

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
82nd ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING
MINUTES

JW Marriott Hotel, Washington D.C.

Friday, May 27, 2011

Call to Order The President, Renee D. Blaschke, called the meeting of the 82nd Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, May 27, 2011 at the JW Marriott Hotel, Washington D.C. and welcomed those in attendance.

The Recording Secretary, Robin Pokorski, was present.

Opening Exercises Kristie Livreri, President of Nevada Garden Clubs, gave the invocation.

The colors were presented by the United States Forest Service Honor Guard.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Robyn McCarthy, President of Idaho Garden Clubs, Inc.

Dr. Ramon Jordan, Interim Associate Director, read a letter of greeting from Dr. Colien Heffernan, Director of the United States Forest Service and presented a plaque of greetings to President Blaschke.

Carmie DeVito, Central Atlantic Region Director, gave the welcome on behalf of the Central Atlantic Region.

Mary Ellen Alden, President of National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc. welcomed all to the District of Columbia.

Elaine DiPietro, President of The Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc. gave the response.

Preliminary Credentials Report Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. May 27, 2011 with a voting strength of 286 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	1
NGC Elected Officers	7
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Regional Directors	8
Advisory Committee	4
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	33
Representatives of State Presidents	7
NGC Chairmen	111
NGC Standing Committee Members	93
Delegates	<u>50</u>
Subtotal	324
Less duplications	<u>38</u>
Total Voting Strength	286

ADOPTED

Quorum The Chair declared a quorum present.

Standing Rules of the 2011 Convention Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian, read the Standing Rules of the 2011 Convention for adoption.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

Convention Program Dale DeFeo, 2011 Convention Chairman, moved the adoption of the convention program as corrected. **ADOPTED**

Preliminary Registration Report Poss Tarpley, 2011 Convention Registration Committee Chairman, gave the registration report as of 2:00 p.m. May 27, 2011 for information only.

Voting Strength	286
Non-Voting Members	152
Spouses	43
Guests	<u>42</u>
Total Registration	523

Committee to Approve Minutes President Blaschke appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2011 Convention Meeting:
Linda Nelson, Second Vice-President as Chairman
Sandra Robinson, Third Vice-President
Nancy Hargroves, Fourth Vice-President

Timekeepers President Blaschke appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:
Jo Ann Wade, Membership Committee Member
Greg Pokorski, Gardening Studies Schools

Tellers President Blaschke appointed the following to serve as tellers:
Pat Westgard, Grants Committee Chairman, Head Teller
Carol J. Catlin, New Cultivars Chairman, Plant Society Liaison
Stephanie Greene, President, The Garden Club of Illinois, Inc.

Pages President Blaschke acknowledged the pages present.

Welcome The President welcomed the former NGC Presidents: Deen Day Sanders, Honorary Life President, (1999-2001); Lois Schuster (2002 –2003); Kitty Larkin (2005-2007); and Barbara D. May, Immediate Past President, (2007-2009).

President Blaschke recognized the Regional Directors:
Kathleen Thomas, New England; Carmie DeVito, Central Atlantic; Carolyn Patterson, South Atlantic; Mary Sue Colvin, Deep South; Joan Hood, Central; Mary Ann Moreno, South Central; Sandra Dennis, Rocky Mountain; Sandra Ford, Pacific

President Blaschke presented the PH&E Trustees:
Joan B. Wipperman, Gerry St. Peters, June Kummer, Kitty Larkin, and Barbara May, Director.

Report of the Committee to Approve the Minutes Linda Nelson, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May 2010 Convention meeting in Atlanta, Georgia reported that the minutes were approved and circulated.

Reports of Officers The following officers reported (copies on file):
Renee, D. Blaschke, President
Shirley S. Nicolai, First Vice-President, Liaison to State Garden Club Presidents and Regional Directors, Membership Chairman
Linda Nelson, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee Chairman, Internal Audit Committee Chairman
Sandra H. Robinson, Third Vice-President, Organization Study and Award of Excellence Committee Chairman, Plant It Pink Project Chairman
Nancy Hargroves, Fourth Vice-President, Scholarship Committee Chairman, Coordinator for Outreach Committees
Robin L. Pokorski, Recording Secretary
Barbara Mikkelson, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman

Virginia GrandPrè, Corresponding Secretary
 Judi Davis, Historian
 Joan H. Corbisiero, Parliamentarian
 Barbara D. May, PH&E Trustees Director

