



# SOUTH CENTRAL REGION



(Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma & Texas)

## *The Communicator*

Volume 2 — Fall 2019

### SOUTH CENTRAL REGION DIRECTOR'S REPORT FROM LINDA LAWSON

Greetings State Presidents, SCR Board Members and SCR Members,

Fall has arrived! Time for changes in the colors of all our flora.

New officers will conduct their first meetings. Districts shall be conducting Fall Board meetings. NGC held its Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, MO. It was great to see and to visit with the SCR State Presidents, Board Members and the many NGC Committee Chairpersons from SCR!

I wish to thank Donna Marsheck for countless hours getting funding for SCR awards. **Remember your club must enter to win!**

Clubs need to contact Jo Krallman if your state has held a NGC School or Symposium. Jo needs the information for reports to NGC.

Other regional chairmen need your state's information also.

Oklahoma has just finished a series of Flower Show School as are other states in SCR. Thank you, we need new judges!

New Mexico just completed their first Gardening School Series!

Some of our states have already started the regional project: **"United to Plant America"**. I would like to see projects where our garden clubs work with other groups such as Master Gardeners, Civic Groups, Plant Societies, Park Departments, Youth Groups, Museums, Hospital Gardens, Art Leagues, etc. I am so proud that some of the SCR states are already working on projects that fit into the scope of Plant America.

I hope to see you this Fall.

Warm regards, *Linda*

[linda\\_lawson@cox.net](mailto:linda_lawson@cox.net) C 405-326-4566



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## **SCR Regional Director’s Project — 2019-2021**

### ***“Unite to Plant America”***

Linda Lawson’s Theme ***“Unite to Plant America”*** for SCR emphasizes the spirit of the NGC Theme. She would like to see all garden clubs network with other community organizations to accomplish this goal. There are so many organizations that also beautify their communities: Master Gardeners, Civic Development Groups, Plant Societies, Park Departments, Youth Groups, etc., by planting and maintaining gardens around Libraries, Hospitals, Museums, Cemeteries, Parks, churches, adult centers, assisted living/retirement homes; the list can continue to include many public locations.

I hope your club is working towards beautifying your community. Networking within our communities can only impact the awareness of our desire to ***“Unite and Plant America”***. Make plans now to enter your project for a SCR Director’s Project Award.

<b>Project Qualifications:</b>	Scope of the Project	40 points
	Interaction with Another Group	30 points
	Benefit to the Community	20 points
	Overall Distinction	10 points

The deadline for SCR states to submit their application will be Wednesday, December 1, 2021.

Each state that submits an application and qualifies for the SCR Regional Director’s Project will receive an achievement Plaque and a \$100 Award.

Send project description and photos to: Donna Marsheck, 402163 W 2650 Drive, Bartlesville, OK 74006-0555 dmarsheckgardenclub@yahoo.com 918.440.1325



*Donna Marsheck*, Alternate Director



**2019-2021 SCR  
Reports**

**State President's**



**Nancy Rana, President  
Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs —**  
*“Promoting The Love Of Gardening,  
Floral Design, & Civic And Environmental Responsibility.”*



Even though September has arrived and is supposed to be ushering in autumn, it sure doesn't appear that way. We are still not experiencing cooler weather here in Arkansas and the leaves aren't showing any signs of changing color. However, we are anxiously awaiting the arrival of both!

Fall is also the beginning of a new year for most of our clubs in AFGC. Our clubs are planning exciting and informative programs and preparing for district meetings. In addition, we are working to increase membership statewide by 10% this year which equates to 140 new members.

The AFGC Fall Board Meeting was held in Star City, Arkansas and hosted by the Southeast District. It was well attended and we had 14 first time attendees. We were greeted by our newest "member" Ima Gardener. Her lovely attire was created by Glenda Tolson and Joann Hopper. Many thanks to Carol Bullard and Debby Cooper, Vice-Chairmen of the 2019 NGC Convention in charge of table designs for all meals. They presented a wonderful program on low profile designs at the Judges' Council dinner Monday night. The luncheon program showcased ways to create beautiful arrangements for the home at a reasonable cost. The ladies were informative and entertaining. Fun times were had by all!

We were excited to host the Arkansas Symposium. It was held on September 10-11, 2019 in Little Rock. Jo Krallman, Arkansas Symposium Chairman, brought in NGC Instructors Frances Thrash to teach Design and Dot Yard to teach Horticulture.

With the focus on youth, Hallie Orr, Harrisburg Garden Club, presented a delightful program called, "Grass Head: A Gardening Craft to do with Kids". She demonstrated how to construct a grass head, showed grass heads in several stages of development, and provide handouts to members. We are encouraging clubs to conduct youth activities and to start new youth clubs. We are asking clubs to encourage youth groups to participate in the youth contests offered by our state, SCR, and NGC.

My theme for the next two years is Dig – Plant – Grow! We are encouraging our members to dig in and plant the seeds of excitement so that we may grow into the future and be the best that we possibly can be!

Happy Fall Ya'll!

***Nancy Rana, Arkansas State President 2019-2021***



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

**Greetings to all SCR members from New Mexico,**

New Mexico is finally showing signs of Fall. When I travelled to Taos recently to give a design program for an Angel Fire Garden Club Seminar, my journey north was a pleasure with fields of desert marigolds and the freeway lined with sunflowers. Cottonwood trees were just beginning to show signs of gold, and our big skies were bright blue – clearly the Land of Enchantment.

Our New Mexico State Fair was very successful with four flower shows and a youth show. The New Mexico State Fair has been bringing our state together since 1938, and is a perfect showcase for growers everywhere in this diverse climate.

This summer was a very busy time of judging and visiting County Fair Flower shows in Eddy County, Lincoln, Santa Rosa, Socorro and Moriarty. Often, it's just a few garden club members putting many hours into creating for the public an overview of high and low desert gardening.

Garden clubs throughout New Mexico have been holding summer socials, and some have coordinated field trips to the Botanic Gardens, local dahlia growers and water gardens, just to name a few.

New Mexico concluded its first series of Gardening schools and began a new series of environmental schools, which were enthusiastically well-attended and is now planning a Judges Symposium to be held in November. Many Judges are coming from out of state, too, which always creates a lively and fun learning experience for us all.

All five Districts in New Mexico are planning their respective meetings for October, and I look forward to meeting old and new friends as I travel around the state hearing how garden clubs are adding new members and creating interest in the number one hobby in the USA—gardening.

Finally, I attended my first NGC Fall Board meeting in September, in St. Louis, and I enjoyed seeing some of you there.

