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WINTER 2017

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The National Gardener

Winter 2017 | Vol. 88, No. 1

National Garden Clubs, Inc.

6,000 Garden Clubs
200,000 Garden Club Members
50 States and the National Capital Area
70 National Affiliate Member Organizations
300 International Affiliate Member Organizations

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The National Gardener

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THE COVER

Beauty abounds in the
Louise B. Cochrane Rose Garden at
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.
Photo by Don Williamson

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“The world will not evolve past its current state of crisis by using the same thinking that created the situation.” - Albert Einstein

■ ■ What does a garden club do?” is a question I often hear on my travels. Our interests play a significant role in everything we do each day.

Gay Austin, NGC second vice president, and I were blessed with new granddaughters this fall. I welcomed twins Anna Sophia and Ava Grace. While waiting to enter the neonatal unit to visit Ava Grace, the younger of the twins, concerns for her health hit hard. As the nurse instructed us to wash our hands before entering, I wondered about what environmental contaminants I might be carrying in, such as the dyes and fibers in the fabrics of my clothing or in the composition of my shoes, and what possible effects they might have on the air quality within the unit. We, as garden club members, are all too keenly aware of the impact of our choices on the environment and the health of future generations.

Every day, we hear messages about another species that is endangered, the destruction of needed habitats, the decline of pollinators necessary for food production and the consequences of global warming. Garden club members promote the necessity of recycling with the Three R's in mind—Reduce, Reuse and

Recycle. In the book “Urban Recycling and the Search for Sustainable Community Development,” authors Adam S. Weinberg, David Naguib Pellow and Allan Schnaiberg state that more Americans recycle than vote. I believe most do so to improve their communities and the environment.

With our newest personal blessings came several gifts. But, I wondered about why the packaging often outweighs the present itself. Is all the plastic, Styrofoam and cardboard necessary? What happens to all of these materials once they are removed and placed in the trash or recycled? We accept the shelf life of products and are accustomed to replacing, rather than repairing. Not all recycling is created equal; while we may choose to recycle glass, plastics, paper and metal, the process to recycle these materials differs significantly. An accepted norm is downcycling, the slow destruction that involves breaking an item down into its components over time. Why do we accept, rather than challenge, the way it has always been done?

A fundamental problem lies within our concept of product production and use. Most products are designed to be thrown

away when we are finished using them. In the book “Cradle to Cradle,” authors William McDonough and Michael Braungart outline the cradle to grave approach to product production and consumerism. The current linear, one-way practice extracts resources, produces a product, sells it to consumers and eventually fills

“What environmental legacy are we leaving future generations?”

our landfills or incinerators.

What environmental legacy are we leaving future generations? Where and when do we begin to develop new technology and attitudes to product production and consumption? Upcycling was proposed in the 1990s by Braungart and other environmentalists. They envisioned products used as biological nutrients or technical nutrients at the end of their useful life. Biological nutrients are materials that can safely re-enter the environment. Technical nutrients are materials that remain in the industrial cycle. This cradle to cradle approach stops the depletion of natural resources and halts toxins from entering the environment due to manufacturing processes.

One exciting cradle to cradle product proposal is reusable paper. People need paper, but it is easily discarded. According to a Wikipedia® article, “The Environmental Impact of Paper,” an estimated 2,020 paper mills will produce approximately 400 million tons of paper and paperboard each year. The paper industry is the fifth-largest consumer of

energy, accounting for 4 percent of the world's energy use. Currently, paper accounts for approximately 35 percent of most municipal waste.

Xerox and other companies are developing reusable paper and environmentally friendly inks. One group is crowdsourcing funds on Indiegogo for the Rocketbook Wave, a smart notebook made from acid-free, fine grain, dot grid pattern paper with polypropylene bindings that may be used up to five times. After scanning the pages with an app on your cell phone, the images are sent to online data storage and the notebook's contents are erased. After a few minutes in the microwave, you have a clean, ready-to-use paper notebook.

What about these other possibilities?

- What if a car could become a “nutrivehicle,” designed to have many positive environmental features?
- What if instead of the one-size-fits-all approach to product production, laundry detergent could be specifically designed for local water quality? Washers could be manufactured with a pre-installation feature that would recycle detergent up to 2,000 loads.
- What if manufacturers could add nutrients to the plastic in biodegradable water and soda bottles that would be beneficial to the soil? In “Cradle to Cradle,” it is suggested plastic bottles could be embedded with seeds that provide new plants for the garden.
- What if consumer products, such as televisions, cars or other major purchases, could be rented or leased until the end of the product's life, then sold to the manufacturer for upcycling into new products?

A new approach to manufacturing and consumerism is exciting and sparks a what-if discussion for almost every product used in our daily lives. Each year, National Garden Clubs Inc. awards 35 or more scholarships to students studying in fields related to its mission. What if one of our winners is the one to find the key to making one of these proposed ideas work?

In "Nature is Speaking," a new media campaign by Conservation International, the message to humanity is simple: **Nature doesn't need people. People need nature.** ■

Sandra N Robinson

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- Green Home, www.greenhome.com
- Nature is Speaking, www.conservation.org

A LEGACY OF Leadership



A National Garden Clubs Inc. president has a passion to serve and a commitment to provide education and promote the love of all things gardening.

NGC presidents, pictured from left to right: Renee D. Blaschke, 2009-2011; Shirley S. Nicolai, 2011-2013; Sandra H. Robinson, 2015-2017; Kitty Larkin, 2005-2007; Barbara D. May, 2007-2009; and Linda Nelson Bentson, 2013-2015.

Photo by Idalia Aguilar

REPORT OF THE NGC nominating committee

Slate of NGC 2017-2019 officer candidates selected by the Nominating Committee.

President
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1235 Dover Creek Ln.,
Manakin Sabot, VA 23103-2532

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Second Vice President
Mary Warshauer
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son, NJ 07760-1230

Third Vice President
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Recording Secretary
Mary E. Owen
P.O. Box 206, Fort Union,
VA 23055-0206

Treasurer
Betty Grimes
P.O. Box 349, Hiawassee,
GA 30549-0349

NGC 2015-2017
Nominating Committee
Nancy C. Voyles, chairman
Patricia J. Cargnoni, vice
chairman

New England Region
Nancy Donaldson, MA
De Feldman, RI

Central Atlantic Region
Jackie Handley, MD
Betty Cookendorfer, OH

South Atlantic Region
Ann Fiel, KY
Betsy Steele, SC

Deep South Region
Carol Keefe, AL
Valerie C. Tipps, TN

Central Region
Susan Cooney, IL
Fran Stueck, IA

South Central Region
Bobbie Verser, AR
Sarah McReynolds, TX

Rocky Mountain Region
Donna Rouch, NE
Audrey Coyle, CO

Pacific Region
Shane Looper, CA
Sandra Ford, ID

Four and Five Star Program

Education is one of the many important missions of National Garden Clubs Inc. Four and Five Star Membership represents a significant individual accomplishment and entitles the eligible member to be recognized by NGC and their state garden club for having successfully completed all four of the National Garden Club Schools, and then graduating to master status in each school. This is a very **prestigious milestone award.**

- Please keep track of credits for the NGC Schools you have attended. Don't allow your school credits to slip away!

- You may be eligible to apply for your four or five star status.
- If you might need only one more school attendance to quality, plan to do so.

You could receive this honor at the NGC 2017 88th Annual Convention in May, or at any state or district meeting. Make your club or state proud with your qualification.

But you must apply!

All requirements and an application can be found under the **Schools** tab on the NGC website at www.gardenclub.org ■

Julie Schoenike
Chairman, Four and Five Star Members
jwschoen@frontiernet.net

YOU care about our Pollinators!
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The Living Classroom

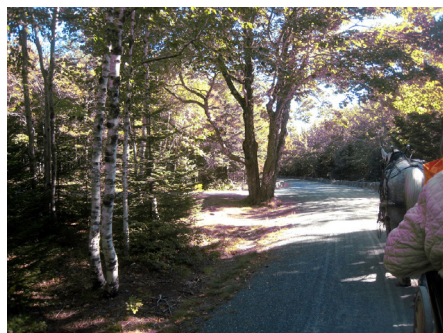
National Garden Clubs Inc. offers continuing education for flower show judges and consultants of environmental studies, gardening study and landscape design schools. Multiple refreshers may utilize living classrooms to teach us about landscape history and design, gardening skills and environmental practices that will help sustain our future.

In September, I was among 35 multiple refresher participants in the Bar Harbor area of Maine, where gardens became living classrooms. Each activity, lecture and PowerPoint sported a central theme, "The Way Life Should Be," that prepared us for tour highlights and welcomed us to the state. Traveling from the dreary gray skies of the Pacific Northwest, I was smitten by the deep blue sunny skies of Maine and the glacial rock strata.

Youth involvement helps ensure the future of gardens

We began our tour at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, where Bill Cullina, executive director and NGC 2013 Award of Excellence recipient, explained why CMBG was an organic garden and how things grew bigger and faster with organic care. We also saw the fairy gardens, where children can build fairy houses in the woods.

In Bar Harbor at the College of the Atlantic, a national liberal arts college with more than 325 students situated on 37 acres, Isabel Mancinelli, a Charles Eliot professor of ecological planning



and policy with a focus on human ecology, taught us about alternatives to urban sprawl. Her students help plan economically sound, sustainable environments for surrounding townships. The experience taught me that rethinking housing and business site planning can create more open space, if we know how to tweak it.

Acadia National Park

The vistas were grand under sunny blue skies during our trip to Wildwood Stables at Acadia National Park, a 47,000-acre Atlantic coast recreation area situated primarily on Maine's Mount Desert Island. During a one-hour Acadia horse carriage trail ride, we saw the beginnings of fall color. The vast network of carriage roads in the park were financed, designed and directed by John D. Rockefeller Jr., who had a passion for road building. Stones of cut granite, which act as guard rails, are

placed along the edges of the carriage roads. Although the stones are locally known as "coping stones" to help visitors cope with the steep edges, some refer to the stones as "Rockefeller's Teeth." The park, established in 1919, is the oldest national park east of the Mississippi River.

Collaboration can ensure a garden's future and make a significant difference in quality of life

Asticou Azalea Garden, a popular visitor attraction in North East Harbor, featured a lovely Japanese-style

garden with Asian lanterns, a traditional Zen sand garden and a lovely lake. Pink granite protrusions added to the serenity. Betsy Mills, who

serves on the council of advisers to the Beatrix Farrand Society, hosted lunch and a tour of her gardens designed by Farrand, noted U.S. landscape gardener and landscape architect. In addition, we were provided with the exciting opportunity to view and touch the garden's original landscape plans. Mills is restoring her garden spaces to reflect that history. During her career, Farrand was commissioned to design over 100 gardens for private residences, estates and country homes, public parks, botanic gardens, college campuses and the White House. The day was capped by a tour of the Beatrix Farrand garden at the College of the Atlantic. The garden is maintained by Friends of Seaside Gardens.

