

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
88th ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING
MINUTES

Richmond Marriott Downtown, Richmond, Virginia

May 18-20, 2017

Call to Order President Sandra H. Robinson called the meeting of the 88th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2017 in the Capital Ballroom, at the Richmond Marriott Downtown in Richmond, Virginia and welcomed those in attendance.

Shirley A. Tetreault, Secretary, was present.

Opening Exercises Valerie C. Tipps, Vice-Chaplain, Nominating Committee member Deep South, gave the invocation.

The colors were presented by the James River High School Junior ROTC Color Guard.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by David Robson, *Handbook for Flower Shows* Revision Committee Chairman, FSS Horticulture Instructors Chairman, Gardens Committee Headquarters Grounds.

Levar M. Stoney, Mayor, brought greetings from the City of Richmond.

Sarah Ann Parler, South Atlantic Region Director, gave the welcome to the Region.

Janice M. Clem, President of Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Inc., welcomed all to the state of Virginia.

Sharon W. Brown, President, of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania Inc., gave the response.

Preliminary Credentials Report Jackie Reynolds, Credentials Chairman, gave the Preliminary Credentials Report as of 2:00 p.m. May 18, 2017 with a voting strength of 230 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	8
Advisory Committee	6
PH&E Trustees	6
State Presidents	50
Representatives of State Presidents	1
NGC Chairmen	112
NGC Standing Committee Members	109
Delegates	<u>68</u>
Subtotal	370
Less duplications	<u>140</u>
Total Voting Strength	230

Quorum The Chair declared a quorum present.

ADOPTED

Standing Rules of the 2017 Convention Joan H. Corbisiero, Parliamentarian, read the Standing Rules of the 2017 Convention for adoption.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

Convention Program Judy Binns, 2017 Convention Coordinator, moved the adoption of the convention agenda, as corrected.

ADOPTED

Preliminary Registration Report	<p>Kathy Ward, 2017 Convention Registration Committee Coordinator, gave the Registration Report as of 2:00 p.m. May 19, 2017 for information only.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">230</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spouses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guests</td> <td style="text-align: right;">29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-voting Garden Club members</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>290</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>570</u></td> </tr> </table>	Registration	230	Spouses	30	Guests	29	Non-voting Garden Club members	<u>290</u>	Total Registration	<u>570</u>
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Non-voting Garden Club members	<u>290</u>										
Total Registration	<u>570</u>										
Committee to Approve Minutes	<p>The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2017 Convention Meeting:</p> <p>Gay Austin, Second Vice-President, as Chairman Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary</p>										
Timekeepers	<p>The President appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:</p> <p>Mary Dixon, Gardens Committee Coordinator Debbie Hinchey, Award of Honor Committee Chairman</p>										
Tellers	<p>The President appointed the following to serve as tellers:</p> <p>Kay Fisher, President's Special Projects Coordinator, as Head Teller Donna Rouch, Nominating Committee, Rocky Mountain Region Mary Ann Moreno, Horticulture Committee, Container Gardening/Pollinators Chairman Joyce Bulington, Communications/print committee</p>										
Pages	<p>The President acknowledged the pages present:</p> <p>Mary Owen, Page to the President Janice Clem and Vicki Goodwin, Page to the President-Elect</p>										
Welcome	<p>The President welcomed former NGC Presidents Lois Shuster (2001-2003), Kitty Larkin (2005-2007), Barbara May (2007-2009), Renee D. Blaschke (2009-2011), Shirley S. Nicolai (2011-2013), and Linda Nelson Bentson, the Immediate Past-President.</p> <p>The President recognized the Region Directors: Vera Bowen, New England; Anne M. Bucher, Central Atlantic; Sarah Ann Parler, South Atlantic; Carol M. Bullard, Deep South; Judy Newman, Central; Barbara S. Baker, South Central; Darlene Skari; Rocky Mountain; Kristie Livreri, Pacific</p> <p>The President recognized the PH&E Trustees: Marge McGoff, Jeanette Pruin, and Barbara S. Baker. They serve with the other Trustees, Renee D. Blaschke, Shirley S. Nicolai, and Linda Nelson Bentson, Director.</p>										
Report of the Committee To Approve the Minutes	<p>Gay Austin, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May 2016 Convention meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan reported that the minutes were approved and circulated.</p>										
Reports of Officers	<p>The following officers reported (copies on file):</p> <p>Sandra H. Robinson, President Nancy Hargroves, President-Elect, Liaison to State Garden Club Presidents and Region Directors. Gay Austin, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee and Internal Audit Committee Chairman Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President, Organization Study and Award of Excellence Committee Chairman Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary</p>										