Sending warm regards from New Mexico,

***Christine Longthorp, New Mexico State President 2019-2021***



**Oklahoma  
April Pratt, President**

***April Pratt, 2019 – 2020 OKLAHOMA STATE PRESIDENT***

**Happy Fall Y'all!**

**We are just gearing up for a new year of events, but here are some of the things that have happened this summer.**

In May, an NGC Design Specialty Flower Show, "**Orchid Fiesta**", was held in Oklahoma City in conjunction with the Oklahoma Orchid Society Show and Sale. There were 52 designs entered by 23 designers. Here are the Top Award winners:



Award of Design Excellence  
Designers Choice Award  
Judith Miracle, Exhibitor



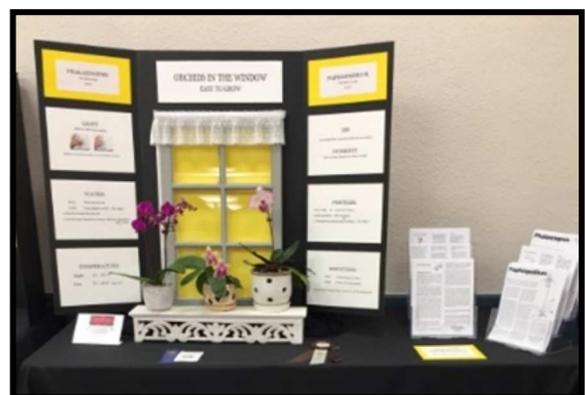
Table Artistry Award  
Judith Miracle, Exhibitor



Petite Award  
Linda Smith, Exhibitor



Botanical Artistry Award  
Victoria Cole, Exhibitor



Educational Award  
Jana Butcher, Exhibitor

**Tulsa Garden Clubs will be holding a Rock n Roll Holiday event November 18 with entertainment by The Blazer Brothers. All proceeds will go to their Scholarship Fund.**



Judy Grots presented the Northeast District scholarship to Kyle Lambdin.



Tulsa Council of FGC awarded their scholarship to Austin Berntsen



Tulsa's Garden Tour Committee put together a great tour to Drummond Ranch in Pawhuska (Pioneer Woman)



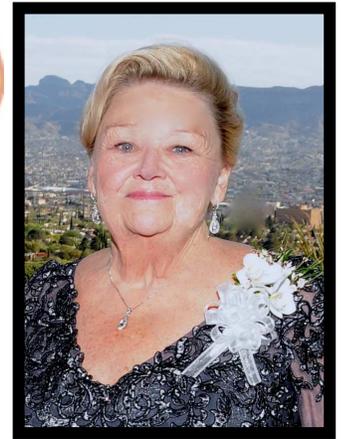
Dina Atnip of Patio Garden Club and Judy Hawkins, visitor

**Patio Garden Club of Marlow held a “Save the Monarch” event June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 in conjunction with National Garden Club week. The local volunteer fire department held an Indian Taco Dinner/Car Show to raise funds. Patio GC was there to provide information about the Monarch Butterfly and the importance of milkweed to the Monarchs. Many people don't know that milkweed is the only plant on which the Monarch Butterfly will lay their eggs as they migrate thru Oklahoma each year. Visitors to the booth had a 'hands on' opportunity to make their own seed balls to take home to plant. The seed balls consisted of milkweed and wildflower seeds.**

**These are just some of the things that are going on in Oklahoma. Looking forward to hearing about all the other things that our clubs have planned for this fall.**

***April Pratt,* Oklahoma State President 2019-2021**

***Texas — Promoting the Love of Gardening  
Across the State of Texas  
Peggy Moreland, President***



Texas Garden Clubs are looking forward to fall, cooler temperatures and enjoying our gardens. Our members have been busy planning our 88<sup>th</sup> Fall Convention, October 29-31, 2019, in Tyler. The convention will have exciting speakers, workshops and costumes. We hope you all will join us.

We were fortunate to have our first Garden Study School August 2019, in San Antonio. The school was well attended and we all had fun learning.

Texas held a Landscape Design School, Course III in College Station September 23-24, 2019.

Flower Show School IV was held in Houston, September 16-18, 2019. Flower Show School I will be held January 20-22, 2020 in Houston. Flower Show School II was held in Dallas October 8-10, 2019. Flower Show School III will be held in Dallas March 24-25, 2020. These schools are great educational opportunities for our members.

In September, I attended the National Garden Clubs Board of Directors Meeting in St. Louis, Mo. It was my first visit to the NGC Headquarters. I gained much knowledge to share that will inspire our clubs in Texas.

***Peggy Moreland*, President Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.**



## Youth Contests Reminders

South Central Region is doing their part in keeping our youth involved is by they continuing to offer contests. Remember, all contest entries must be sponsored by a local Garden Club.

**SCR #17, Youth Bird Contest** is one example of getting grades 1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> students involved. SCR Award

**SCR #18, Youth High School Essay Contest** is for students in grades 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup>. SCR & NGC Awards

**SCR #19, Youth Poetry Contest** is for students in grades Kindergarten thru 9<sup>th</sup>. SCR & NGC Awards

**SCR # 20, Youth Sculpture Contest** for grades 4<sup>th</sup> thru 8<sup>th</sup> is a great way to teach our youth to keep our earth green. SCR & NGC Awards

**SCR # 21, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest** is for grades 1<sup>st</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> and is the most popular contest that the kids participate in. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and the National Garden Clubs, Inc. offer students the opportunity to participate in Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl poster contest for 1st through 5th grades. To get this project started you may want to provide the **paper (11"x17", this is the required size of paper)** for the children to use. This is a good way to educate the kids on wildfires and the environmental conservation principles. This takes very little effort from the members, yet has a huge impact on the children. For their efforts, if their poster wins, they are given a certificate and awarded cash prizes. For more information on this worthwhile project go to [www.symbols.gov](http://www.symbols.gov) where you are able to see each year's requirements/rules and purchase promotional and educational products. SCR & NGC Awards

### Questions? Contact Linda Jean Brown

SCR Youth Activities & Programs

2019-21

[ljbrown3264@windstream.net](mailto:ljbrown3264@windstream.net)

(903)478-3264 (h) (903) 724-2656 (c)



ADDITIONALLY, there is a new NGC Youth Award — **The High School Distinguished Service Award** A Certificate of Merit and \$100.00 for first place, and \$50.00 for second place to a **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT**, grades 9-12, for an outstanding civic project making a significant improvement for public benefit, eg. environment, conservation, landscape, horticulture, recycling, horticulture therapy, others. The student must be sponsored by a NGC affiliated club. Check the NGC website for details and application information.