On the last day of the tour, we headed to Camden to view the historic garden at Camden Amphitheatre and Public Library. The amphitheater is one of the few public projects designed by Fletcher Steele, an American landscape architect credited with designing and creating over 700 gardens in his lifetime. The parklike amphitheater, considered one of the first U.S. public Modernist landscapes, evoked an Art Deco feel. I could imagine Greta Garbo and Rudolph Valentino performing here, as well as plays, ballets and other cultural events.

The adjacent public library was designed under the direction of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. Whimsical concrete sculptures, one of which featured a cat curled

up on a book, can be found around and under the outdoor benches. Camden Amphitheatre and Public Library was named a National Historic Landmark in 2013.

During our return trip to Portland, our tour group viewed a video on a historic garden, built in the 1850s and now preserved, of American author and poet Celia Thaxter. ■

Lana Finegold

Chairman, Multiple Refresher
lanafinegold@msn.com

 Photos by Lana Finegold

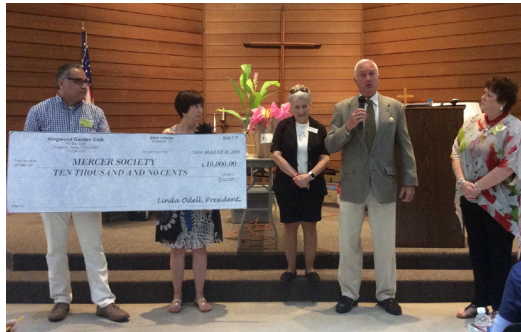




garden club profile

KINGWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Kingwood Garden Club, Kingwood, Texas, donated \$10,000 to Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens to assist in efforts to expand and restore land, hardscape and plantings damaged by historic flooding in 2016. Funds were raised through many of the garden club's successful community projects. Many of the garden club's members volunteer and attend horticulture classes at the Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens. ■



▲ Pictured left to right: John Hernandez, treasurer Kingwood Garden Club; Carole Wiater, first vice president, Kingwood Garden Club; Maryanne Esser, president, The Mercer Society; Darrin Duling, director, Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens; and Linda Odell, president, Kingwood Garden Club.



▶ The restored Creekside Ramble Garden.



📷 Photos by Darrin Duling
Director, Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens

About Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens
Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens, a popular destination since 1974, is situated on more than 300 acres in Harris County. The botanic gardens offers 20 acres of beautifully maintained gardens that feature bamboo, color displays, daylilies, endangered species, ferns, gingers, herbs and tropical plants. It also offers an extensive walking



trail, Remembrance Walk for memorials and honorariums, ponds, a visitor's center and courtyard plaza. The arboretum features two playgrounds, a picnic area nestled in a woodland setting with picnic tables, two barbecue pavilions, hickory bog, boardwalk, cypress swamp, maple collection and several miles of walking trails that wind through beautifully preserved woodlands.

"Naturally New Orleans"

- 2017 -

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First Garden Club in U.S. Celebrates Quasquicentennial

The Ladies Garden Club of Athens, widely recognized as the first garden club in the United States, celebrated its 125th anniversary in 2016.

A brief history

The Ladies Garden Club of Athens was founded in January, 1891 at Young Harris Memorial United Methodist Church. The church's annex is an antebellum house, and in 1891, it

was home to Judge and Mrs. Edwin King Lumpkin.

Mrs. E.K. Lumpkin hosted 11 Athens ladies who met that January to organize a garden club. Initially, the club was named Cobbham Garden Club, named for the section of the city in which many of the members were residents. The garden

club, reorganized in 1892, was named the Ladies Garden Club of Athens and

“The Ladies Garden Club of Athens was founded in January, 1891...”



membership was extended to any local woman interested in gardening.

Dr. Edwin Dorset Newton, a local physician and avid horticulturist, is credited with the idea of organizing the local ladies garden club in Athens. As vice president of the Georgia State Horticultural Society for Georgia's 8th Congressional District, Newton also organized other ladies garden clubs in many of the county sites within his district.

Olivia Newton Cobb, Newton's sister, was elected the first president of the Ladies Garden Club of Athens. As daughters of the club's founding members married and moved to other states, they often wrote home for information on how to organize a garden club and stage flower and vegetable shows in their cities. The seed planted in Athens had far-reaching effects.

A living legacy

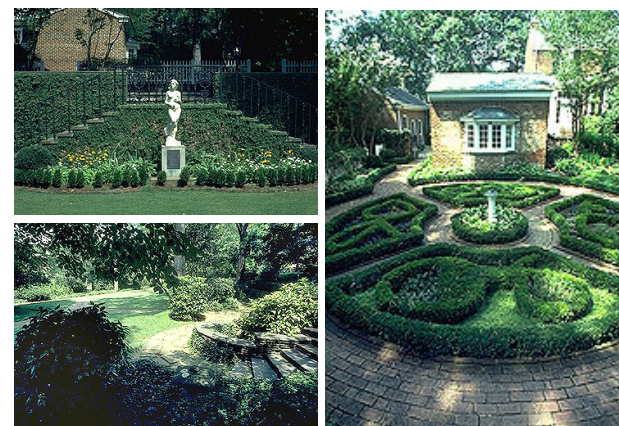
Members of the Ladies Garden Club of Athens continue in the footsteps of their

founders and honor the club's 125-year-old legacy through sharing the love of gardening, performing community beautification efforts and in their philanthropic work.

The club also developed a perpetual fund to maintain Founders Memorial Garden, as well as provided funding for the repair and restoration of the Greek Revival house on the site, built in 1857, which once served as the headquarters for The Garden Club of Georgia Inc. The house and garden are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Georgia Register of Historic Places. ■

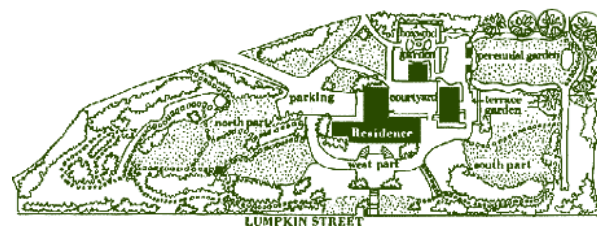
Reference: *Online Athens, Athens Banner-Herald* http://onlineathens.com/stories/090501/ath_garden.shtml#.WCniHSSy7LJ

 Photos ©2016 The Garden Club of Georgia Inc.



◀ In 1936, The Garden Club of Georgia Inc. began a fund to create the Founders Memorial Garden, a living tribute to the 12 founders of the Ladies Garden Club of Athens. Hubert B. Owens, dean of the Landscape Architecture department at the University of Georgia, and his staff, designed a layout for 2.5-acre series of gardens, consisting of a formal boxwood garden, two courtyards, a terrace and a perennial garden, as well as two informal areas.

The nationally acclaimed Founders Garden serves as a museum of landscape design and is a natural laboratory for botany, forestry and related disciplines. For more information, visit The Garden Club of Georgia Inc. at <http://gardenclub.uga.edu/history.html>





virginia is for gardeners

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS INC.

88TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

You may have heard that “Virginia is for Lovers,” but Virginia is also for gardeners, for history, for floral design and for hospitality. Virginia will welcome garden club members from across the nation and international affiliates to the National Garden Clubs 88th Annual Convention on May 18-20 at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Richmond.

Virginia is for Gardeners who “dig” Virginia history. Come explore Colonial Williamsburg, Monticello and other historic Richmond sites. Learn about Thomas Jefferson and his “revolutionary” garden.

Virginia is for Gardeners who “dig” plants and love to garden. Visit Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, voted one of the nation’s best botanical gardens. Be inspired by some of America’s most recognized and respected garden

experts. Attend seminars on topics such as organic gardening practices, spring to fall cutting gardens and small space gardening.

Virginia is for Gardeners who “dig” the art of floral design. See exciting demonstrations from well-known floral designers and creative design displays. Shop vendors for mechanics, containers and more.

Virginia is for Gardeners who “dig” the environment and the natural world. Come to the Life Member Banquet and see the play, “A Sense of Wonder,” based on the life and works of Rachel Carson.

Virginia is proud to host the National Garden Clubs Convention in 2017. Plan now to come and see that “Virginia is for Gardeners.”

SPEAKERS



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

P. ALLEN SMITH

Friday, May 19—Luncheon

Connect: Health, Home and Happiness

P. Allen Smith, an author, television host, entrepreneur and conservationist, has a passion for American style. He uses his Arkansas home, Moss Mountain Farm, which The New York Times hails as a stunning estate, as an epicenter for promoting the local food movement, organic gardening and the preservation of heritage poultry breeds. Smith created his farm to serve as a place of inspiration, education and conservation and provides visitors from around the country locally sourced meals to introduce them to an expression of the regional cuisine. He is the author of the best-selling “P. Allen Smith’s Garden Home” series and “P. Allen Smith’s Seasonal Recipes from the Garden,” which is a nod to his love for organic, regional cuisine. His media company produces three national, award-winning television shows: “Garden Home” (which has enjoyed 14 seasons on PBS), “Garden to Table,” also on public television, and “Garden Style,” now in its 17th season of syndication.



KAIULANI LEE

Wednesday, May 17

NGC Life Member Banquet

A Sense of Wonder: A play based on the life and works of Rachel Carson

Kaiulani Lee has more than 35 years of experience in theater, film and television. She has starred in over a dozen plays on and off Broadway. Lee has been nominated for the Drama Desk Award on Broadway and has won the Obie Award for Outstanding Off Broadway Achievement. Lee has guest-starred in numerous television series from “The Waltons” to “Law and Order.” Her film work began with “The World According to Garp,” and has continued through “A Civil Action” and “A Bird of the Air.” She portrayed Martha Ballard in “A Midwife’s Tale,” a critically acclaimed PBS film. For the past 23 years Kaiulani has been performing her one-woman play, “A Sense of Wonder,” based on the life and works of Rachel Carson. The play is the story of one woman’s love for the natural world and her fight to defend it. It is the story of the extremely private Rachel Carson, thrust into the role of controversial public figure. The play has been the centerpiece of regional and national conferences on conservation, education, journalism and the environment. She has performed it at over 100 universities; dozens of high schools; the Smithsonian Institute; the Albert Schweitzer Conference at the United Nations; the U.S. Department of Interior’s 150th anniversary; and in 2007, on Capitol Hill, bringing Miss Carson’s voice once again to the halls of Congress. “A Sense of Wonder” has played in every province of Canada, in England, Italy, India and Japan.