Reports of Regional Directors

The following Regional Directors reported (copies on file):
 Kathleen Thomas, New England
 Carmie DeVito, Central Atlantic
 Carolyn Patterson, South Atlantic
 Mary Sue Colvin, Deep South
 Joan Hood, Central
 Mary Ann Moreno, South Central
 Sandra Dennis, Rocky Mountain
 Sandra Ford, Pacific

Announcements

The following chairmen made announcements:
 Deen Day Sanders – WAFA Liaison
 Dale DeFeo – Convention Chairman
 Patricia Cargnoni, Habitat for Humanity Chairman
 Elaine Dates – Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Chairman
 Kathleen Thomas – Incoming Communications Committee – Non Print

Adjourn

The opening business session adjourned at 4:27 p.m. to meet again at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 28, 2011.

Call to Order

President Renee D. Blaschke called the business meeting of the 82nd Annual Convention to order at 9:04 a.m. on Saturday, May 28, 2011.

Invocation

Carol L. Hall, President, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., gave the invocation.

Interim Credentials Report

Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Interim Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. May 28, 2011 with a voting strength of 346 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	1
NGC Elected Officers	7
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Regional Directors	8
Advisory Committee	4
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	42
Representatives of State Presidents	7
NGC Chairmen	127
NGC Standing Committee Members	101
Delegates	<u>85</u>
Subtotal	392
Less duplications	<u>46</u>
Total Voting Strength	346

ADOPTED

Interim Registration Report

Poss Tarpley, 2011 Convention Registration Chairman, gave the registration report as of 8:00 a.m. May 28, 2011 for information only.

Voting Strength	346
Non-Voting Members	164
Spouses	44
Guests	<u>46</u>
Total Registration	600

Nominating Committee Report	<p>Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary, read the bylaws pertinent to the election of officers.</p> <p>Donna Pair, Nominating Committee Chairman, introduced the members of the Nominating Committee and submitted the slate of officers for 2011 – 2013 as nominated by the committee:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Linda Nelson, First Vice-President Sandra H. Robinson, Second Vice-President Nancy Hargroves, Third Vice-President Gay L. Austin, Recording Secretary Patsy Ruth Miller, Treasurer</p>
Election of Officers	<p>As there were no other nominations from the floor, the election was held by voice vote and all of the above were elected.</p> <p>Shirley S. Nicolai, President-Elect will serve as President.</p>
Report of the Board of Directors	<p>Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary reported that the Board of Directors had met two times since the 2010 Annual Convention in Atlanta – at the 2010 Fall Board Meeting in Great Falls, Montana and prior to the 2011 Convention in Washington D.C. on May 27. Informational sheets reflecting actions taken were distributed to the board members and delegates.</p>
Amendments to Bylaws	<p>Linda Nelson, Finance Committee Chairman, on behalf of the Finance Committee, moved the adoption of the following amendments to the bylaws, effective June 1, 2011:</p> <p><u>ARTICLE XVI – FINANCES</u></p> <p>Section 2. FINANCE COMMITTEE</p> <p>C. Funds –Page 21</p> <p>2. Restricted and Endowment:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>a) Permanent Home and Endowment Fund – Page 21</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2) Strike “A percentage not to exceed eighty (80) percent of the average annual return over the past ten (10) years as determined by the Finance committee and the Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:” <i>(remainder unchanged)</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Insert “A percentage, not to exceed <u>five (5) percent of the value averaged over the past three (3) years</u> as determined by the Finance Committee and the Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:” <i>(remainder unchanged)</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>b) Scholarship Fund – Page 22</u></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">2) Strike “A percentage not to exceed eighty (80) percent of the average annual return over the past ten (10) years as determined by the Finance Committee, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Insert “A percentage, not to exceed <u>five (5) percent of the value averaged over the past three (3) years</u> as determined by the Finance Committee, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:” <i>(remainder unchanged)</i></p>

c) Operation Wildflower Fund – Page 23

2) **Strike** “A percentage not to exceed eighty (80) percent of the average annual return over the past ten (10) years as determined by the Finance Committee of unrestricted cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for.”

Insert “A percentage, not to exceed five (5) percent of the value averaged over the past three (3) years as determined by the Finance Committee, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for.” *(remainder unchanged)*

d) NGC Endowment Fund – Page 23

2) **Strike** “A percentage not to exceed eighty (80) percent of the average annual return over the past ten (10) years as determined by the Finance Committee of unrestricted cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for.”