AND, The **YOUTH POLLINATOR GARDENS GRANT** is being continued by NGC. This is a grant opportunity for Garden Clubs working with youth clubs or groups planning and planting Pollinator Gardens. Grants, up to \$200, are available for projects that include educational materials on the vital role pollinators play in nature and youth involvement in planning and planting gardens providing nesting and food sources for pollinators. Youth will learn the importance of providing appropriate food sources, nesting areas, shelter, and practicing sustainable gardening practices for pollinators by planning, planting, and maintaining these pollinator gardens. Check the NGC website for details and application information.

**GO YOUTH GARDENING!**

# SCR Youth Sculpture Contest, SCR # 20



## FUN WITH THE KIDS!

SCR Youth Sculpture Contest! This contest challenges kids to express themselves in a creative way with recycled materials. Encourage the kids around you to get involved in saving the environment by taking recyclable or trashed items or even discarded food and make something cool with it! This is a really fun project...you give it a little thought, the kids will have fun for an hour or two, the kids will learn valuable lessons and this can offer an opportunity for BIG publicity in your community for your club. Everybody likes to see the kid stuff in the news...

## Rules:

Children in 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades are eligible to enter.

The sculpture is limited to a size that will fit sitting on an 8 ½ " X 11" sheet of paper.

Entries should include as many photographs as can be printed on the back of the entry form; 4" X 6" size are recommended.

Club entries must be sent to your State Chairman by your state's deadline. State winners will be sent to Regional Chairman by Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Regional winners will be sent to NGC by Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

## Scale of Points: 100% Total

Creative use of materials and self-expression: 60%

Description of sculpture and materials used: 30%

Craftsmanship and technique: 10%

Take a bit of time and look at projects making something from litter, in magazines, on the web or at your library. There are some easy projects and some way fun ideas...ask the kids, they may have done something at school, they may have ideas! Take pictures of the project and put the simple entry form together on a cold rainy day this fall! You will only send in one or two sheets of paper...not the sculpture itself!

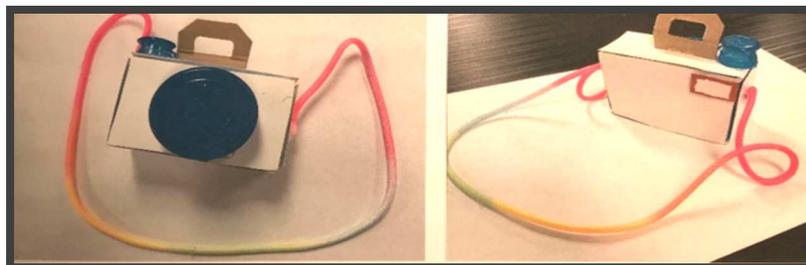
Rules and entry forms may be found on the NGC website, or contact me if your state does not offer them!

**Ronna Precure, SCR Youth Sculpture Chairman, South Central Region**

[sanfords@arkansas.net](mailto:sanfords@arkansas.net)

phone: 479-644-9673

2673 Madison 1230 Huntsville, AR 72740-7840



## SCR Youth Bird Poster Contest, SCR #17

All poster entries are submitted to the SCR Bird Chairman, Clara Bishop by February 21, 2020. The SCR Bird of the Year will be announced at the beginning of each SCR term by the SCR Bird Poster Awards Chairman and published in the *Communicator* and on the SCR website.

2019-2020

North American Male Cardinal – *Cardinalis cardinalis*



2020-2021

Male Downy Woodpecker – *Picoides pubescens*

1. All entries must be sponsored by a local Garden Club.
2. Posters must feature the "SCR Bird of the Year":
3. Eligible students are 1st - 5th graders. Home schooled students are eligible.
4. Materials may include: Crayons, markers, poster paints, water colors, etc.  
Paper choice is decided by the student. **The paper choice size must be submitted on a 8 ½ X 11 inch page.**
5. Attach a computer generated information piece of paper on back lower right corner of poster to include: Student's name, grade, sponsoring club, and contact information for sponsoring club member, (give name, address, phone #, and e-mail of contact person).
6. Each club should have entries judged to determine a first place winner for each grade level.  
First Place winners from 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders should be mailed to SCR Chairman:

**Clara Bishop, 9808 S Broadway Avenue, Oklahoma City 73139-8819**

**Deadline: February 21, 2020**

**Scale of points:**

***Originality 25 points.***

***Method 25 points***

***Artwork 25 points***

***Overall effectiveness of the entry 25 points***

7. Please make a copy of winning entry/s as they will not be returned unless a club member attends the SCR Convention.
8. Posters may include artwork pasted upon a 2nd piece of paper, but 3D entries aren't allowed.

# SCR AWARDS TIME IS - JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

## SOUTH CENTRAL REGION AWARD GUIDELINES - 2019-2021

SCR Awards Chairman, Donna Marsheck – 918.440.1325

402163 W 2650 Drive, Bartlesville, OK 74006-0555

dmarsheckgardenclub@yahoo.com

### **Award Applications for NGC competition and SCR competition have different deadlines.**

**PLEASE STUDY** the NGC Award requirements for 2019-2021 on the NGC website: [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org). SCR requirements may be found on the SCR website: [www.scr.gardenclubs.org](http://www.scr.gardenclubs.org)

Your state publication or website will have your state award requirements. Double check the deadlines.