PETER J. HATCH

Thursday, May 18—Opening Luncheon

Thomas Jefferson, Gardener

Peter J. Hatch is a professional gardener and historian with 38 years experience in the restoration, care and interpretation of historic landscapes. A celebrated author of four books on the gardens of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, where he served as director of gardens and grounds for 35

years, Hatch has lectured in 37 states on Jefferson and the history of garden plants. Presently, he gardens and botanizes from his home on Lickinghole Creek in Crozet, Virginia, and travels extensively to promote his latest work, "A Rich Spot of Earth: Thomas Jefferson's Revolutionary Garden at Monticello." Thomas Jefferson's interest in gardening arose from a truly wide-eyed curiosity about the natural world. Hatch will discuss the themes that defined Jefferson's passion for horticulture, botany and landscape design. He will also review the gardens of Monticello—the fruit, flower and vegetable gardens, as well as Jefferson's ornamental forest or "Grove"—and reveal how they have been restored over the last 50 years. In addition, Hatch will look at fruits, flowers and vegetables, as well as how garden plants have evolved since the age of Jefferson.



IAN PROSSER

Friday, May 19—Design Banquet

What do Queen Elizabeth II, actor Tom Cruise, U.S. President Bill Clinton and U.S. President George W. Bush have in common? Each one has figured in the career of Ian Prosser. Born in Scotland, Prosser started his career with three successful floral design shops in Glasgow. During that time, he was the youngest person to receive the honor of Floral Designer of the Year for all of Scotland and earned a National Diploma of the Society of Floristry, the highest European honor in floral design. In 1989, Prosser moved to Tampa, Florida and opened Botanica International Design Studio, which has expanded to

design events across the globe. One of Prosser's most prized successes was the invitation by the Society of American Florists to design the inaugural decorations for U.S. Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. In 2005, he was given the honor to serve as Floral Design Chairperson for the second-term inauguration of President George W. Bush. With this designation, he helped in the selection and management of 160 florists from across the country to create the floral design for the numerous events surrounding the inauguration. Working closely with the Presidential Inaugural Committee, Prosser styled rooms for 14 official events, including the nine inaugural balls.



BRYCE H. LANE

Saturday, May 20—Luncheon

Waterwise Gardening:

A Sustainable Approach

Bryce Lane grew up in western Massachusetts, where he discovered a passion for plants while working at a local garden center through high school and college. As lecturer and undergraduate coordinator of the Department of Horticultural

Science at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, he has taught more than 20,000 students over the past 30 years. Lane has garnered numerous local, regional and national teaching awards, and frequently is invited to speak at many workshops and symposia. He hosted and produced "In the Garden with Bryce Lane," a three-time, Emmy Award winning UNC-TV public television show. Water conservation is at the forefront of everyone's mind. What can we do as gardeners to conserve water and practice waterwise gardening? This talk will consider all principles and practices associated with gardening to conserve and manage water, including plant selection, soil preparation, irrigation, and many other practices that will make you the sustainable king or queen of your neighborhood!



JULIA CLEVETT

Saturday, May 20—Installation

Banquet Floral Designs in honor of Sandra Robinson and Nancy Hargroves

Julia Clevett, originally from the United Kingdom and a former resident of New Jersey, now resides in Powhatan, Virginia. She is a NGC Flower Show School and Symposium design instructor, a master flower show judge, and a former president of The Garden Club of New Jersey Inc. She currently is a member of the NGC Flower Show

Schools Committee, serving as NGC accrediting chairman. Clevett is the recipient of numerous flower show awards. She had the honor to be invited to represent National Garden Clubs, Inc. at the 2002 Chelsea Flower Show in London, and as a floral design demonstrator at the WAFA Flower Show held in Boston in June, 2011. She was the only NGC design instructor to be so honored. Clevett has traveled extensively, judged flower shows, and taught NGC Flower Show School Courses and Symposia all over the United States, Mexico, and Central and South America. Clevett's creative designs can be found in several publications, from the cover of NGC's "Designing by Types," to the WAFA book, "Flower Arranging the American Way." Her designs and articles on floral design have been published in The Flower Arranger, an international flower-arranging magazine published in the United Kingdom. Clevett's presentation will feature two floral designs—one in honor of Sandra Robinson, NGC President 2015-2017, and one in honor of Nancy Hargroves, NGC President 2017-2019, as well as her interpretation as to how these designs reflect the leadership and personality of the NGC presidents honored.

TOURS

Richmond has something for everyone—history, gardens, the arts, whitewater rafting, shopping and more. Explore over 400 years of American history through tours of Richmond and central Virginia's historic sites and gardens. Day tours will visit Williamsburg and Monticello. Half-day tours in the Richmond area are planned for Hollywood Cemetery, the Virginia State Capitol, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden and a historic Richmond highlights tour.

TOUR A

Tuesday, May 16
8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Colonial Williamsburg

Discover Colonial Williamsburg and see what life was like in this 18th century revolutionary city.

TOUR B

Tuesday, May 16
9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Agecroft and Virginia House

Explore the gardens overlooking the James River at Agecroft and Virginia House, designed by noted landscape architect Charles Gillette. Tour Agecroft Hall, built in England about 500 years ago. The building was crated, shipped and reassembled in Richmond in the 1920s. The tour offers insights into how life was in England's Tudor and early Stuart periods.

TOUR C

Tuesday, May 16
1–5 p.m.

TOUR I

Saturday, May 20
2:30–5 p.m.

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

Voted the fourth Best Botanical Garden in the nation by USA Today, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden features more than 50 acres of spectacular gardens including a Children's Garden, Rose Garden, Asian Valley and a classical domed Conservatory.

TOUR D

Wednesday, May 17
8:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Monticello and Gardens

Visit Monticello, the mountaintop home that Thomas Jefferson designed and built for his family, as well as its historic flower, vegetable and fruit gardens.

TOUR E

Wednesday, May 17
9:30 a.m.–Noon

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Tour the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, recognized as one of the nation's top 10 comprehensive art museums with a permanent collection of over 35,000 works of art. Five new galleries showcase VMFA's collection of Fabergé, the largest public collection outside of Russia.

TOUR F

Wednesday, May 17
1–5 p.m.

Virginia State Capitol and Capitol Square (Walking Tour)

Stroll down Broad Street to Capitol Square and visit the Virginia State Capitol, designed by Thomas Jefferson in 1775. See one of the most famous statues of George Washington in the rotunda of the Capitol, as well as other historical statuary and paintings.

TOUR G

Thursday, May 18
9–11 a.m.

Historic Richmond Trolley Tour

Ride the trolley and see the landmarks, monuments, riverfront and architecture representing over 400 years of Richmond's history.

TOUR H

Thursday, May 18
9–11 a.m.

TOUR J

Saturday, May 20
2:30–5 p.m.

Hollywood Cemetery Tour

Visit one of the most historic and beautiful garden cemeteries in America with a stunning view of the James River. Learn about the cemetery's history and its famous residents, including U. S. Presidents James Monroe and John Tyler.

TOURS-SPOUSES

Tour K

Thursday, May 18
1–5 p.m.

Canal Cruise and American Civil War Museum at Historic Tredegar

Cruise the Kanawha Canal along Richmond's historic canal walk. Visit the American Civil War Museum at Historic Tredegar Iron Works.

SEMINARS



Restoring Pollinators: Grow Organic

Thursday, May 18, 10 a.m.

Learn why every vegetable garden and landscape must include flowers and eliminate chemical use to attract and maintain pollinators and other beneficial insects. Lisa Zeigler of The Gardener's Workshop will share her steps to gardening without chemicals and how to bring flowers back to the vegetable garden.



Mechanics of Design

Thursday, May 18,

4:30 p.m.

What are the mechanics of a floral design? Is it just floral foam and pin holders? Learn about new products, ways to use sculptures in your design, and much more!



A Spring to Fall Cutting Garden

Thursday, May 18, 4:30 p.m.

You will go home with the knowledge to have non-stop fresh cut flowers from spring until frost from your own garden. Lisa Zeigler of The Gardener's Workshop will share what to plant and how to manage a small home cutting garden that will supply a weekly abundance of long-stemmed beautiful cut flowers all season.

What's New in the 2017 Handbook for Flower Shows

Friday, May 19, 4:30 p.m.

Explore the new 2017 NGC Handbook for Flower Shows and see what's new in design and horticulture. David Robson, chairman of the Flower Show Handbook Revision Committee, will highlight the exciting changes that will affect your club's upcoming flower shows.



New Ideas for Your Landscape

Friday, May 19, 4:30 p.m.

Jef Naunchik, a landscape designer/horticulturist from the Village Garden Center in Fishersville, Virginia, showcases new plants and cultivars for your garden, as well as how to use "old favorites" in new ways. Gardens designed by the Village Garden Center have been featured in Southern Living and The English Gardener.



Bulbs as Companion Plants

Saturday, May 20,

3 p.m.

Whether you are planning to plant bulbs in a fresh, newly prepared empty garden or are adding them to an already existing one, this seminar will have the answers for you. Brent Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs of Gloucester, Virginia, will introduce you to the best of the best... the right bulbs for the right spots. You'll learn how to combine bulbs, perennials, annuals, ground covers and flowering shrubs that will create just the feeling you want to generate for four seasons in your garden. After seeing and experiencing this seminar, you'll leave with information and inspiration to produce a garden that you, your neighbors and friends will enjoy all year.



Small Landscapes with BIG Attitudes!

Saturday, May 20, 3 p.m.

Do you have a small area to garden but want BIG results? Kerry Ann Mendez, garden author, consultant, designer, teacher and lecturer, will provide clever design and accessorizing tips for maximizing and extending color in smaller landscapes. Plants boasting three seasons of beauty and neat habits are emphasized.

88th Annual National Garden Clubs Convention TENTATIVE SCHEDULE | MAY 15-21

Convention registration available online at: www.gardenclub.org or call: 314-776-7574.
The registration form also may be printed from the NGC website and mailed to NGC.

