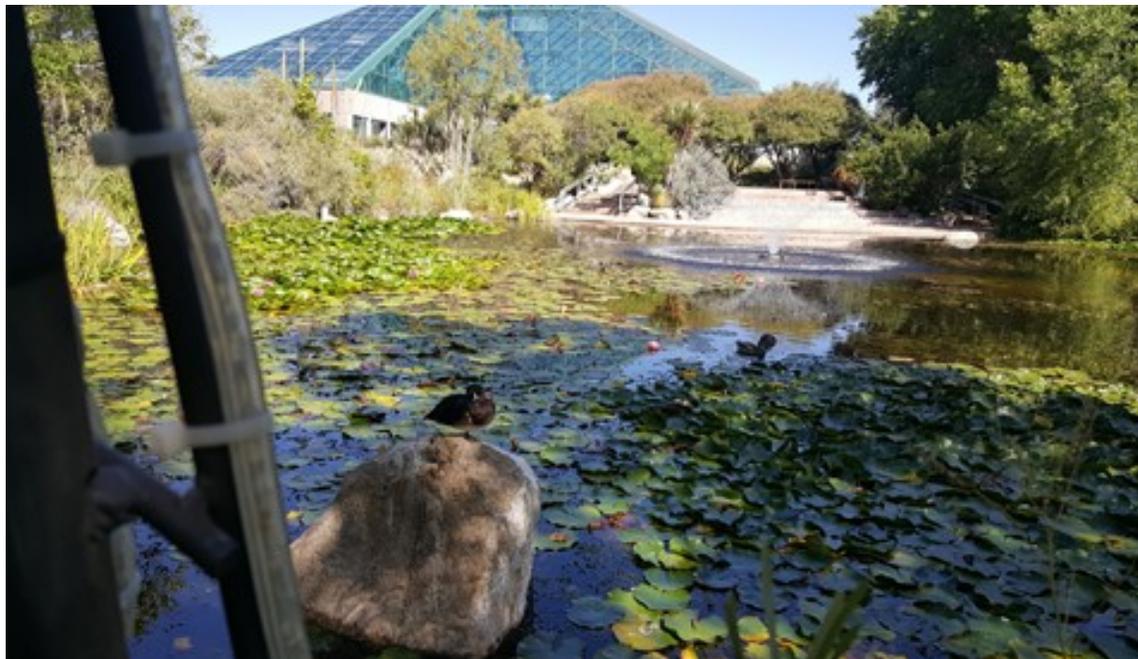
District I has been very since August! Our annual Fall meeting was held at El Pinto in northwest Albuquerque on September 30 and was attended by 42 members! Uptown garden club provided beautiful fall table favors with bulbs. Debi Harrington did spectacular floral centerpieces for all the luncheon tables AND donated a beautiful planting container full of bulbs that was raffled off during the meeting. Sonia James, District I 1st Vice Director, also donated a lovely ceramic container to add to the raffle. The Fall Rose Award went to Debby Hasse of El Jardin Encanto Garden Club. Suzy Andrego gave a wonderful program on different kinds of bulbs and how to plant them properly. Each club provided a report of their activities. Amazing programs and projects are going on all across the district! We jumped right from this meeting to host the NMGC Fall Board on October 17-18. The theme was "Bloom Where You Are Planted" and I can tell you that each club in District I really bloomed! They all came together to provide silent auction items, name tags, table favors, items for the welcome gift bags, baskets for the speaker and our President, Christine Longthorp, help with registration and anything else that helped to make the event a success. The Courtyard by Marriott provided wonderful service and support for the meetings.

Members from around the state attended and were able to share many ideas for programs with other clubs in the state. Heather White, NMGC member from College Station, Texas, was the speaker for the luncheon on the 18th. She gave a great talk on "How to get MORE Bloom From Your Club". She encouraged everyone about how to get (and keep) members in our clubs. We are looking forward to the next few months of informative club meetings, holiday celebrations, and preparations for the Spring!



El Jardin Encanto Garden Club

Albuquerque Botanical Garden Tour— The El Jardin Encanto Garden Club toured the Botanical Gardens in Albuquerque in September. Most of our members have visited the botanical gardens in the past but none of us have had a formal tour. Needless to say, we were all looking forward to learning more about the numerous plants in the gardens and having many of our previous visits questions answered. Upon our arrival, we were split up into two groups of eight and were introduced to two enthusiastic and knowledgeable guides who walked us through the Japanese Garden, Curandero Garden and Butterfly Pavilion. While visiting the Japanese Garden, we learned how traditional Japanese plants along with New



Mexican plants are used together to create an Asian aesthetic in a desert climate. Our guides explained Various styles of Japanese gardening and told the story behind the beautiful bridges and lanterns in the garden.