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** Only federated garden clubs, members of federated garden clubs, and groups of federated clubs in good standing are eligible to apply or sponsor applicants.
2. **AWARDS YEAR:** Jan. 1st through Dec. 31 of the same year constitutes an Award Year.
3. **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ENTRIES TO SCR:** Adult SCR Award entries must be judged in each state. Winning entries are then submitted by the State Awards Chairman with a listing of entries attached to SCR Awards Chairman. Deadline is Feb. 1. Electronic submissions are accepted. SCR Award #22, is due Dec. 1, 2021, (second year of term) and is sent to SCR Chairman of Director's Project, Donna Marsheck, dmarsheckgardenclub@yahoo.com OR @ the above address.
4. **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ENTRIES TO NGC:** Adult NGC Award entries are submitted to NGC Awards Chairman (deadline Jan. 15), by the State Awards Chairman with a listing of entries attached. State Awards Chairman must see that duplications are prepared for entries eligible for both SCR and NGC consideration. (SCR does not send Adult Award winning entries to the NGC level). NGC rules state that entries must be sent by State Awards Chairman.
5. **CONTESTS:** winners in your state for Youth Poetry, Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Posters, Essay, Bird Posters, Sculpture, etc., are sent to appropriate SCR Youth Chairmen, listed on the SCR Website. **Do NOT** send Youth Winners to the SCR Awards Chairman. The SCR Youth Chairmen will send appropriate entries to the national level.
6. **CONTINUING PROJECTS:** Entries may be continuing projects, but must document and show significant work in the current awards year.
7. **LENGTH OF ENTRY:** An entry may not exceed 3 pages, using front of paper only. No plastic sheet protectors allowed. No loose materials. Include yearbook, only if required. Keep a copy of the entry. These will not be returned.
8. **ENTRY CARD:** State Awards Chairman is to attach a 3X5 card on the first page of the state's Award Application Form. NGC Interactive Form attachment included  
1. Number and Name of SCR Award  
2. Name of club/group of clubs  
3. A contact name and e-mail address—**Place the following on the 3X5 card.**  
4. Number of members in club or group of clubs  
5. Number of members in your state organization  
6. Name, e-mail address, and phone # of State Awards Chairman

**RETURN OF APPLICATION:** You should keep a copy of your entries. They will not be returned.

**PLEASE NOTE:** NGC and SCR will no longer award certificates for Press Books. States may continue or discontinue as they desire.

10. **AWARDS:** Monetary awards are offered only for designated awards. Only first place winners scoring 90 or above are eligible to receive cash awards. SPONSORS are listed with the Contest.

11. **CATEGORIES:** Clubs and states are in categories according to the number of dues paying members. They are as follows:

**CLUBS:**

- i. Small Club: 29 members & under
- ii. Medium Club: 30-59 members
- iii. Large Club: 60-99 members
- iv. Ex-Large Club: 100 members +

**STATES:**

- i. Small State: 999 members & under
- ii. Medium State: 1,000-2,999 members
- iii. Large State: 3,000-7,999 members
- iv. Ex-Large: 8,000 members or more.

**CLUB YEARBOOKS:** Award #16: YB-1

- 1. Club under 20 members
- 2. Club 20-29
- 3. Club 30-44
- 4. Club 45-69
- 5. Club 70-99
- 6. Club 100-299
- 7. Club 300 +

12. **SCALE OF POINTS FOR AWARDS** (exceptions noted – Publications, Yearbooks).

Presentation: 5 pts. Neat, concise, includes all required information.

Achievement: 65 pts. Scope of project; need and fulfillment; benefit; accomplishment; comprehensiveness of work; activities to attain goals; evaluation of goals reached; educational; prior planning; very brief history if continuing project; financial report; other.

Participation: 15 pts. Size of club; involvement of some of the following – members, community, government agencies, professionals, youth, residents in facilities, others. (Not all listed are required, mention only ones that apply).

Record or Documentation: 15 pts. Supporting data (as applicable), clear, well-labeled and neatly attached before & after photographs, landscape plan (does not have to be professional), financial report, letters of appreciation (if available), community awards, newspaper/magazine articles (if available), radio or TV script (if applicable), etc. Photocopies are permitted.

1st place, \$25 AWARD to a Single Club

**Please visit the SCR Website to see ALL 23 of the Awards that your club should apply for!  
You can't win if you don't enter!**



# Monarch Waystation Dedication



September 14, 2019

Sponsored by Bartlesville Council of Garden Clubs

## Monarchs at the Corner

**A pile of debris sparked an idea,  
An idea sparked a vision,  
A vision created a partnership,  
A partnership created a garden.  
The garden grew and grew and grew  
Into a corner flowerbed of pride for the City  
and today we celebrate with the Monarch!**



In the 1970's, the traffic control lights were changed at the intersection of Frank Phillips Boulevard and US Highway 75 [Washington Boulevard]. When the project was completed, a large pile of dirt and debris was left on site. Members of the Bartlesville Garden Center, Inc. were concerned with the kind of impression visitors were getting of our city so an idea was presented to the city and the corner was cleared, the soil leveled and water taps were installed; the vision was turning into a reality.

In 1974, the Garden Center placed an advertisement in the Bartlesville Examiner for donations to purchase Austrian Pines for the corner that were planted on the top of the garden slope. With Garden Center funds, a "Bartlesville is a Garden Club City" sign was designed by members that was then built and installed by the Bartlesville Park Department in 1976. Evergreen shrubs and spring bulbs were planted, annuals were added for the summer and large rocks were placed to frame the sign. Two tiered flowerbeds were added with a stairway and railings between them to lead visitors from the street at the top of the slope to the new flowerbeds below on the highway level. As funds became available from home and garden tours and plant sales, the garden club members and the Park Department added a crape myrtle bed behind the sign and just below the slope. OSU donated a hybrid variety that blooms earlier and they were added in 1983.

In 1986 after a 'five-hundred-year flood' devastated the city, the Garden Center purchased a large Christmas tree and added lights to lift the spirits of the residents and serve as a warm greeting to all that passed through the city during the holidays. Over the years more light strands were donated and the city installed electricity throughout the flowerbeds; now hundreds and hundreds of lights twinkle throughout the crape myrtle beds, on the slope and shrubs and the live pines from Thanksgiving through the new year.

In 1991, the Ladies American Legion Auxiliary had three flag poses installed for the American, Oklahoma, and Bartlesville flags. A ceremony was held on 8/17/1991 to dedicate the flags and honor troops who served in the Persian Gulf War. The Garden Center sent an entry to "Keep Oklahoma Beautiful" and received one of four certificates awarded in the state. The "Award of Merit Certificate" stated: 'This organization is dedicated to beautifying the city of Bartlesville through gardening projects. It adopts and maintains one of the city's most beautiful park areas on a continuing basis'. An automatic Sprinkling System was installed and concrete curb grass barrier border was added around the crape myrtle bed. An open sun-dial on a cement circle with a flowerbed of *nandina*, *mugo pines* and *boxwood* shrubs was added in memory of a garden club member, and years later a Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker was dedicated in that garden area.

*"And the garden grew and grew and grew"*

*Spirea, forsythia, Shasta daisies, phlox paniculata, liatris, coreopsis, iris, day lilies, blue spike salvia, hibiscus, peonies, red barberry, deciduous holly*, bloom throughout the beds. Blooming trees and shrubs on the slope and wildflower mixtures and hummingbird mixtures to add nectar for the pollinators were added to the ever-growing list of blooms in this beautiful garden.