TIME	DESCRIPTION
MONDAY, MAY 15 PRE-CONVENTION	
3:00 - 6:00 pm	Registration Open
TUESDAY, MAY 16 PRE-CONVENTION	
7:30 am - 6:00 pm	Registration and Credentials Open
8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Tour A - Colonial Williamsburg
8:30 am - 11:30 am	Finance Committee
8:30 am - 11:30 am	International Affiliates COMAAll Committee
9:30 am - 12:00 pm	Tour B - Agecroft and Virginia House
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch - Finance, PH&E, Organization Study Committees
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Tour C - Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
1:45 pm - 3:45 pm	Organization Study
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Scholarship Committee
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	International Affiliates Flower Show School Committee
4:00 pm - 5:15 pm	PH & E Trustees Dinner - on your own
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 PRE-CONVENTION	
7:30 am - 6:00 pm	Registration and Credentials Open
8:30 am - 4:00 pm	Tour D - Monticello
8:30 am - 11:45 am	Executive Committee
8:30 am - 4:00 pm	Flower Show Schools Committee
8:30 am - 1:00 pm	Vendors & Exhibits - Set-up
8:30 am - 10:30 am	Educational Schools Committee
9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Tour E - Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Youth Committee
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Environmental Concerns/Conservation Committee
9:00 am - 11:00 pm	Future Conventions/Credentials/Protocol/Resolutions
10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Gardens Committee
10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Horticulture Committee
10:30 am - 12:30 pm	Gardening Study Schools Committee
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch - Executive & FSS Committee
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Tour F - Virginia State Capitol and Capitol Square
1:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Vendors & Exhibits - Open
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Awards Committee
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Future Fall Boards/Credentials/Protocol/Resolutions
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Landscape Design Schools Committee
1:45 pm - 3:30 pm	Executive Committee (resumes)
1:45 pm - 2:45 pm	Flower Show Schools Committee (resumes)
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	Environmental Studies Schools Committee
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Communication - Print and Non-Print Committee
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Outreach/Continuing Projects Committee
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Membership Committee
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	NGC President's Special Projects Committee
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Liaison Committee
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Rehearsal for New Life Members
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Social Hour

TIME	DESCRIPTION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 PRE-CONVENTION	
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	NGC Life Member Banquet Dinner Theater A Sense of Wonder A play based on the life and works of Rachel Carson written and performed by Kaiulani Lee
THURSDAY, MAY 18 OPENING DAY OF CONVENTION	
7:30 am - 6:00 pm	Registration
7:30 am - 9:00 am	Breakfast-State Presidents & Regional Directors 2015-17 & 2017-19
9:00 am - 11:00 am	Tour G - Historic Richmond Trolley Tour
9:00 am - 11:00 am	Tour H - Hollywood Cemetery Tour
10:00 am - 11:00 am	Seminar - Restoring Pollinators: Grow Organic
9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Vendors & Exhibits Open
9:30 am - 11:30 am	Board of Directors Meeting
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Opening Luncheon--Peter Hatch, Thomas Jefferson, Gardener
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Spouse Tour - American Civil War Museum & Canal Cruise
2:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Convention Opening - Business Meeting
4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Seminar - Mechanics of Design
	Seminar - A Spring to Fall Cutting Garden
5:30 pm	Awards Rehearsal - State Presidents
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Social Hour
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Banquet - Awards & Award of Excellence Winners
FRIDAY, MAY 19 CONVENTION	
7:30 am - 6:00 pm	Registration and Credentials Open
9:00 am - 6:00 pm	Vendors & Exhibits - Open
9:00 am - 11:30 am	Business Meeting Resumes
12:00 pm - 2:30 pm	Luncheon - Keynote Speaker - P. Allen Smith Connect: Health, Home and Happiness
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Business Meeting Resumes
4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Seminar - What's New in 2017 Flower Show Handbook Seminar - New Ideas for Your Landscape
4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Meeting - State Presidents 2017-2019
6:00 pm	Vendors Close
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Social Hour
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Banquet - Design Speaker - Ian Prosser
SATURDAY, MAY 20 CONVENTION	
7:30 am - 5:00 pm	Registration Open
7:30 am - 9:00 am	Regional and IA Breakfasts
9:30 am - 11:30 am	Final Business Session
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Luncheon - Bryce Lane Waterwise Gardening: A Sustainable Approach
2:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Tour I - Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Tour J - Hollywood Cemetery
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Seminar - Bulbs as Companion Plants Seminar - Small Landscapes with BIG Attitudes
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm	2017-2019 Executive Committee Meeting
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Installation Rehearsal
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Social Hour
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Installation Banquet
SUNDAY, MAY 21 POST-CONVENTION	
8:00 am - 10:00 am	NGC 2017-2019 Board of Directors Breakfast



NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS INC
88th Annual Convention • May 18-20, 2017
 Richmond Marriott Downtown, Richmond VA

REGISTRATION FORM
DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2017

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Name for Badge: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

State Garden Club: _____ Region: _____

Please check if any of the following designations apply for 2015-2017:

- NGC Elected Officer NGC Appointed Officer NGC Board Member Regional Dir
 State President International Affiliate Guest Spouse

NGC Life Member #: _____ New NGC Life Member since 2016

Make check payable to:
 NGC Inc. 2017 Convention

Register Online at:
www.gardenclub.org
 using your Visa or MasterCard

Mail check and Registration Form to:
 Kathy Ward
 13500 Stonegate Rd
 Midlothian VA 23113
klward@gmail.com | 804-378-7481

International Affiliates:
 Contact Idalia Aguilar
idaliaaguilar@hotmail.com

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Richmond Marriott
 Downtown
 500 East Broad Street
 Richmond, VA 23219
 804-643-3400 or 800-228-9290

Ask for:
 National Garden Clubs

Room Rate:
 \$139 Single, \$149 Double,
 \$159 Triple, \$179 Quad

Deadline for Hotel Reservations:
 5 pm EDT, April 24, 2017

Online Reservations:
 Direct Link

Valet Parking:
 \$27.00 per day

Self-Parking:
 \$17.00 per day

Ground transportation:
 This hotel does not provide shuttle service

*** NOTE: No refunds after April 15, 2017 | No Walk-Ins will be accepted. ***

REGISTRATION FORM CONTINUED

REGISTRATION FEE: Required for ANY function including tours

Full-time attendee, Part-time attendee, Spouse/Guest for more than one event	\$50
Virginia Federation of Garden Club attendees	\$10
Members, Spouse, Guests for ONLY ONE EVENT	\$10

MEALS

Full Time Attendee six (6) Meal Plan: May 18 - Opening Lunch & Awards Banquet; May 19 - Keynote Speaker Lunch & Design Banquet; May 20 - Lunch & Installation Banquet

May 16 - Lunch - Finance, PH	\$40
May 17 - Lunch - Executive and Flower Show Committees	\$40
May 17 - NGC Life Member Banquet - NGC Life Member	\$80
May 17 - NGC Life Member Banquet - Guest	\$85
May 18 - Breakfast - State Presidents	\$40
May 18 - Opening Luncheon	\$40
May 18 - Awards Banquet	\$70
May 19 - Luncheon - Keynote Speaker	\$45
May 19 - Design Banquet	\$75
May 20 - Regional Breakfast	\$40
May 20 - Saturday Luncheon	\$40
May 20 - Installation Banquet	\$75
May 21 - New NGC Board (2017-2019) Breakfast	\$40

TOURS (Space is limited - register early)

May 16 - TOUR A: Colonial Williamsburg	\$130
May 16 - TOUR B: Agecroft and Virginia House	\$40
May 16 - TOUR C: Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden	\$30
May 17 - TOUR D: Monticello and Garden	\$100
May 17 - TOUR E: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts	\$30
May 17 - TOUR F: Virginia State Capitol and Capitol Square (Walking Tour)	\$20
May 18 - TOUR G: Historic Richmond Trolley Tour (no board members)	\$35
May 18 - TOUR H: Hollywood Cemetery Tour (no board members)	\$35
May 20 - TOUR I: Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden	\$30
May 20 - TOUR J: Hollywood Cemetery	\$35

TOURS - "SPOUSES AND GUESTS ONLY"

May 18 - TOUR K: Canal Cruise and American Civil War Museum at Historic Tredegar	\$35
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LATE FEES

REGISTRATION LATE FEE after April 15, 2017	\$50
TOUR LATE FEE after April 15, 2017	\$20

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: _____

SEMINARS Please check the seminars you plan to attend - no additional charge

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Restoring Pollinators | <input type="checkbox"/> New Ideas for the Landscape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanics of Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Bulbs as Companion Plants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A Spring to Fall Cutting Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Landscapes with BIG Attitudes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> What's New in the 2017 Flower Show Handbook | |

Please list any dietary restrictions due to ALLERGIES or MEDICAL REASONS:

GARDENING STUDY roadside beautification

The NGC Gardening Study courses are designed to provide educational information to those especially interested in gardening, horticulture and related subjects. Members of garden clubs across the nation can utilize knowledge gleaned from gardening study courses on roadside beautification projects in their communities. Pipers Landing Garden Club,

▼ **Top: Before | Bottom: After**



organized and federated in 2013 with the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Inc., received a Roadside Beautification Award at the 87th Annual NGC National Convention in May, in recognition for its two-year restoration project on an easement along a section of road in Palm City. The site, situated across the street from a county park, is located along the route to Pipers Landing Country Club where the garden club holds its meetings. The area, consisting of mostly

saw palmettos native to Florida and the southeastern U.S., was covered with invasive dodder and old world climbing vines, as well as Brazilian pepper. Greenery in the area included

sabal palms and stately, live oak trees. The club's objective was to rid the

“The club’s objective was to rid the area of invasive plants...”

area of invasive plants, provide a safer walking area and mulch around the palmettos with pine straw. Nearly a dozen garden club members worked from October to April during Florida’s cooler temperatures, on



▲ Some Piper’s Landing GC Members taking a break. From left to right; Lois Acinipura, Judy Fletcher, Dottie Fortier, Lorraine Cardarelli and Jeff Beckelman

the extensive removal of debris from the area. Donated bromeliads were planted in an attractive bed display. The country club covered expenses in appreciation of the club’s volunteer beautification efforts. “Not only did this roadside beautification project enhance the area that is across the street from the park, it also made it safer for all those walking and riding along the sidewalk. It always bothers me that so many of our roadways could, and should, look presentable,” said Michelle Maguire, president, Pipers Landing Garden Club. Maguire also is a member of the FFGC Landscape Design Consultants Council. ■

Barbara Hadsell
Chairman
Gardening Study Schools
barbarahadsell@cs.com

Photos courtesy of
Pipers Landing
Garden Club

Leap Into Leadership!

ANGC Leap into Leadership workshop benefits members in many ways, not only the basic leadership information presented, but each workshop adds ideas, tips and techniques for the next workshop.

In New Mexico, a number of fun ideas were presented. For example, one raffle prize was an all-expenses-paid trip to attend the state convention. A colorful handout, listing critical award dates and deadlines, was distributed. Members were encouraged to mingle. A clever method to accomplish this was utilized. Each member selected a square of colored paper from a bowl upon entering the workshop and was seated at a table sporting the same color paper.

Suzy Andrego, president, New Mexico Garden Clubs Inc., presented small gifts to all those who were attending their first fall board meeting. I can attest to the warmth and friendliness of members attending the workshop in New Mexico—I received three lunch offers before anyone knew who I was.

“Let’s chat about a workshop for your members!”

NGC Leap into Leadership workshops are scheduled in Tulsa, Oklahoma and Arkansas in late February and early March. Are you thinking this might be a good idea? Then, let’s chat about a workshop for your members!

NGC President Sandy Robinson wants all of us to invest in the future leadership of our clubs, districts, states, regions, and our national organization. Here is that vehicle. Take advantage of it! ■

Robin Pokorski
Head Leaper, Leap into Leadership
RobinP@juno.com

environmental STUDIES SCHOOLS

Environmental Consultants are Important.