Betty Grimes, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman
 Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary
 Pamela C. Hebert, Historian
 Joan H. Corbisiero, Parliamentarian
 Linda Nelson Bentson, PH&E Trustees Director

- Memorial Service Valerie C. Tipps, Vice-Chaplain conducted the Memorial Service in remembrance of departed garden club members.
- Announcements Arabella Dane reported on the photo contest before we adjourned.
- Adjourn The business session adjourned at 3:31 p.m. to reconvene at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, May 19, 2017.
- Call to Order The President reconvened the business meeting at 9:03 a.m. on Friday, May 19, 2017.
- Invocation Greg Pokorski, ES, GS and LD Schools Coordinator, GS Committee Advisor gave the invocation.
- Interim Credentials Report Sally K. Warner, Credentials Vice-Chairman, gave the following interim Credentials Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 19, 2017 with a voting strength of 320 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	8
Advisory Committee	6
PH&E Trustees	6
State Presidents	49
Representatives of State Presidents	1
NGC Chairmen	135
NGC Standing Committee Members	104
Delegates	<u>105</u>
Subtotal	425
Less duplications	<u>105</u>
Total Voting Strength	320

ADOPTED

- Interim Registration Report Kathy Ward, 2017 Convention Registration Coordinator, gave the interim Registration Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 19, 2017 for information only.
- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Voting Strength | 320 |
| Spouses | 31 |
| Guests | 40 |
| Non-voting Garden Club members | <u>305</u> |
| Total Registration | 696 |

- Nominating Committee Report Nancy Voyles, Nominating Committee Chairman, introduced the members of the Nominating Committee and read the slate of officers for 2017-2019 as nominated by the committee:
- Gay Austin, First Vice-President
 Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President
 Brenda Moore, Third Vice-President
 Mary Owen, Recording Secretary
 Betty Grimes, Treasurer

Election of Officers Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary, read the bylaws pertinent to the election of officers.

As there were no other nominations from the floor, the chair declared all of the above elected with Nancy Hargroves, President-Elect, to serve as President.

Report of the Board of Directors Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary, reported that the Board of Directors had met two times since the last convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan - at the 2016 Fall Board Meeting in Portland, Maine, and in Richmond, Virginia on 5/18/17. Informational sheets reflecting actions taken were distributed to the board members and delegates.

Budgets Betty Grimes, Treasurer, presented the 2017-2018 annual budgets of the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund and the Operation Wildflower Fund for adoption.
ADOPTED

The 2017-2019 annual budget for the PH&E Fund, adopted by the Board of Directors, was presented for information only.

Bylaw Amendments Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President and Chairman of the Organization Study Committee presented the proposed bylaw amendments:

Amend by striking out words in ~~Strikethrough~~ font and inserting or adding Underlined words

ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP
Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP
Voting membership shall consist of members of State Garden Clubs that are ~~affiliated with~~ members of NGC.
ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP
Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP, A. Eligibility
A State Garden Club shall have been organized for a minimum of one year, ~~shall have a minimum membership of ten (10) clubs~~ and shall be recommended by the Director of the Region in which it is located.
ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP
Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP, B. Application
Application shall be submitted to the NGC Board of Directors ~~through the Director of the Region in which the State Garden Club is located.~~ from the State Garden Club. Application shall be accompanied by per capita dues and a typewritten list of names and addresses of state officers in order of rank, and state chairmen; and names of member clubs in alphabetical order including the names and addresses of the Presidents.
ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE VII – DUES, FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS
Section 1. DUES, A.
4. State Garden Clubs failing to remit dues by October 31 shall be excluded from any tabulations used to determine NGC Awards and shall not be eligible to submit Scholarship applicant(s).
ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE VIII – OFFICERS- ELIGIBILITY
Section 1. ELECTED OFFICERS
G. Officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, or until their successors are elected. No elected officer shall serve more than one term in the same office except

the Recording Secretary who may serve non-consecutive terms and the Treasurer who may serve no more than five (5) consecutive terms.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 2. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT,