National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the National Wildlife Federation network together to encourage cities, communities and citizens to help the monarch butterfly flourish, whose numbers have declined about 90% in the last 20 years. Kloma Laws, Bartlesville Center Chairman, approached the city asking if they would partner to make Bartlesville a “Mayors for Monarchs City”. A committee was formed and the city and the Bartlesville Council members have worked to meet the criteria that qualified the city for that designation. The Council sponsored an open-to-the-public Program about the Monarch butterfly and its plight at the Bartlesville Public Library that was well attended.

The University of Kansas has a monarch research program that encourages people to help the monarch through one of its projects, the “Monarch Waystation”. An application was made this summer and the Corner garden has recently received designation as a “Monarch Waystation”.

Providing nectar and host plants for the monarch, and other butterflies, at the Corner flowerbed is a ‘Waystation’ created for resident monarchs and future migrating Monarchs. Monarchs have been visiting the garden recently on their fall migration!

Bartlesville Mayor Dale Copeland presented the Monarch Waystation Certificate to Nita Swan, Flowerbed Chairman and Northeast District President of Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Judy Grotts, thanked the garden club members for their tireless efforts to make the Corner of Frank Phillips Boulevard and US Highway 75 a beautiful welcome to Bartlesville. Other guests included South Central Region of National Garden Clubs Director, Linda Lawson, State President of Oklahoma Garden Clubs, April Pratt, Bartlesville Parks Department representatives, Washington County Master Gardener members and community residents.

Display tables of Monarch caterpillars, magnifying lenses, life cycle figures showing the various stages in the life-cycle of the Monarch, Monarch Joint Venture bookmarks and information about the best plants to attract pollinators to a garden; a handout list of on-line references, free packets of butterfly plant seed, bottled water and out-door prizes were street-side at the top of the slope.

By providing food, shelter and host plants the past two years, the “Mayors for Monarchs” program has enriched the garden that prompted the certificate for the “Monarch Waystation”.

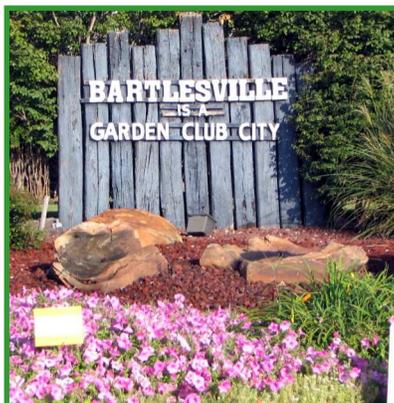
*And the Garden will continue to grow and grow and grow!*

**Bartlesville Garden Clubs gratefully thanks:**

- National Garden Clubs, Inc.’s \$1,000 grant,
- Jane Phillips Society \$250 grant,
- City of Bartlesville Parks Department,
- Ted & Melody Lyon Foundation, OSU,
- Green Thumb & Evans nurseries, Lowe’s,
- Siemens Corporation volunteers, Tri County Tech volunteers,
- United Way Project/Phillips 66 team for spreading mulch before the Waystation dedication,
- and every unnamed volunteer for their countless hours of dedication...**



*Submitted by Donna Marscheck, SCR Alternate Director*



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced an extension of the deadline to determine whether the monarch butterfly warrants Endangered Species Act protection. They said that with the agreement of the plaintiffs, the Service will continue efforts to collect data and analyze the monarch's status and threats until December 15, 2020.

Numbers of monarchs have decreased significantly over the last 20 years, it will not be fixed today with just this waystation, but it's a step in the right direction.

**WE** need to continue to support the planting of the State of Oklahoma with nectar, and host plants for food, and provide and met the other needs of the monarch. Thanks to caring people, building and planting waystations like this, we are seeing some improvement.

In 2013 the Save the Monarch Project was in full swing. Four years ago, many of our garden club members went to the state capital and had a proclamation signed to Save the Monarchs. We are still promoting Save the Monarchs, members like Kloma Laws and Donna Marsheck have passed out milk weed seeds at several club meetings here in the Northeast District and at the Wildflower Workshop held here last year we were able to buy plants that would aid the monarchs.

The latest information I could find has Oklahoma with 476 Way Stations registered and that Oklahoma is in the top 30 states with registered waystations. Over 250 of those stations are in the Northeast District, due to the migration one of our sister South Central Region states, Texas is in the top 10, New Mexico, and Arkansas had several registered. A few registering stations names caught my eye, there is no way I can list them all, Sorry.

Arkansas: Sherrie Eoff, Sherry Clements Cabot, Tom and Jill King, Wendy Robinson, Crystal Bridges. New Mexico: John and Debra Sorrell, Caitlin Vigil, John S. Daly, Mary Erwin, Oklahoma: Joyce Parson, Rubye Atkinson Garden Center, Linda Gott, Carolyn McCabe, Patrick and Sue Lovelace, Vickie Middleton. Just to name a few I know there are a lot more I think every college in Texas has at least one Waystation. So, as a region we make a pretty good showing of Monarch Awareness, and are trying to provide what they need in their migration.

When Checking the registry, I noticed that Oklahoma had waystations registered before 2013, also noticed one registered all the way back in 2007, Webb Wings Butterfly Farm at Chandler. Some of our stations are small and like Laws Land some are Colossal, over 5000sq feet. I am sure size matters in the long run but any space we can plant food for butterflies would help. It all adds up.

Thank you for inviting me, and thank you Bartlesville for your support of the Oklahoma Garden Clubs, and Northeast District in our Environmental projects, a special thanks to Council President Kloma Laws, Green Thumb President Charlene Wells, and President Donna Marsheck of Hopeful Redbud, and all the of the people who have worked so hard to make this day happen.

Remember: "Plant a seed for thought, Plant a seed of knowledge, and Plant a Seed of Kindness" it costs nothing and the rewards are well worth your time.

Judy Grotts, Northeast District President 2019-2021



L to R - Nita Swan, Judy Grotts, Mayor Copeland, Brenda Hansen, and Kloma Lawson



Nita Swan and Mayor Copeland

## Texas Gardening School News

District VII of Texas held its first NGC Gardening School – Series 17, Course 1, on August 24 & 25, 2019 at the San Antonio Garden Center. Twenty-six students were in attendance, with eight attending for refresher.

Our instructor was Dr. Joe Novak, professor at Rice University & University of Texas Health Science Center - Houston. Topics covered included Botany, Soils, Propagation, and Growing Outdoor Flowers. Our supplemental subject was Holistic Gardening.