National Garden Clubs Inc. is offering an opportunity for consultants in Environmental Studies Schools, as a group in your state garden clubs, to be recognized as movers and shakers in the environmental field during National Garden Week, the first week of June. I challenge each state environmental council to bring forth an effort to make a difference. I would love to hear about your project, what you plan to do or accomplish, and will try to publish your feedback. I am proud of all of you, and think you are important.

“Our school helps increase the understanding of good environmental choices.”

Our school helps increase the understanding of good environmental choices. The councils are integral to supporting the continued offering of the classes to others. I am sure all of you talk up the interesting places you have visited and the facts you have learned. Sharing information is a consultant's obligation.

Please note a couple of important updates from the NGC fall board meeting.

1. Two national questions will no longer be required for testing courses. It was determined that your professors are doing a great job of representing the required information. The outlines and test question must continue to be sent to the accrediting chairman.
2. Outlines must be in bullet, not paragraph form, so that everyone can follow along easily. If a presenter sends only a PowerPoint presentation, feel free to include that if the student wishes, but also create a basic outline to share with the instructor prior to class, as well as in the student handout folder. We are ecology-minded, so please be cognizant of the amount of paper that is sometimes needed to print a PowerPoint presentation.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions. I can be reached best via email and will help in any way possible. ■

Pat Rupiper

*Chairman, Environmental Studies School
patrupiper@gmail.com*

NEWS FROM ngc schools

National Garden Clubs Inc. is a not-for-profit educational organization. As we begin a new year, what better way to help NGC carry out its educational mission than to leap into action by planning, scheduling, conducting and attending NGC schools and refresher events? Recent input to our committees that is food for thought:

- All of the NGC schools complement each other.
- These schools, Environmental Studies, Gardening Study and Landscape Design, apply and appeal to rank and file garden club members, more than Flower Show Schools do.
- Every flower show judge should attend GSS. If they did, judging horticulture would be improved 100 percent. The same goes for Environmental Studies—what a difference it would make in judging educational exhibits. Educating the public is one of the primary goals of NGC. Learning how to make a compost pile or grow a rose bush successfully may be of as much value to a flower show visitor as seeing a beautiful floral arrangement on a table.

Garden club members who complete these schools and fulfill all requirements become consultants. Consultants are recognized and honored by many clubs and state garden club organizations for completing NGC schools. Members take great pride in consultant status. To remain in good standing, they periodically

refresh by taking additional school courses, or by attending special refresher events. Refreshing reinforces their accomplishments and expands their base of knowledge, allowing them to make additional contributions to garden clubs and communities.

A collaboration of NGC schools chairmen includes a challenge to all NGC consultants to celebrate their consultant status, and to use and share the knowledge gained in NGC schools during National Garden Week, June 4-10. According to Cathy Felton, chairman, NGC Gardening Consultants Councils, the idea is to make NGC's consultants more visible and vibrant, give them a stronger local and national purpose and provide an opportunity to give back by observing a National Consultants Day during National Garden Week. Some ideas include:

- States with environmental, gardening and landscape design consultants could coordinate activities of the three groups on one day throughout the state.
- Each group of consultants might embrace activities related to that specific school, so that environmental consultants have activities one day, gardening consultants another day and landscape design consultants on still another day. This approach might be more conducive for states that are not represented by consultants in all disciplines.
- NGC provides support, welcomes

and recognizes your achievements in completing a NGC school. Members are encouraged to share information obtained, while letting others know about NGC and your state garden club organizations.

In addition, here are some ideas a consultants council can do during National Garden Week:

- Organize an educational program open to the public. This could even be holding a school course or refresher.
- Promote an environmental, gardening or landscape workshop for consultants and members of the state garden clubs.
- Collaborate with a local school. Teach some aspect of good environmental, gardening or landscape practices, present a program or give plants or information sheets away to students and teachers.
- Host a program and invite other gardening-related organizations to participate.
- Have an open garden day, composed of members who teach at each garden.
- Plan an outdoor work day at a non-profit center, such as the National Audubon Society, Land Trust Alliance, Appalachian Mountain Club or the Sierra Club, etc.

Activities an individual consultant can do

during National Garden Week:

- Volunteer at a Habitat for Humanity house, or similar non-profit, to do some outdoor cleanup/planting.
- Present an environmental, gardening or landscape program at a school or nursing home.
- Host a program/workshop at your local library.
- Invite gardening friends, not necessarily NGC members, to your own garden and teach them about how your garden works—or does not work. Discuss problems and brainstorm on good environmental, gardening and landscape solutions, etc.
- Write and submit an article on any of the NGC school subjects for your local newspaper.
- Help a neighbor/friend who needs guidance or help in his or her own garden or yard.
- Conduct a NGC school or refresher during National Garden Week. Serve as registrar or proctor or in any way needed.

Use your imagination. The possibilities are endless. Let us know your plans and your results. Share your knowledge. Learn more, as you teach club members and the public. ■

Greg Pokorski

Coordinator, ES, GS and LD Schools
GregPokorski@earthlink.net

gardening STUDY SCHOOLS

It is a pleasure to see NGC Gardening Study Schools being held in many states across the nation.

Congratulations to the state of Tennessee, which had 35 people in attendance with 28 people taking Course II for credit. While this is not the first time this state has held courses in Gardening Study, it has been a long time, and we are happy to see a renewed interest. It is especially exciting to note that Master Gardeners in attendance at GSS expressed an interest in joining a federated garden club, after they became aware of NGC, our wonderful garden clubs and efforts in communities and youth programs. In addition, Nebraska also completed its first Gardening Study School.

In conjunction with supporting the GSS current theme of “Reconciliation Ecology,” there is a PowerPoint presentation available on the NGC website at www.gardenclub.org for use by your instructors as a supplemental subject at any of the four courses. The link is on the GSS overview page and can be “localized” easily. Also on that page, please find our brand new Gardening Consultants

Council newsletter. Editor Cathy Felton at camafelton@comcast.net welcomes your articles and photos for the next issue to be published this spring. The NGC Gardening Study Schools directory containing state school and council chairmen, GSS regional chairmen and NGC GSS committee members has now been updated, and can be found on the NGC website.

Consultants and consultant councils of NGC Gardening Study Schools are encouraged to participate in National Garden Week, June 4-10, 2017. Please see more details in this issue of The National Gardener. Gardening consultants may wish to use their knowledge to encourage participation in our President's Special Projects, such as “Bee a Wildlife Hero,” and publicize those projects during National Garden Week.

Committing to “Gardening for Wildlife” is hopefully the goal of all of our gardening consultants and certainly the backbone of Reconciliation Ecology! ■

Barbara Hadsell

Chairman, Gardening Study Schools
barbarahadsell@cs.com

landscape DESIGN SCHOOLS

The NGC website at www.gardenclub.org contains a bounty of information for all gardeners. On the home page, please visit Schools, Landscape Design, to view the many courses available. At the bottom of this list is News-

cape, the official newsletter of the Landscape Design Schools program. Not only is the fall 2016 issue there, but also issues going back to fall 2011. Each issue will tell you about the Landscape Design Schools program and what

has been taking place throughout the states by garden clubs and Landscape Design Councils. If you are the president of a state garden club, please consider adding Newscape on your state's website for the benefit of your mem-

bers. Congratulations to the president of California Garden Clubs, Inc., who already has done this. Do “Leap into Action.” ■

Jane Bersch

Chairman, Landscape Design Schools
janebersch@aol.com

Flower Show

SCHOOLS NEWS

“In the depths of winter I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer.”

- ALBERT CAMUS

According to the 2007 Handbook for Flower Shows, **Judge** is defined as: 1. Title given to an individual who is qualified to evaluate another's work (n.) 2. The act of evaluating (v.).

What motivated you to aspire to this lofty sounding volunteer position? Was it a well-intentioned friend, an encouraging mentor or was it some wild, crazy impulse you can't explain? Whatever the persuasion, becoming a NGC Flower Show judge was a long, challenging road, full of sharp curves, unexpected potholes and steep hills—all to reach that long-awaited smooth glide to the finish line, where you could relax and bask in the satisfaction of having achieved your goal.

Where have you journeyed since that momentous day? Have you strived to grow in your efforts to become a better judge? Unfortunately, for some, enthusiasm dwindled when they realized that attaining the level of accredited judge was a beginning, not an end. Others plodded on, but picked out only the parts that appealed to them—judging occasionally, exhibiting when it was convenient, refreshing once every three years—just doing the minimum.

Are you an effective judge? Do you participate in your garden club's activities? Do you fulfill the ideals of what being a flower show judge implies by supporting

the efforts of others? How many of the following can you hold claim to being a part of in the past two years?

- Served on a committee to hold a standard flower show
- Exhibited and won ribbons for your exhibits
- Judged a standard flower show
- Attended a flower show school or symposium sponsored by your local group, not for credit
- Volunteered to supply horticulture or do a design for a school or symposium
- Attended meetings and participated in activities of your local judges council
- Educated others in horticulture or design by doing programs or demonstrations to small groups
- Took additional training in some facet of flower show work
- Read books on growing certain plants and exploring artistic design
- Visited nurseries, garden centers, gardens, art galleries and other artistic exhibitions
- Mentored a prospective student with intent to become a NGC flower show judge

NGC offers its members several educational opportunities through its four schools: Flower Show School, Gardening

Study, Environmental Study and Landscape Design Schools. They are all different, yet complement each other. Together they make a stronger garden club member, increasing awareness of our role in maintaining our world. Graduates of a flower show school are encouraged to take advantage of what these other schools have to offer. Learn the hows and whys of growing healthy plants, realize the impact of our actions on the quality of our soil, water, and air and gain skill at organizing pleasing and effective landscapes. Having this well-rounded education makes us more capable and responsible judges of our flower shows.

The 2017 Edition of the NGC Handbook for Flower Shows will soon be available from NGC Member Services. It will be available for purchase individually and by the case. Contact NGC Headquarters for information on how to order. It is important to remember the effective date is July 1, 2017. You are encouraged to become familiar with the information in the 2017 edition, but may not implement it until after that date.

If a series of flower show schools is in progress during the transition, the courses will be adjusted on an individual basis to meet the curriculum needs, insuring that all topics will be covered during the series. Students who find themselves finishing a series of courses during the spring of 2017, should try very hard to complete their student schedule writing assignment as soon as possible so they may apply to take the handbook exam on the last Thursday of October. The application must be received at least six weeks prior to taking the exam. ■

Dorothy Yard

Chairman, Flower Show Schools
dotyard@verizon.net

Bent and Twisted Studios

Fundraising

Ways and Means Packages

Ken Swartz

Sculptor of Abstract Metal Floral Design Containers for NGC for over 23 years
Large and Small Boxes

- 3-7 Large Sculptures
- 8-15 Minis
- Magnet Tubes

Our sculptures make great design examples at symposiums, conventions, design schools, judges' councils and Flower Show Schools.