E. Serve as a member of the Finance Committee, a member of the Internal Audit Committee, and ex officio a member of the Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees ~~and the Membership Committee.~~

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 2. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT,

H. Serve as a ~~signator~~ signatory on all NGC accounts
Proposal #7a:

Section 7. TREASURER,

P. Serve as a ~~signator~~ signatory on all NGC accounts

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 5. THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT,

E. Be responsible for publishing changes to NGC Standing Rules.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE XVI - COMMITTEES

Section 5. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee shall consist of a chairman appointed by the President with a minimum of six (6) members on the committee. ~~The First Vice President/President elect shall serve as ex officio member of this committee.~~

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE XVI - COMMITTEES

Section 6. ORGANIZATION STUDY COMMITTEE

The Organization Study Committee shall consist of the Third Vice President as Chairman and no more than eight members appointed by the President. ~~The Vice-Presidents~~ Second-Vice President, the Parliamentarian and the Executive Director shall attend the meetings and participate except for the right to make motions and the right to vote. The First Vice-President may attend as a guest.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

CONFORMING AMENDMENT

ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 2. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT,

F. Attend the meetings of the Organization Study Committee as a guest and participate except for the right to make motions and to vote.

Report

Arabella Dane reported on the results of the photo contest

Reports of Region Directors and State Presidents

The following Region Directors and State Presidents or their representatives reported. (copies on file)

South Atlantic Region - Sarah Ann Parler, Director

Edith Nelson	The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.
Judy Bond	The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.
Yvonne Anna Morris	The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.
Janice M. Clem	Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Judith A. Guye	West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.

Central Atlantic Region - Anne M. Bucher, Director

Marty N. Rushlow	The Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs
Nickola L. Schwab	The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.
Jo Sellers	National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc.
Susan O'Donnell	The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.
Patricia M. Wania	Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.
Lynn Fronk	The Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
Sharon W. Brown	The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Deep South Region - Carol M. Bullard, Director

Jan Thomas	The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.
Claudia Bates,	Incoming President Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Martha H. Price	The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
Jeanette Gatzman	Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc
Debby B. Cooper	The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.
Pamela L. Dowd	Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Recess The business session recessed at 10:37 a.m. to reconvene after luncheon.

Call to Order The President called the business meeting of the 88th Annual Convention to order at 3:03 p.m. on Friday, May 19, 2017.

Woodsy Owl joined the meeting. The Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster contest winners were announced.

Central Region - Judy Newman, Director

Laurel DeBoer	The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.
Jodi L. Meyer	The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
Loretta M. Daisy	Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc.
Marilyn M. McIntosh	Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
Betty Beck	Federated Garden Clubs of Minnesota, Inc.
Nancy Bahn	Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.
Gerianne Holzman	Wisconsin Garden Club Federation

Rocky Mountain Region - Darlene Skari, Director

Louise Niekerk	Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Jackie G. Watts	Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.
Linda H. Sadler	Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Charlotte A. Swanson	Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska
Les Westgard	North Dakota State Federation of Garden Clubs
Mary K. Lerssen	South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Geoff Ellis	The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.
Lynette Jeffres	Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. to reconvene at 9:30 a.m. on May 20, 2017.

Call to order The President called the business meeting of the 88th Annual Convention to order at 9:37 a. m. on Sunday May 20, 2017.

Invocation Becky Hassebroek, Bee a Wildlife Action Hero Chairman, gave the invocation.