In the Curandero Garden we gained knowledge of numerous plants

used by the traditional folk healers of New Mexico. Our guides explained the usage of salves and teas which were made by the healers to remedy ailments of their patients. Many of our members asked questions as to how the potions were prepared and the history of the curanderos in New Mexico.



El Jardin Encanto Garden Club (continued)



Lastly, we toured the Butterfly Pavilion where we were told over 200 species of butterflies, forty of which are native to New Mexico, were housed in the enclosed structure. We were fortunate that we arrived early enough to get an up-close eye-level view of many of the butterflies perched on flowers and leaves of plants. It was a beautiful sight of brightly colored butterflies perched

and flying from leaf to leaf. Many questions by our members were answered by a butterfly expert in the pavilion. Later we had lunch at the Shark Reef Cafe and talked about the wonderful experience we all had that day. It truly was a lovely day filled with beauty, knowledge and great camaraderie..



One project that we continue to do annually each year is decorate a Christmas tree at the Harvey House in Belen, New Mexico. Below is a photo of this year's tree and a description of the hand made ornaments we created this year.

Our Christmas tree was decorated with mostly recycled products. We made dragonflies and butterfly's from plastic milk jugs. flowers were made from the top 1/4 of a water bottle, petals were cut and painted and a hole was cut in the cap to slip over the tree lights. Other birds and butterflies were made from recycled tin cans. Christmas balls were made by covering Styrofoam balls in crushed lavender peddles. We also used large seed pods painted with silver paint. Topped with a large sunflower made from Deco mesh.

Adrienne David

High Desert Design Club

As you can see by our pictures, our members are happy and engaged. They live, love, laugh and learn at every meeting and totally enjoy the moment. At this time of year we are getting ready for the holidays by making seasonal centerpieces and November the 13th will be pine cone wreaths with Kristin Thompson. Her talent is amazing. Everyone will take home a wreath for either Thanksgiving, Christmas or whatever they choose.

Beth Schneider, Shirley Tetreault and Mary Noskin won three of the four prizes at the Fall Board meeting in Albuquerque on October 17th and 18th. Beth won an all expense paid trip to the annual convention in Las Cruces in the Spring. As you can see by the look on her face, she is very excited. It will be her first convention. That is probably because Kathleen Flanders, State Ways and Means Chair, twisted their arm and insisted they buy tickets for the raffle. Way to go Kathleen!

Esther has been working hard preparing some beautiful items for our booth at the Council Holiday Fair. Come and join us on the 6th and 7th of December. It is a lot of fun and a great day to spend with Garden Club friends. We will also be working the kitchen and there will be plenty of good things to eat.

Our meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 in the Pinon Room at the Garden Center.

Shirley Tetreault



Petal Pushers Garden Club

Petal Pushers Garden Club officers for our new 2019 ~ 2020 calendar year are: President Joan

Kerrie, Vice-President and Council Representative Ginny Longbotham, Secretary Carol Parker, Treasurer Viola M. Johnson, and Parliamentarian Rebecca Gaston.



April was our annual luncheon and installation of officers. This year we met at Red Lobster. Christine Longthorp, a former Petal Pushers member and now President of NMGC, Inc., installed our incoming officers. So nice to see Christine and recall some of the special club moments from the past. Thank you Christine for being a part of our luncheon.

Board members for 2019-2020
Back row L to R: Joan Kerrie, Ginny Longbotham and Carol Parker. Front row L to R: Rebecca Gaston and Viola Johnson.

Our April participation in the annual Albuquerque Garden Centers spring plant sale was a great success plus a lot of fun. We are making plans and looking forward to next years sale. The May meeting was held at vice-presidents Ginny Longbotham's home. We toured her unique terraced garden and discussed our future projects and meetings for the coming year. June's meeting was held at Mary Frances Santistevan's home. We, along with our guests, enjoyed visiting her beautiful garden. Our guest speakers were Janet Herbst from the Xeric club and NMGC State President Christine Longthorp. Christine's topic was "If we are not having fun, why are we doing this?" Thank you ladies for your enjoyable and informative programs. We did not meet during the month of July due to summer vacations.

The August meeting was helpful to many of us. Debra Sorrell was our guest speaker. Her topics were "Why attend Fall Board" and "What photo judges are looking for to give Awards". She spoke on taking photos with our smart phones. Debra's comments and helpful comments has inspired some to consider entering photos for an award. Thank you Debra for your informative talk.



Petal Pushers Garden Club (continued)

Kristen Thompson was our guest speaker for the month of September. Kristen's speech was very informative and brought to our attention many fascinating points of knowledge and happenings in the world of pollinators visiting our yards and the environment. Pollinators maintain our ecosystems, plant reproduction and genetic diversity. It was also very fascinating the numerous ways pollination takes place. Thank you Kristen for your visit to Petal Pushers.