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POLLINATOR POWER

**An Educational Publication of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

Pollinator Power is a POWERful environmental resource for classrooms and garden clubs, with 23 pages of facts about bees, butterflies, bats, birds, beetles, flies, moths, and wasps - and their mission as pollinators.

**Download it free at
www.gardenclub.org**

Information is provided on pollinator habitats, perils, plants and websites.

Located at:
www.gardenclub.org>Youth Programs
page>Bees and Butterflies>Resources

ESCUELA DE EXPOSICIONES de Flores

“En la profundidad del invierno finalmente aprendí que yace en mí un verano invencible.”

- ALBERT CAMUS

De acuerdo al Manual de Exposiciones de Flores 2007, la palabra **Juez** se define como sigue: Título de un individuo calificado para evaluar el trabajo de otros. Y **Juzgar**: el acto de evaluar.

¿Qué lo motivó a Ud. a aspirar a esta condición voluntaria de tanto prestigio? ¿Fue un amigo con buenas intenciones, un consejero, o fue un impulso atrevido y alocado que no tiene explicación? Cualquiera fuera la razón, para haber llegado a ser Juez de Exposiciones de Flores NGC, seguramente transitó un largo camino lleno de desafíos, con curvas pronunciadas, cerros empinados y baches inesperados ...todo para llegar finalmente a la esperada meta donde relajarse y disfrutar de la satisfacción de haber cumplido.

¿Dónde ha viajado desde ese día tan importante? ¿Se ha esforzado por convertirse en mejor Juez? Desafortunadamente, para algunos, el entusiasmo decayó cuando se dieron cuenta que alcanzar el nivel de Juez Acreditado es un comienzo, y no un fin. Otros eligieron solamente las partes que les fueron atractivas ... juzgando ocasionalmente, exhibiendo cuando les era conveniente, renovando cada tres años...haciendo solamente lo mínimo.

¿Es Ud. un Juez eficiente? ¿Participa de las actividades de su club? ¿Conforma

con los ideales de ser un Juez de Exposiciones de Flores, apoyando los esfuerzos de los demás? ¿En cuántas de las siguientes actividades ha sido involucrado durante los últimos dos años?

- Integrar el comité de la organización de una Exposición Estándar de Flores
- Exhibir y ganar cintas
- Juzgar una Exposición Estándar de Flores
- Asistir, no para el crédito, a un curso o simposio de la Escuela de Exposiciones de Flores organizado por su club
- Ofrecer a llevar muestras de horticultura o hacer un diseño para un curso o simposio
- Asistir a las reuniones y participar en las actividades de su Consejo de Jueces local.
- Educar a otros en horticultura o diseño mediante programas o demostraciones a grupos pequeños.
- Capacitación adicional en alguna faceta de las tareas de una exposición de flores.
- Leer libros sobre el cultivo de ciertas plantas y explorar el diseño artístico.
- Visitar a viveros, centros de jardinería, jardines, galerías de arte y otras exposiciones artísticas.
- Asesorar a un estudiante cuya in-

tención es hacerse Juez de Exposiciones de Flores NGC.

El NGC ofrece a sus miembros varias oportunidades educativas a través de sus cuatro escuelas: Escuela de Exposiciones de Flores, de Estudio de la Jardinería, de Estudio del Medio.

Ambiente y de Estudio del Paisajismo. Todas son diferentes, sin embargo, se complementan. Juntas forman un miembro fuerte de un club de jardinería, incrementando la consciencia de nuestro rol como protectores de nuestro mundo. Se incentiva a los graduados de la Escuela de Exposiciones de Flores que aprovechen lo que estas Escuelas tienen para ofrecer. Aprenda porqué y cómo cultivar plantas sanas, conozca el impacto de nuestras acciones sobre la calidad de nuestro suelo, agua y aire, y capacítense en organizar paisajes armoniosos y efectivos. El tener esta educación completa nos transforma en jueces más capaces y responsables.

Pronto la edición 2017 del Manual de Exposiciones de Flores NGC en inglés estará disponible en Member Services NGC. Se pueden comprar individualmente, o por caja. Contáctese con Headquarters

DOES YOUR CLUB OR CLUB MEMBER DESERVE TO HAVE ITS NAME HERE?

WOULDN'T YOU BE PROUD?

Remember that MARCH 15th is the deadline for your entries for the 2017 President's Projects Awards.

Not only is there the prestige of winning, but magnificent monetary awards, as well! The awards, Projects, President's Projects and Service in Action are available for viewing on www.gardenclub.org.

NGC para informarse cómo pedirlos. Es importante recordar que la fecha en que entra en vigencia es el 1ro de Julio 2017. Es conveniente familiarizarse con el material en la edición 2017, aunque no se implementa hasta después de esta fecha.

Si estuviera en curso una serie de la Escuela de Exposiciones de Flores durante la transición, los cursos se ajustarán uno por uno para conformar con el plan de estudio, asegurando que todos los temas sean cubiertos durante la serie. Los estudiantes que se encuentran terminando una serie de cursos durante la primavera de 2017 (Hemisferio Norte) deberían hacer lo posible para terminar de redactar el Programa de Exposición cuanto antes, para poder rendir el Examen del Manual el último Jueves de Octubre. Esta solicitud se debe recibir por lo menos seis semanas antes de rendir el examen. ■

Dorothy Yard

*Chairman, Flower Show Schools
dotyard@verizon.net*

Translated by Sylvia Wray

*Chairman, Flower Show Schools
International Affiliates*

Section five defines the specific awards:

- Native plantings to include new habitats
- BeeGap, Monarchs, The Frightened Frog
- Youth Container Gardens
- Amphibian conservation
- Commitments to garden for wildlife

There is something for everyone!

Go to Section four to view the instructions and special application form.

We KNOW you all qualify, and it's EASY to apply - don't let someone else walk away with what you deserve! APPLY NOW!

Becky Hassebroek

*Environmental Concerns/Conservation Committee
Chairman, Bee a Wildlife Action Hero chairman
National Wildlife Federation Liaison Committee
BeckyHasse@aol.com*

NGC Proposed Bylaw Amendments

To be Voted on at the 2017 NGC Convention in Richmond, Virginia

The Executive Committee and the Board of Directors recommend that the membership approve the following proposed bylaw amendments:

ARTICLE VI – MEMBERSHIP, Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP

CURRENTLY READS: Voting membership shall consist of members of State Garden Clubs that are affiliated with NGC.

STRIKE: “affiliated with”

INSERT: “members of”

TO READ: Voting membership shall consist of members of State Garden Clubs that are members of NGC.

RATIONALE: The word “affiliated” is not appropriate.

Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP, A. Eligibility

CURRENTLY READS: 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.

STRIKE: “shall have a minimum membership of ten (10) clubs”

TO READ: A State Garden Club shall have been organized for a minimum of one year and shall be recommended by the Director of the Region in which it is located.

RATIONALE: No longer applies.

Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP, B. Application

CURRENTLY READS: Application shall be submitted to the NGC Board of Directors through the Director of the Region in which the State Garden Club is located. 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.

STRIKE: “through the Director of the Region in which the State Garden Club is located.”

INSERT: “from the State Garden Club.”

TO READ: Application shall be submitted to the NGC Board of Directors 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.

RATIONALE: Allows for efficient processing.

ARTICLE VII -- DUES, FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS; Section 1. DUES, A.

CURRENTLY READS: 4. State Garden Clubs failing to remit dues by October 31 shall be excluded from any tabulations used to determine NGC Awards.

ADD: “and shall not be eligible to submit Scholarship applicant(s).”

TO READ: 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).

RATIONALE: If a State is not eligible to receive NGC awards due to failure to remit dues by the deadline, the state should not be eligible to submit a scholarship applicant. Incentive to pay dues on time.

ARTICLE VIII -- OFFICERS-ELIGIBILITY; Section 1. ELECTED OFFICERS, G.

CURRENTLY READS: 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 Treasurer who may serve no more than five (5) consecutive terms.

INSERT: “the Recording Secretary who may serve non-consecutive terms and” after word “except” and before words “the Treasurer”.

TO READ: 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.

RATIONALE: The number of applications for the office of Recording Secretary has declined in recent years. This amendment allows a former Recording Secretary the opportunity to serve a second term, if willing.

ARTICLE IX -- DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS; Section 2. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT, E.

CURRENTLY READS: 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.

STRIKE: “and the Membership Committee.”

TO READ: 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.

RATIONALE: Conforming amendment to Article XVI, Section 5. Membership Committee adopted at May 2016 Convention.

Section 2. FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, H. CURRENTLY READS: Serve as a signator on all NGC accounts.

STRIKE: “signator”

INSERT: “signatory”

RATIONALE: Correct terminology. (Re-letter Section 2. beginning with D.)

Conforming Amendment: Section 7. TREASURER, P.

CURRENTLY READS: Serve as a signator on all NGC accounts.

STRIKE: “signator”

INSERT: “signatory”

Section 5. THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

ADD: “E. Be responsible for publishing changes to NGC Standing Rules.”

RATIONALE: Clarification that this duty is the responsibility of the Third Vice President.

ARTICLE XVI – COMMITTEES; Section 5. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

CURRENTLY READS: 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.

STRIKE: “The First Vice President/ President elect shall serve as ex officio member of this committee.”

RATIONALE: Allows the First Vice President/ President Elect time for other committee meetings, if needed.

ARTICLE XVI – COMMITTEES; Section 6. ORGANIZATION STUDY COMMITTEE

CURRENTLY READS: 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, the Parliamentarian and the Executive Director shall attend the meetings and participate except for the right to make motions and the right to vote.

STRIKE: “Vice Presidents” (second sentence) and **INSERT** “Second Vice President”

ADD: “The First Vice President may attend as a guest.”

TO READ: The Organization Study Committee shall consist of the Third Vice President as Chairman and no more than eight members appointed by the President. The 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.

RATIONALE: Allows the First Vice President/President Elect time for additional committee meetings, if needed.