The following Region Directors and State Presidents or their representatives reported. (copies on file)

Reports of the Region
Directors and State

South Central Region - Barbara S. Baker, Director

Rose Knight	Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
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Presidents	<p>Suzy Andrego New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. Mary Ann Holman Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc. Carol Moore Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.</p>										
	<p><u>Pacific Region</u> - Kristie Livreri Director Martie Black Alaska Garden Clubs Judy Tolbert Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Susan C. Bennett California Garden Clubs, Inc. Janet D. Petersen Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. Nancy Lee Loesch Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc. Shirley J. Schmidt The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Terry A. Critchlow Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs *Hawaii Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. - no representative</p>										
	<p><u>New England Region</u> - Vera Bowen, Director Jane M. Waugh The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc. Suzanne M. Bushnell The Garden Club Federation of Maine, Inc. Betty Sanders The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc. Jane W. Goodwin New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Blakeley, Szosz' Incoming President Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Susan Hinkle Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont, Inc.</p>										
Presidential Citation	The President presented Presidential Citations to Mary Ann Bryant, Tours Chairman and Neil Sanders, Author.										
Reports of Chairmen	<p>The following Committee Chairmen reported (copies on file). Andrea Little, Blue Star Memorial Markers Chairman Robin Pokorski, Leap into Leadership Chairman Mary Ann Bryant, Tours Chairman Isabel Olsen, Penny Pines Chairman Jacqueline L. Connell, Crown Bees Barbara Hadsell, Gardening Schools Chairman Martha Morgan, Wildflower Grants/Awards Committee Arabella Dane, Photography Contest Chairman Poss Tarpley, Webmaster Carcille C. Burchette, Plant It Pink Chairman Greg Pokorski, ES, GS, and LD Schools Coordinator Carolyn Golden Patterson, Native Plants Lynne Ehnert, Youth Coordinator</p>										
Future Conventions	<p>Becky Crow, Conventions Coordinator, and Pat Abercrombie, Vice-Coordinator, reported on future convention locations: 2018 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - May 21-24 at Loews Philadelphia Hotel 2019 Biloxi, Mississippi - April 30-May 5 at the Beau Rivage Hotel 2020 TBA 2021 New Jersey - TBA</p>										
Invitation to 2018 Convention Meeting	Pat Wolanski, 2018 Convention Coordinator, extended an invitation to the 89 th Annual Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.										
Final Credentials Report	<p>Jackie Reynolds, Credentials Chairman, gave the following final Credentials Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 20, 2017 with a voting strength of 233 and moved its adoption.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>NGC President</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NGC Honorary President</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NGC Elected Officers</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NGC Appointed Officers</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Region Directors</td> <td>8</td> </tr> </table>	NGC President	1	NGC Honorary President	0	NGC Elected Officers	5	NGC Appointed Officers	4	Region Directors	8
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Region Directors	8										

Advisory Committee	6
PH&E Trustees	6
State Presidents	49
Representatives of State Presidents	1
NGC Chairmen	112
NGC Standing Committee Members	109
Delegates	<u>71</u>
Subtotal	373
Less duplications	<u>140</u>
Total Voting Strength	233

ADOPTED

Final Registration report Kathy Ward, Convention Registration Chairman, gave the final Registration Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 20, 2017 for information only.

Voting Strength	233
Spouses	34
Guest & Speakers	55
Non-voting Garden Club members	<u>456</u>
Total	778

Adjournment The President adjourned the business session at 11:25 a.m. to reconvene at the Installation Banquet.

Call to Order The President, called the meeting to order at 9:20 p.m. on Saturday, May 20, 2017.

Courtesy Resolution Angela L. Raitano, Resolutions Chairman, read the Courtesy Resolution and moved its adoption.

ADOPTED

Benediction Valerie C. Tipps, Vice-Chaplain, gave the benediction.

Adjourn Sine Die The President adjourned the 88th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. at 9:28 p.m. on Saturday, May 20, 2017 sine die.

Shirley A. Tetreault _____ 6-12-17_
Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary Date

___ *Sandra H. Robinson* _____ 6-12-17_
Sandra H. Robinson, President Date

___ *Gay Austin* _____ 6-12-17_
Gay Austin , Second Vice-President Date

___ *Mary Warshauer* _____ 6-12-17___
Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President Date

___ *Robin Pokorski* _____ 6-12-17
Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary Date