Dr. Novak led the students through a hands-on workshop where we participated in the different forms of propagation – grafting, cuttings, seed planting and division and separation.

**Gardening School Course 2 covering the topics of Plant Diseases & Garden Pests, Irrigation & Water, Lawn Alternatives & Growing Grass, Growing Fruit and Growing Vegetables is planned for February 2020.**

Pictured below are all those who participated. The local chair was Cecelia A. Lussen, District VII Director. Co-chairs were Lee Taylor and Judith Boeckner. For more information or to get on the list for a registration brochure for Course 2 to be held in San Antonio contact: Cecelia A. Lussen at [lussencal@att.net](mailto:lussencal@att.net)



## New Mexico Gardening School Series - **COMPLETED!**

In August of 2018, New Mexico Garden Clubs began its first Gardening School Series in Albuquerque with twenty-one students from three western states taking Course I for credit. All students passed with flying colors! Course II was held in February 2019 at the Rio Grande Nature Center State Park and Course III was held in late May at the Albuquerque Botanical Gardens. Our final course, # IV, was held August 9-10, 2019 at the Rio Grande Nature Center and the Bernalillo County Extension Demonstration Gardens. This first NM Gardening School series had many excellent instructors, great tours and educational and informative topics.

Congratulations to the following students who passed all four courses and are now Garden Consultants!

Suzy Andrego  
Donna Baremore  
Carolyn Bucklen  
Brenda Griego  
Laurie Hixson

Doris Jackson  
Curtis Montgomery  
Pat Montgomery  
Isabel Olsen  
Jan Smith

At the printing of this issue, I do not have a firm date for our next Gardening School Series, but I am hoping to get New Mexico's Series II, Course I going in mid-February of 2020. Please consider joining us if you want to get started in the Gardening School classes or if you are lacking School I or need to refresh!

Contact Debi Harrington at [photodebi@gmail.com](mailto:photodebi@gmail.com) if you are interested in the new series!



## Arkansas' Fall Board Meeting

was held recently in Star City and it brought in fourteen first time attendees from Arkansas garden clubs as well as one "New Member", Ima Gardener! It seems they are working hard to grow their state's membership by "**21% by '21**", the Challenge given to us by National Garden Clubs!



Members of the Southeast District who organized the recent AFGG Mid-Year Meeting are: L-R - Reatha Venditta, Faye Jackson, Hope Robinson, Nancy Rana-AFGC President, Glenda Tolson, 'Ima Gardener', Teresa Scifres, Joann Hopper, Marion Baggett, and Barbara Austin.

**Who?** All NGC Clubs!  
**What?** A Challenge from NGC!  
**When?** 2019 - 2021  
**Where?** Wherever there is a NGC Club!  
**Why?** We must increase our membership and share the joy of gardening!



**Ima Gardener**

**HOW?** By letting our members know that:  
**"MEMBERS MATTER MOST!"**  
and by adopting great programs so that  
**"EACH ONE WILL BRING ONE!"**

Meet Arkansas' newest "member" Ima Gardener. Her lovely attire was created by Glenda Tolson and Joann Hopper for the 2019 Arkansas Federated Garden Clubs Meeting held in Star City, Arkansas.

## Arkansas Symposium

The Arkansas Judges Council hosted a successful Symposium at the 4-H Center in Little Rock, Arkansas on September 9, 10, and 11th, 2019. There were around 25 in attendance during the three days .

Frances Thrash, a NGC Design Instructor from Virginia presented a excellent class on Featured Plant Material and Grouped Mass Designs . NGC Horticulture Instructor, Dot Yard, from Pennsylvania presented a wonderful class on Composite Flowers and Roses. There were several beautiful designs on display representing different design categories. There were also an array of superior horticulture specimens on display.

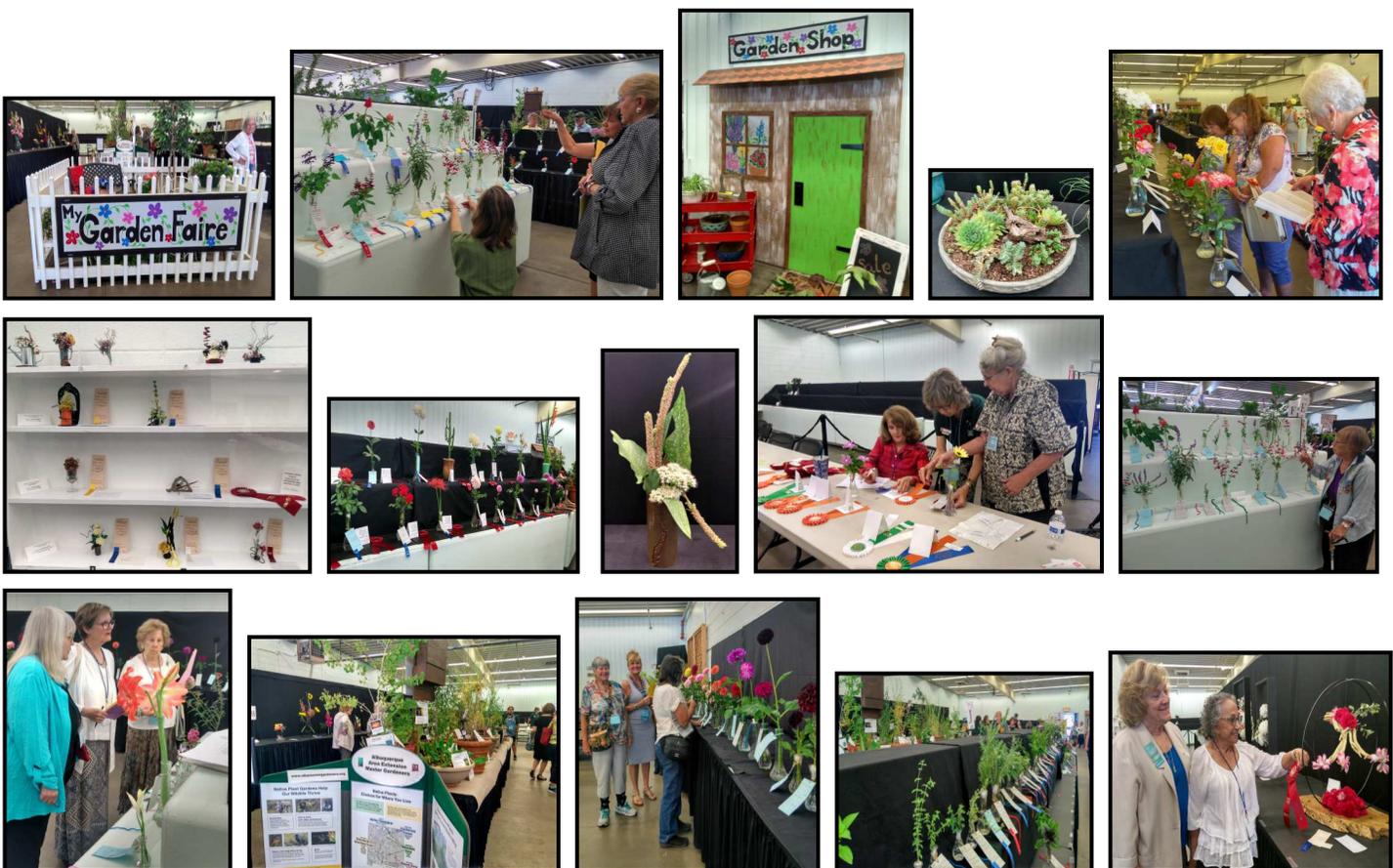
Many thanks to Jo Krallman and all the Arkansas Judges Council members who worked so very hard to make the 2019 Symposium such a successful event!