...Continued on page 38

Environmental Studies Schools

COURSE II

Holland, Michigan, April 17-18

Registrar: Rita Crawley, 734-395-2485, rcrawley@dundeecastings.com

Derwood, Maryland, April 20-21

Chairman: Lydia Barbour, 301-203-6696, lydiabarbour@hotmail.com

Seattle, Washington, April 25-26

Co-Chairman: Linda Haas, 206-243-7212, lindahaas@comcast.net

COURSE III

Augusta, Georgia, Jan. 20-21

Local Chairman: Judith Kirkland, 706-556-3417, jukirkland@kknology.net

Picayune, Mississippi, Feb. 7-8

Chairman: Melanie Gousset, 662-226-9666, mgousset@cableone.net

Silver Springs, Florida, March 7-8

Local Chairman: Judy Greenberg, 352-871-1094, judymg@gmail.com

West Palm Beach, Florida, March 14-15

Chairman: Nancy Richards, 561-702-0550, nancyrichards@gmail.com

COURSE IV

Palatka, Florida, Jan. 18-19

Registrar: David Farah, 904-460-4863, dcfarah@gmail.com

Picayune, Mississippi, Feb. 9-10

Chairman: Melanie Gousset, 662-226-9666, mgousset@cableone.net

Silver Springs, Florida, March 5-6

Local Chairman: Judy Greenberg, 352-871-1094, judymg@gmail.com

Augusta, Georgia, March 10-11

Local Chairman: Judith Kirkland, 706-556-3417, jukirkland@kknology.net

Gardening Study Schools

COURSE I

Madrid, Iowa, April 20-21

Chairman: Ada Mae Lewis, 515-232-0608, adamaelewis@gmail.com

COURSE II

Madrid, Iowa, Sept. 21-22

Chairman: Ada Mae Lewis, 515-232-0608, adamaelewis@gmail.com

COURSE III

Houston, Texas, Jan. 24-26

Chairman: Cheryl Lenert, 281-255-9004, lenert@flash.net

Chattanooga, Tennessee, Feb. 7-8

Local Chairman: Maggi Burns, 423-499-9751, MaggitFGC@epbfi.com

Appleton, Wisconsin, April 21-22

Local Chairman: Marion Books, 920-779-6656, gemabooks@att.net

Madrid, Iowa, April 12-13, 2018

Chairman: Ada Mae Lewis, 515-232-0608, adamaelewis@gmail.com

COURSE IV

University of Florida Research Center, Davie, Florida, March 21-22

Local Chairman: Marylou Ruiz, 305-822-2717, hazel-eyes58@comcast.net

Boylston, Massachusetts, April 6-7

Local/State Chairman: Linda Jean Smith, 978-256-3101, lindajean.smith@comcast.net

Chattanooga, Tennessee, May 2-3

Local Chairman: Maggi Burns, 423-499-9751, MaggitFGC@epbfi.com

Madrid, Iowa, Sept. 20-21, 2018

Chairman: Ada Mae Lewis, 515-232-0608, adamaelewis@gmail.com

Landscape Design Schools

COURSE I

Clermont, Florida, March 28-29

State Chairman: Karen Gott, 954-295-7205, kgott917@gmail.com

Williamsburg, Virginia, April 11-12

State Chairman: Glenda Knowles, 757-345-6618, ggknowles@cox.net

Oak Harbor, Washington, Oct. 2-4

Local Chairman: Anne Sullivan, absullivan@comcast.net

COURSE II

Charleston, South Carolina, Jan. 17-18

State Chairman: Susan McLeod Epstein, 843-224-6784, susanmcleodepstein@gmail.com

Phoenix, Arizona, March 4-6

Local Chairman: Joyce Girvin, 928-284-4263, joycegirvin@gmail.com

Elkhorn, Nebraska, March 30-April 1

Chairman: Alice Hemsath, 308-224-3771 dhemsath@charter.net

College Station, Texas, Sept. 27-28

Registrar: Michele Wehrheim, texaslandscapedesignschool@gmail.com

COURSE III

Fairbanks, Alaska, March 18-20

State Chairman: Becky Hassebroek, 907-456-3066, beckyhasse@aol.com

New Haven, Connecticut, March 21-22

State Chairman: Susan Laursen, 203-415-2077, Sklaursen@aol.com

College Station, Texas, Sept. 25-26

Registrar: Michele Wehrheim, texaslandscapedesignschool@gmail.com

COURSE IV

New Smyrna Beach, Florida, Feb. 9-10

Local Chairman: Sally Flanagan, 386-315-3317, sfflan@aol.com

Fairbanks, Alaska, April 1-3

State Chairman: Becky Hassebroek, 907-456-3066, beckyhasse@aol.com

Tri-Refresher

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, GARDENING STUDY AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS

New Orleans, Louisiana, March 29

Event Chairman: JoAnn Christopher, 504-737-2320, ptajc@att.net

Gatlinburg, Tennessee, April 18-20

Event Chairman: Carole Whited, 865-922-2778, ccwhited@aol.com

Shawnee, Pennsylvania, April 23-25

Event Chairman: Judy Morley, 440-412-4310, jhmorley@yahoo.com

Flower Show Schools

COURSE I

Derby, Connecticut, April 11-13

Registrar: Lisa Stackpole, 203-795-1343, ehuck@gardenclub.org

Columbus, Ohio, April 19-21

Registrar: Barb Snyder, 614-538-9384, bawsnyder@columbus.rr.com

White Plains, New York, Oct. 3-5

Registrar: Chris Wolff, 914-923-3238, ckwolff37@gmail.com

COURSE IV

Lafayette, Louisiana, Feb. 9-11

Registrar: Mary Jane Peters, 985-580-2864, maryjanegarden@comcast.net

Johns Creek, Georgia, March 27-30

Registrar: Cookie Roland, 770-972-0219, r_cookie@att.net

Midland, Michigan, May 9-11

Registrar: Alice Mesaros, 989-710-0441, alicemesaros@yahoo.com

Flower Show Symposium

Albuquerque, New Mexico, Feb. 16-18

Registrar: Suzy Andrego, 505-888-0480, sandrego@qwest.net

Memphis, Tennessee, Feb. 27-28

Registrar: Amye Kelly, 662-429-6005, awkelly@att.net

Diamondhead, Mississippi, March 7-9

Registrar: Brierley Acker, 228-255-2697, brierleyaa@bellsouth.net

Pensacola, Florida, March 8-9

Registrar: Judy Keliher, 850-484-9172, mrmrsjfk@aol.com

Greensburg, Pennsylvania, April 4-5

Registrar: Barb Lotito, 724-327-0501, BAKLflow-ers@love.com

...Continued on page 38

**Olive Hill, Kentucky,
June 14-15**
Registrar: Elaine Thornton,
502-863-0810,
elainevt@roadrunner.com
**Ontario, California,
June 26-27**

Registrar: Shane Looper,
650-871-0172, slooper@
sbcglobal.net

**Athens, Georgia,
July 16-18**
Registrar: Sally Holcombe,
770-436-9883, smhol-
combe@hotmail.com

Continued from page 35...

ARTICLE IX – DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS;
Conforming amendment to Article XVI, Section 6. Organization Study Committee.
Section 2. FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, F.
CURRENTLY READS: Attend the meetings of the Organization Study Committee and participate except for the right to make motions and to vote.
INSERT: “as a guest” after word Committee
TO READ: Attend the meetings of the Organization Study Committee as a guest and participate except for the right to make motions and to vote.

NGC ROSTER

Changes & Additions

PERMANENT HOME & ENDOWMENT TRUSTEES

DELETE: Les Westgard
ADD: Barbara S. Baker
(817) 927-4668
bbgardenclub@yahoo.com

2018 FALL BOARD MEETING ORLANDO, FLORIDA

ADD: Chairman
Sandra Walters
(941) 480-1815
Sanwal6872@gmail.com
Vice-Chairman
Lorraine Gabler
(352) 357-1632
Lggigi15@gmail.com

PROTOCOL | VICE-CHAIRMAN

DELETE: Bobbie Verser
(no replacement at this time)

HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE TREES/SHRUBS

UPDATE: Phyllis Besch
Phyl.4597@gmail.com

INTERNAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE | LIFE MEMBERS

DELETE: Alice DeSomma
ADD: Bobbie Verser
(501) 455-2488
bobbieverser@att.net

LEAP INTO LEADERSHIP! LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ADD: Vicki Yuen
(702) 259-9888
(702) 682-9888 | cell
YuenVicki@hotmail.com

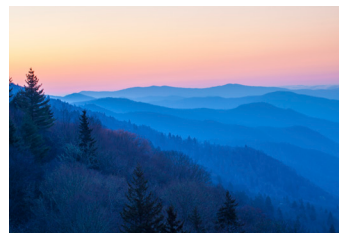
NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK CHAIRMAN

ADD: Marsha Alexander
(864) 576-1513
(864) 415-0269 | cell
marshaalexander@charter.net

NGC INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Photographs of 30 finalists of the NGC International Photography Contest celebrating the 100th anniversary of the U.S. National Park Service were on display at the NGC fall board meeting in Portland, Maine. Hosted by The Garden Club Federation of Maine Inc., the event featured a continuous PowerPoint presentation featuring all 197 entries. “Every entry was outstanding and highlighted the artistic talents of our NGC members,” said Arabella Dane, contest chairman.

▶
“Bison in the morning mist at Yellowstone” by Jennie Perkins



◀
“Smokies at Dawn” by Christine Wood



▶
“Grand Tetons Sunset” by Sarah Smart



**National Garden Clubs Inc
Annual Convention
May 18-20, 2017
Richmond, Virginia**

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Richmond, VA
804-643-3400**

**Keynote Speaker
P. Allen Smith**



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THE Happy Gardener's Guide

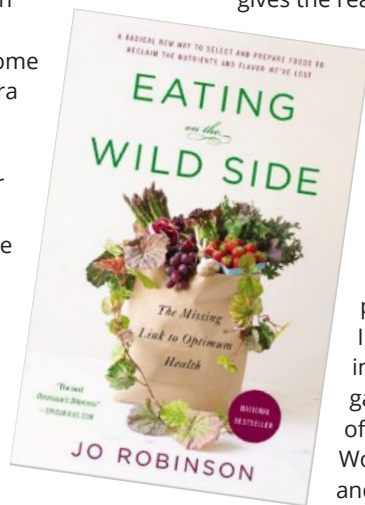
Gardeners garden. That's what we do—sometimes from dawn to dusk. Sometimes, later than that. Headlamps are not unknown among us.

What then of winter, when the north wind howls? Do gardeners garden then? Some do manage to wrest an extra month or so of gardening with the help of bales and cold frames and such. After many years of loathing the onset of winter, I have come to embrace the season of no hoses to wrangle, no weeds to pull and no need to remember to fertilize. Of course, I miss basking in the sun, minus a jacket, and snipping a rose for the windowsill, but I have found that winter accommodates wonderfully the art of armchair gardening. Very easy. No jacket involved. No harsh winds. I reach down beside the overstuffed chair and pull up a

“Another armchair gardening activity: reading.”

seed catalog. I summer dream and mark pages. I'm generous with my choices. Reality can edit my list later.

Another armchair gardening activity: reading. Gardening magazines and books that I neglect during the rest



of the year can now rise to the top of the to-do list. A few winters back, two books changed my gardening habits: “Eating on the Wild Side” by Jo Robinson gives the reader discernment as to which vegetables are the very best to eat, as well as offers great backstories on vegetable history, and “My Vegetable Love” a garden diary by Carl H. Klaus, who whetted my appetite for vegetables period. The next spring, I broke new ground in my perennial flower garden area for plenty of vegetable goodness. Words can move heaven and earth.