October's meeting was in Corrales at the ARCA Greenhouses. It was educational, informative and a very enjoyable meeting. ARCA's mission; "Working together to open doors to individuals with intellectual, developmental and cognitive disabilities to be valued members of the



community." ARCA is nestled in a beautiful country setting on seven and a half acres. ARCA Organics employs Individuals to grow a wide



variety of fruits and vegetables which they provide to many local restaurants and juice bars.

Petal Pushers meet on the 4th Tuesday at 9:30 am most of the months at the Garden Center. Our club provides educational programs at the meetings. We place emphases on private gardens, horticulture, and support conservation. We are looking forward to some very informative and interesting programs planned for this coming year.



We welcome guests at our meetings and new members are welcome. Feel free to contact our president Joan Karrie (Email jimemie@his.com) or the Garden Center office for further club details.

Joan Karrie

Uptown Garden Club

Greetings from Uptown Garden Club. Uptown Garden Club has new officers elected to serve from 2019-2021:

President; Mary Ann Moreno

Vice President; Nancy Kuttesch

Recording Secretary; Steven Hong-Elder

Treasurer; Suzy Andrego

Corresponding Secretary; Charlotte Cross

Our Theme is "Friendship and Kindness in the Garden"

Many of our programs involve visiting our member's gardens to learn about Rain barrels, beautiful ponds, water features, Daylilies and roses, along with Field trips. This past July we traveled to Santa Fe Botanical Gardens and this fall the Alan Houser Sculpture Gardens. Christmas is coming and Uptown Garden Club Member, Ellen Reed is Hosting, our Christmas Luncheon and Party.

The future holds more wonderful programs.

Until my next report, I wish all NMGC, Inc. Members, Happy Holidays.

Mary Ann Moreno



Valley Gardeners

Valley Gardeners currently has 32 members. We meet the second Thursday of most months at 7:00 p.m. at the Los Griegos Community Center. Members had the good fortune to receive an invitation to tour the gardens of Howard and Sue McCall. Mr. McCall and Tom Taylor gave us a tour of the gardens. It was a beautiful day and we enjoyed a picnic potluck in the many different garden areas. Fifty percent of our members attended the District I lunch on September 30th. Suzy Andrego gave the program about bulbs. District I Director, Debra Sorrel, challenged the District I garden club Presidents. The garden club with the most members attending the Fall Board Meeting would win a prize. Valley Gardeners had the most members attending and won a gift card. Way to support and represent Valley Gardeners! Debi Harrington was the chairperson of the first National Garden Clubs, Inc. garden school that held in New Mexico. Series 1 of the four course Garden School was completed in August. Congratulations to the Valley Gardener members from the first graduating class: Suzy Andrego, Brenda Griego, Curtis and Pat Montgomery. Members have also been attending National Garden Club Environmental Schools. Upcoming programs to look forward to include enticing native birds with native plants, roses, vegetable growing and dahlias. Come join us.

Gigi Zacharias





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

District II had its Fall Executive Board Meeting in the boardroom of the Smiths Marketplace in Los Alamos on Thursday, October 10, 2019. All the officers were there as well as Doris Jackson and Maggie Rubino, among others. Christine Longthorp, NMNGC President and Carolyn Bedford, NMNGC 1st Vice President were our guests. The club president's reports were deferred until the regular board meeting held in Albuquerque on October 18, 2019. Cindy Hills agreed to be parliamentarian

for the term 2019-2121.

The dates for District II's further meetings were decided upon. Our next meeting will be held March 5, 2020 at the Fuller Art Center in Los Alamos. We will begin at 9:30 with the Executive Board Meeting followed directly by the regular board meeting. There will be a catered lunch. The details will be sent out in the general call that will be issued in January. A request was submitted members of a nominating committee for the 2021-2023 term. This committee will consist of the presidents of Summit GC, Los Alamos GC and Floral Designers GC as well as a nominee from each club in addition to the District Director and the Assistant District Director. Shelby Redondo is organizing this effort as well as the Steering Committee for future meetings.

A steering committee has been designated to help with the arrangements for this meeting as well as the Fall Board meetings that will be held on October 1-2, 2020 in Santa Fe. I am pleased to tell everyone that Gay Austin will be our special guest at these meetings. District II is responsible for the arrangements for this meeting. A location has not been selected yet.

At this time I am advising my club presidents that due to the early date for the Fall 2020 board meetings your president's reports will need to be completed and forwarded before these meetings. The due date will be September 15.



Floral Designers

We are a study group that makes floral designs conforming to the types of designs identified in the revised NGC Handbook for Flower Shows, 2017 edition.

A different design is chosen for each meeting. Members are encouraged to submit a design each meeting. All designs are critiqued using the Handbook. Tips, what ifs, and creative ideas are shared within the membership with regard to mechanics, construction, and arrangement. Floral Designers meets on the fourth Thursday of each month with the exceptions of November and December.

Laurie Hixson