## New Mexico State Fair - SIX Flower Shows in Succession?!!

The New Mexico State Fair was held September 5-15, 2019 in Albuquerque, NM. Having begun on October 3, 1881; 138 years ago, as the “New Mexico Territorial Fair”, it is one of the oldest continually held state fairs. Each year hundreds of thousands of competitors and visitors attend the eleven day event. AND, for over 50 years, New Mexico’s NGC accredited judges, with the help of a few plant society judges, have judged four to five shows of horticulture, floriculture and floral designs each year! Each year several judges write a new schedule, always with a different theme, that inspires the designers to compete. That theme is also carried out through the horticulture and youth divisions. Each year over 55 judges positions are filled during the four or five adult and two youth shows. These include Student Judges, Accredited, Life and Master level judges. NM State Fair Judges travel from all four corners of our large state. Another 75 or more garden club members, plant society members and master gardeners volunteer for dozens of positions to help put on the shows each year. The public is always in awe of the shows, with many saying it is one of their absolute favorite things to see each year at the Fair! It is a LARGE SCALE gardening community effort and a great way to gain new members in our clubs!

Let’s all give KUDOS to ALL of our SCR Judges!



## Life Membership ~ South Central Region



Holidays are coming, gift giving is on your mind. Think about a SCR life membership for that someone special on your list.

A wonderful gift for members in your Club, District, State or our Region.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$50 + PIN \$5 = \$55

Pins are available with a magnet back or standard pin back.

All proceeds from the SCR Life Membership sales go to the \$1000 SCR Scholarship given in the second year of a term. (That will be 2021.)

Order from:

MaryAnn Holman, SCR Life Membership Chairman  
505 South First St.  
Walters, OK 73572

### *A NGC Design Holiday Specialty Flower Show*

*November 16, 2019*

*Ruby Atkinson Garden Center*

*1441 N. Key Blvd. Midwest City, OK*

*Free and Open to the Public 12 noon to 3 pm*

*The Oklahoma Council of Flower Show Judges is hosting a Holiday Design Specialty Show, 'Joy to the World', on November 16, 2019. It will be held at our Headquarters in Midwest City, Oklahoma.*

*Joy to the World*

## **Conservation and Environmental Concerns**

*The following was written by Cecelia A. Lussen, the current District VII Director of TGC who recently chaired the San Antonio Gardening School. Her story was published in the Lone Star Gardener in 2018. I verified the science with my EE husband, also an Amateur Radio geek and he says it is all absolutely true science.*

A funny thing happened on my way to conserving electricity and helping to keep our electric bill low....it's an innocent thing, something we should all be doing; saving electricity where we can.

In fact the government stepped in and mandated all incandescent lights bulbs be phased out in favor of the more energy efficient CFLs which were the first new generation lights bulbs that we were persuaded to switch to.

Although they had the undesirable effort of taking several minutes to get full brightness to really produce the desired "bright white light" that the "old" incandescent light bulbs put out, we still used them in the name of conservation!

Later we consumers would have access to LED light bulbs, which reached full brightness almost instantly, but some people complained put out too "White" of a luminosity.

Fine, we lived with that and yes, we are conserving energy!

Recently one of the old incandescent bulbs (last one around this house!) went out in our electric garage door opener. Our model has two lights, one on either side of the main control unit. Once becoming aware of the darkness of the garage with the door down, husband was dispatched to "fix it". He's taller and has no problems climbing a ladder. He installed one of the LED bulbs we have in stock around the house.

Soon we started having problems with our garage door not closing after we pulled out. No matter how much we pushed that close/open button on either remote in his big truck or my little PT convertible that big old door just would not go down once we had exited the garage and were still sitting in the driveway or had just pulled up in the driveway and hit the button. How frustrating! We took the remote off the shade visor held it in our hand and pushed the button. We held it out the car window while still behind the wheel with the engine going. We got out of the car right up against the garage door. NADA.

The control panel just inside the house door would work fine. Just open the house door to the garage push the button and up it went. The remote keypad outside the garage door worked fine. Hands all dirty from pulling weeds to take to the compost bag in the garage; push the code buttons, hit enter and up it goes. But those remotes in the vehicles just wouldn't work.

But you see, my husband in his career was an Electronic Technician and on top of that is an Amateur Radio Operator (WA4ILH) and he figured it out. One disadvantage of LED light bulbs is that they produce radio frequency (RF) noises, which can disrupt the normal operation of a radio receiver. And garage door remotes are nothing more than radio receivers.

Bulbs which are manufactured domestically, meet Federal Communication Commission (FCC) standards for Radio Frequency (RF) noise emission; however many imported bulbs mostly from China produce high noise levels. Unfortunately, these Chinese bulbs are swamping the market in the big box stores. Each time we pushed the button on the car remote sending the RF signal to the main unit that raised or lowered the garage door, the RF from the LED bulb would interfere with the RF from the remote. And that's what was causing our problem. Once he troubleshot the problem the LED bulb was replaced with CFL and no more problems.

Moral of story....read them labels, buy American!