Insert “A percentage, not to exceed five (5) percent of the value averaged over the past three (3) years as determined by the Finance Committee, of unrestricted cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for.”

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

Budgets

The 2011-2012 annual budgets of the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund and the Operation Wildflower Fund were presented for adoption.

ADOPTED

The 2011-2012 annual budget for the PH&E Fund, adopted by the Board of Directors, was presented for information only.

Reports of State Presidents

The following State Presidents (or their representatives) reported (copies on file):

Central Atlantic Region – Carmi DeVito, Director

Alice Witterholt	The Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs
Jeanne Davis	The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.
Mary Warshauer	The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.
Elaine DiPietro	Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.
Betty Cookendorfer	The Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
Mary Ellen Alden	National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc.
Angela Raitano	The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania

Pacific Region – Sandra Ford, Director

Carol Norquist	Alaska Garden Clubs
Sharron Luoma	Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Julie West, President-Elect	California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Ann Swider	Hawaii Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Robyn McCarthy	Idaho Garden Clubs, Inc.
Kristie Livreri	Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.
Garnet Ascher, President-Elect	The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Carolyn Erickson	Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

Recess

The business session recessed at 11:42 a.m. to reconvene after luncheon at 2:00 p.m.

No report Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.
 President not in attendance.
 Norman DeNeal Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 Delroy Hemsath Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska
 Terry Kroke North Dakota State Federation of Garden Clubs
 Beverly Heidelberger South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 Lynnette Jeffres Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 Denise Fink Rocky Mountain Region member for
 The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc. President

Deep South Region – Mary Sue Colvin, Director

Ann Daniels The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.
 Carol Hall Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 Betty Grimes The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
 Donna Bucci Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
 Gay Austin The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.
 Alice Overton Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Reports of Chairmen

The following chairmen reported: (Copies on file.)
 Barbara May, Wafa
 Candace Morgenstern, Natural Disasters USA Chairman
 Robin Pokorski, Flickr Chairman
 Jo Sellers, Youth Chairman
 Pat Cargnoni, Habitat for Humanity
 Patrice Lineberger, Girl Scout Liaison

Future Conventions

Anne Bucher, Conventions Coordinator reported on future convention locations:
 2012 Buffalo, New York – Adams Mark Hotel, May 16-19
 2013 Seattle, Washington – May 24-26
 2014 Oklahoma TBD
 2015 Kentucky TBD

Invitation to 2012
 Convention Meeting

Babbidean Urban Huber, 2012 Convention Chairman, extended an invitation to the 83rd annual Convention in Buffalo, New York.

Final Credentials Report

Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Final Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. May 29, 2011 with a voting strength of 351 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	1
NGC Elected Officers	7
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Regional Directors	8
Advisory Committee	4
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	42
Representatives of State Presidents	7
NGC Chairmen	127
NGC Standing Committee Members	101
Delegates	<u>90</u>
Subtotal	397
Less duplications	<u>46</u>
Total Voting Strength	351

ADOPTED

Interim Registration Report	Poss Tarpley, 2011 Convention Registration Committee Chairman, gave the registration report as of 2:15 p.m. May 29, 2011 for information only. Voting Strength351 Non-Voting Members178 Spouses45 Guests..... <u>63</u> Total Registration 637
Adjourn	The President adjourned the business session at 4:37 p.m. to reconvene at the Installation Banquet.
Call to Order	Renee D. Blaschke, President, called the meeting to order at 9:04 p.m. on Sunday, May 29, 2011.
Courtesy Resolution	Pamela C. Hebert, Resolutions Chairman, read the Courtesy Resolution. <div style="text-align: right;">ADOPTED</div>
Benediction	Nell Denman, Chaplain, gave the benediction.
Adjourn Sine Die	President Renee D. Blaschke adjourned the 82 nd Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. at 9:13 p.m. on Sunday, May 29, 2011 Sine Die.

Robin L Pokorski

Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary	Date
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Renee D. Blaschke

Renee D. Blaschke, President	Date
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Linda Nelson

Linda Nelson, Second Vice-President	Date
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Sandra H. Robinson

Sandra H. Robinson, Third Vice-President	Date
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Nancy L. Hargroves

Nancy L. Hargroves, Fourth Vice-President	Date
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