Finally, armchair gardening can include rest. Resting from active gardening opens up new ventures like writing letters, making cards, taking in a classic movie, or just reading a non-garden book (it happens).

If the itch to garden needs a scratch before spring allows, then the armchair can be vacated in favor of starting a few choice seeds under the grow light or on the windowsill. Or...grab a coat and check out the “snow mulch,” and see if the snowdrops are up yet! ■

Charlotte A. Swanson
President, Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska
Consultant, Gardening Study Schools
swanson@daltontel.net

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A WILLIAMSBURG PERSPECTIVE ON COLONIAL GARDENS

In May 2017, National Garden Club members head to Virginia for the installation of Nancy Hargroves, 2017-2019 NGC president. Attendees may wish to consider a visit to Colonial Williamsburg, either before or after the convention, to visit the gardens and to learn about the “Colonial Revival” style of landscape design, which is well represented there.

After World War I, there was a renewed interest in America’s colonial heritage. The Colonial Revival movement gave rise to the preservation of architecture, establishment of historic sites, and was reflected in decorative arts and garden design. The Colonial Revival style gardens at Colonial Williamsburg have been re-created in the restored area based on continual research and references that included letters, along with documents

such as, tax records, archaeological excavations and surviving 18th century plans of North Carolina colonial towns and their gardens. Detailed records of plants by naturalists and explorers provided data to help re-create these former gardens. The gardens vary, but feature Colonial Revival elements.

The early settlers brought with them memories of the gardens of England. They sought to re-create this style in their new homes, and to show that they were doing well in this new land. With the arrival in 1710 of Lt. Gov. Alexander Spotswood, a major move to create an elegant garden at the Governor’s Palace began. Gardeners, trained in England, were hired and took charge of the gardens at both the Governor’s Palace and the College of William and Mary. A

The pleasure garden, located behind the service yard of the Prentiss House, has been designed with six similar parterres edged in yaupon holly. A picturesque covered well enhances the space.

Scotsman, John Farquharson, who supported the patriot cause, was appointed head gardener of the Governor’s Palace gardens and served during the tenure of the last two royal governors in the Virginia colony until 1776. American patriot Patrick Henry, five-time governor of Virginia, appointed Farquharson as public gardener for the new state government of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Gardens became a status symbol and a symbol of elegant and civilized living. Great attention was paid to the garden of each home and business. Books on landscaping and gardening were obtained from Europe. A gentleman in the 18th century was expected to have knowledge of gardening and botany. John Randolph,

the last royal attorney general of the Virginia colony, was author of “A Treatise on Gardening.” John Clayton of Gloucester County, Virginia, compiled herbarium specimens and documentation in “Flora Virginica,” which was published in the Netherlands in 1739 to 1743. Merchants offered seeds for “peas, beans and cabbage, earliest and best kinds.”

In the 1700s, geometry played a role not only in the layout of Colonial Williamsburg with the squares and rectangles of half-acre lots, but also in the layout of gardens. A common pattern featured four squares or rectangles, which could be viewed from above. These spaces would be enclosed by fences, required by an Act of the General Assembly in 1705. Fences were

A reconstructed smokehouse serves as a backdrop to a formal garden of parterres in the John Blair Garden.



painted to coordinate with the color of the house or building and also kept unwanted animals out. Simple garden benches, painted to blend with the color scheme, were placed to enjoy the view or just to rest. Boxwood (*Buxus sempervirens*) was a primary element in these colonial gardens. Boxwood was used as a border, created into topiary, trimmed or placed as a corner element. An axis was often laid out leading to a fruit tree, or to a well head, to a bench to rest upon and enjoy the beauty of the pleasure garden. Walkways and crosswalks were of fine gravel, brick or white crushed oyster shells. A stroll through the garden was invited. Brick implied richness, a higher social status. Brick walls required no mainte-



▲ Herbs, cabbages, red chard and peppers are planted in the kitchen garden at the James Geddy House.

The David Morton House features a symmetrical formal garden and a covered well and pump. ▼



▲ Outbuildings and a kitchen garden are located behind Wetherburn's Tavern.



nance, but were costly.

Two parallel rows of trees offered a place to stroll. Young American beech saplings were trained and woven on arbors to create a feature. Since maintenance would be required, higher status was indicated. Vertical interest was provided by fruit trees, a fig tree, or stately pruned boxwood. In the gardens of the Governor's Palace, large columnar shapes of yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) were planted. Wattle fences and twig tripods, used to guide the growth of vegetables, were constructed.

While the actual trees, shrubs and flowers of this colonial period over 300 years

“The re-created gardens were intended to recall the period of the ancient dwelling...”

ago have disappeared, documents and letters offer knowledge of property layouts and plants used. Outbuildings were separate from the house, as were the kitchen and any domestic service building. There were small orchards, kitchen gardens and vegetable gardens, planted with herbs and flowers as well as vegeta-

bles. A service walk guided one directly to the work areas. In contrast, gardens and pleasure gardens were laid out geometrically in a balanced manner. At the rear of the property would be the privy.

When the gardens of Colonial Williamsburg were reconstructed in the Colonial Revival manner, Arthur Shurcliff, first landscape architect for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, did an extensive study of original garden design documents. “The re-created gardens were intended to recall the period of the ancient dwelling and the old city itself,” he noted. In addition, Shurcliff referred to the “Bodleian Plate,” a copperplate engraving that showed landscape features of the 18th century. In 1929, the Bodleian Plate was discovered approximately 190 years after it originally was created, in the Bodleian Library at Oxford University in England. The Bodleian Plate was especially important in the re-creation of the gardens of the Governor's Palace as it showed its terraces, the falling gardens, the plantings and the canal. In colonial days, the impressive palace gardens enhanced the governor's position as the representative of the monarchy. A palatial European estate was the goal. Clipped hedges outlined the geometric parterres, topiaries of boxwood provided vertical thrust and a yaupon holly maze

reflected the current vogue in England. Colonial records note that there were “handsome gates” in the forecourt of the palace in 1710.

Throughout the restored area of Colonial Williamsburg, gardens give witness to the Colonial Revival style. It should be remembered that period gardens in restored Colonial Williamsburg represent an understanding of the colonial past from the perspective of people in the 1930s and 1940s. New research indicates evidence that “colonial gardens were simple, functional and even somewhat bare.”

The layout of the **Wetherburn Tavern** with its yard and gardens is that of an 18th century tavern. It is well-documented and is one of the original 18th century buildings. The separate outbuildings,

the vegetable garden and the herb garden also are documented. The large service area behind the tavern is typical of a working tavern with several individual outbuildings including the kitchen. Further back on the property is a kitchen garden, where cabbages, salad greens and berries thrive. A small orchard is present.

The **Christiana Campbell Tavern** is located on Waller Street behind the Capitol building, which was reconstructed in the 1930s as part of the restoration of Colonial Williamsburg. A shade garden is on the north side of the tavern. Although no archaeological evidence of a garden exists, Alden Hopkins, the first resident landscape architect at Colonial Williamsburg, placed a pleasure garden there featuring nine

planting beds created in a geometric pattern.

The **Benjamin Powell House** features a small geometric garden, in which brick paths in this pleasure garden form a four-spoke wagon wheel with beds outlined by *Buxus sempervirens*. A large workyard is placed further back on the property where the kitchen, old brick dairy and other outbuildings are found. A seasonal kitchen garden of many vegetables is planted there. In summer, this includes cabbages, beans and onions, as well as herbs and flowers.

The **John Blair House** is one of the oldest houses in Colonial Williamsburg. It is a prime example of early Williamsburg architecture, featuring hipped dormer windows and stone steps imported from England. Located on Duke of Gloucester Street, the house offers a large kitchen garden. John Blair Sr. kept a diary in which he recorded many details about his garden. When the kitchen garden was designed by Shurcliff, a series of narrow brick walks were placed to establish the parterres. Raised brick edgings eased maintenance. The beds change with the seasons, with the addition of annuals, biennial flowers and culinary and medicinal herbs. English



▲ The Benjamin Powell House garden illustrates the axial arrangement of garden spaces typical of colonial site development. The kitchen garden features vegetables in season.

lavender, monarda and dianthus thrive in the summer, peonies, foxgloves and candytufts are in bloom along the walk in spring. The reconstructed smoke-house provides a backdrop to this formal garden.

The **Orlando Jones Garden** was designed by Shurcliff in 1939. Its elongated oval shape, set in a rectangular space, is not typical of the 18th century rectilinear geometric layout typically found in Colonial Williamsburg gardens. Boxwood hedging defines its oval shape. Benches, tucked in the rounded boxwood hedge,



A garden bench, tucked into the rounded boxwood hedge, provides a restful place in the Orlando Jones garden.

provide a quiet spot to enjoy the garden, to rest or read. Crepe myrtles provide summer color.

The **David Morton House** at Waller and York Streets features a symmetrical formal garden. Archaeological excavations and details on the "Frenchman's Map," an 18th century map circa 1782, drawn post the victory at Yorktown, provided the layout of this garden. Brick paths outline the parterres, which are edged in boxwood. At the center of the four rectangular parterres is a covered well and pump, one of only two in Williamsburg. Spring bulbs fill the parterres early, followed in summer by lemon yellow daylilies (*Hemerocallis lilioasphodelus*). In summer, an arbor covered with muscadine grapes, provides a shady spot.

A typical kitchen garden has been planted behind the **Geddy House**. In summer, rectangular beds overflow with Brunswick cabbages, red chard, bullnose pepper and cayenne pepper plants. Another bed

is filled with Swiss chard, shallots, carrots and salsify. Herbs include rosemary and thyme. Floral beds of celosia, allium, marigolds and lilies are placed along the typical white fence.

The **Prentice House** is also on Duke of Gloucester, at Botetourt Street. The pleasure garden with its brick paths has

six parterres bordered in yaupon hollies (*Ilex vomitoria*). Tulips bloom in spring, then summer flowers. Herbs grow nearby. A well is found just at the back of the kitchen yard, close to the kitchen.

Colonial Williamsburg was a center of gardening activity. The residents in the 18th century were "taming, trimming and enclosing nature" within a fence or hedge, creating gardens they remembered. Vital research and archaeological excavations provided the information needed to recreate these lost gardens. The restored gardens have influenced garden design since the 1930s. New research may bring some changes. But, these beautiful period gardens provide the spirit and character of the 18th century in Colonial Williamsburg. ■

References: "The Gardens of Colonial Williamsburg" M. Kent Brinkley and Gordon W. Chappell and "Plants of Colonial Williamsburg: How to Identify 200 of Colonial America's Flowers, Herbs and Trees" Joan Parry Dutton.

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