Cecelia



## Test Your Vision

# 2020

# SCR

## Annual

## Convention

April 22 & 23, 2020

Little Rock, Arkansas

Ways & Means is sharpening their “20/20 Vision” to provide a wide variety of plants and gardening items that you will certainly want to take home. In addition to gardening items, there will be a wide variety of unique plants, hanging baskets, books, and even some jewelry and accessories. So bring your “20/20 Vision” to view our many treasures. I am sure you will find something that appeals to your vision. *(Merchandise donations are welcome. Use your “2020 Vision” to scope out some long lost treasures in your storage closet that might just be a “vision of beauty” for someone else.)*

SCR Ways & Means Committee

Joann Hopper

Glenda Tolson

Venita Womble

*“The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision.”*

*Helen Keller*



## **ESPOMA & NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS INC. WANT TO PLANT AMERICA!**

Members of National Garden Clubs (NGC) are passionate about growing with a purpose and The Espoma Company wants to help. We're looking for local clubs with vision that we can help bring to life. We're selecting up to 20 clubs with projects in 2020 to receive a \$250 grant for Espoma plant foods and potting soils.

### **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

- Grant applications for 2020 are accepted October 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020.
- Simply complete the form online.
- Be sure to attach 'before' photos and your plan AND...Tell us when your project is scheduled to begin.

### **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

- NGC / Espoma will select grant awards.

**Selected winning projects will be directed to a local retailer for their product grant.**

### **WHEN PROJECT IS COMPLETE**

- Send photos of your project site with work completed.
- Forward local press information so we can send a press release about your good work!

### **WHAT WE WILL DO WITH YOUR SUBMISSIONS**

- Share on social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, etc.).
- Release to press for publication.

If you experience problems with the Espoma application page please email **John Harrison** from the web page.

### **The Grant Program**

Espoma's 'Plant America' Grant Program was announced at the 2017 NGC Annual Convention in Richmond. Grants for \$250 of Espoma products can be awarded to up to 20 NGC clubs annually. Since that time, over 30 grants have been awarded to clubs in 22 states. These creative NGC clubs have used this resource to beautify their local surroundings and improve the quality of life for their friends and neighbors.

### **APPLY NOW!**

Applying for the Espoma Plant America grant is easy. Simply click on the link to the Espoma Grant Program Application, complete the form, add any 'before' photos, and click 'submit.' We look forward to receiving your application before the May 31, 2019 deadline! Go to <https://www.espoma.com/garden-clubs/> to fill out an application for your club's qualifying project!

Contact Debi Harrington if you have questions about the grant program: [photodebi@gmail.com](mailto:photodebi@gmail.com) or 505-206-0930

## Educational Opportunities

**Symposium – November 1-3, 2019 Albuquerque, NM**

Registrar: Debra Sorrell | Phone: (505) 615-8564

Instructors: Design: Penny Decker | *tapestry & abstract*

Horticulture: Dot Yard | *house plants grown for foliage & botanical arts, allied topic: compiling a book of evidence for FS achievement award*

**Flower Show School Course I: January 20-22, 2020 Houston TX**

**Environmental School Course I: January 24-26, 2020 Groesbeck, TX**

Registrar: Sarah McReynolds | Phone: (254) 747-1144

**Flower Show School Course III: March 24-26, 2020 Dallas, TX**

Registrar: Joyce Cochran | Phone: (214) 357-1147

Instructors: Design: Parke Finold | *creative design*

FSP & Horticulture: Pam Braun | *illex and hellebore*

**Gardening School I - February 2020 TBA Albuquerque, NM**

Registrar: Debra Sorrell | Phone: (505) 615-8564

**Environmental School III & IV - Feb/Mar 2020 TBA Oklahoma**

**Tri-Refresher: May 11, 2020 Milwaukee, WI (at the NGC Convention)**



## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE REGION

- ◆ **November 1-3, 2019** Judges Symposium - Albuquerque, NM
- ◆ **November 16, 2019** 'Joy to the World' Design Show - Midwest City, OK
- ◆ **November 18, 2019** Tulsa GC 'Rock-n-Roll' Event - Tulsa, OK
- ◆ **January 20-22, 2020** Flower Show School I - Houston, TX
- ◆ **January 24-26, 2020** Environmental School I - Groesbeck, TX
- ◆ **February 2020 TBA** Gardening School I - Albuquerque, NM
- ◆ **February 2020 TBA** Gardening School II - San Antonio, TX
- ◆ **February/March 2020 TBA** Environmental Schools III & IV OK
- ◆ **February 28-March 1, 2020** Arkansas Flower and Garden Show - Little Rock, AR
- ◆ **April 8-10, 2020** New Mexico Garden Clubs Convention - Las Cruces, NM
- ◆ **April 22-23, 2020** **SCR Convention - Little Rock, Arkansas**
- ◆ **May 1-2, 2020** Oklahoma Garden Clubs Convention - Atoka, OK
- ◆ **May 11, 2020** NGC Tri-Refresher - Milwaukee, WI
- ◆ **May 11-16, 2020** **NGC Convention - Milwaukee, WI**

*Make plans now to join in the fun and learning at the 2020 SCR and NGC Conventions!*

## SCR Garden Clubs Mission Statement

*National Garden Clubs, Inc. provides education resources and national networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic & environmental responsibility.*

### LEARN MORE ABOUT SCR AND NGC BY VISITING THEIR WEBSITES

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC. website is [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION website is [www.scrgardenclubs.org](http://www.scrgardenclubs.org)

Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. website is [www.arkansasfgc.com](http://www.arkansasfgc.com)

New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. website is [www.newmexicogardenclubs.org](http://www.newmexicogardenclubs.org)

Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc. website is [www.oklahomagardenclubs.com](http://www.oklahomagardenclubs.com)

Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. website is [www.texasgardenclubs.org](http://www.texasgardenclubs.org)

### The South Central Region Website address: [scrgardenclubs.org](http://scrgardenclubs.org)



Isabel Olsen — Webmaster  
[isabelolsen.nmgc@gmail.com](mailto:isabelolsen.nmgc@gmail.com)



To access the Members Section use the  
 password - GROW!  
 (Don't forget the exclamation point)

South Central Region is also  
 on Facebook (SCR Garden Clubs) and Twitter!



### South Central Communicator Editor

Debi Harrington

Communicator Email address: [scrcommunicatore201921@gmail.com](mailto:scrcommunicatore201921@gmail.com)

COMMUNICATOR ARTICLE DUE DATE	COMMUNICATOR PUBLISH DATE
March 1	March 15
June 1	June 15
September 1	September 15
December 1	December 15

Please note that articles may be sent anytime before the above due dates in the left column. We need articles from all SCR State Presidents and Chairpersons. We need school dates, as well as important and fun event dates. We'd love photos and news from our busy SCR clubs.