

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
EIGHTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING
MINUTES

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Call to Order

May 5-6, 2016
Pantlind Room

Sandra H. Robinson, President called the meeting of the 87th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2016 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan and welcomed those in attendance.

Opening Exercises

Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary, was present.

The invocation was given by Sara F. Brooks, NGC Chaplain

The colors were presented by the Western Michigan University Army ROTC under the direction of Cadet Nathan Swain.

The National Anthem was sung by Stephen Knight, accompanied by Scott Bosseler.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Andrea Little, Blue Star Memorial Markers Chairman.

The Conservation Pledge was given by Jim Mullen, Land Conservation Chairman.

A welcome to Grand Rapids was extended by Tim Nelson, Grand Rapids Convention Services Manager.

Danielle Sidock, Convention Planner, welcomed attendees to the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.

Judy Newman, Central Region Director, gave the welcome to the Region.

Marilyn M. McIntosh, Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. President gave the welcome to the state of Michigan.

Janice M. Clem, Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. President gave the response.

Credentials Report

Sally K. Warner, Credentials Vice-Chairman, gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. May 5, 2016 showing a voting strength of 288 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	8
Advisory Committee	6
PH&E Trustees	6
State Presidents	47
Representatives of State Presidents	2
NGC Chairmen	132
NGC Standing Committee Members	134
Delegates (conventions only)	<u>63</u>
Subtotal	408
Less Duplications	<u>120</u>
Total Voting Strength	288

ADOPTED

Quorum	The Chair declared a quorum present.
Standing Rules of the Board of Directors	Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian, read the Standing Rules of the Board of Directors. ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE
Convention Program	Marge McGoff, 2016 Convention Chairman, moved to approve the Program as corrected. ADOPTED
Registration Report	Mary Pulick, 2016 Convention Registrar, gave the registration report as of 8:00 a.m. May 5, 2016 for information only. Voting Strength288 Non-Voting Members....433 Spouses.....24 Guests..... <u>20</u> Total Registration 765
Committee to Approve Minutes	The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2016 Convention Meeting: Gay Austin, Second Vice-President, as Chairman Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary
Timekeepers	The President appointed the following to serve as timekeepers: Judy Vehse, Horticulture Committee, Organic Gardening Chairman Carolyn Golden Patterson, Horticulture Committee, Native Plants Chairman
Appointment of Tellers	The Chair appointed the following to serve as tellers: Jacqueline Connell, President's Special Project, Crown Bees Chairman, as Chairman Barbara Hadsell, Gardening Study Schools Committee Chairman Rebecca L. Linney, 2016 Fall Board Meeting Chairman, Historic Gardens Committee Chairman Sandra Wales, New Cultivars Chairman
Pages	The President acknowledged the following pages: Marion Brooks, Carol Bekius, Gerry Ford, Judy Pitcher, Lynda Foster, Lynn Dinvale, and Ruth Moline.
Welcome	The President welcomed the former NGC Presidents: Louis Dupre' Shuster (2001-2003), Kitty Larkin (2005-2007), Barbara D. May (2007-2009), Renee D. Blaschke (2009-2011), Shirley S. Nicolai (2011-2013) and Immediate Past President, Linda Nelson Bentson. The President recognized the Region Directors: Vera Bowen, New England; Anne M. Bucher, Central Atlantic; Sarah Ann Parler, South Atlantic; Carol M. Bullard, Deep South; Judy Newman, Central; Barbara S. Baker, South Central; Darlene Skari, Rocky Mountain; Kristie Livreri, Pacific. The President presented the following trustees: Les Westgard, Marge McGoff, Jeanette B. Pruin, Renee D. Blaschke, Shirley S. Nicolai, and Linda Nelson Bentson, Director.
Report of the Committee to Approve the Minutes	Nancy L. Hargroves, Chairman of the Committee to approve the minutes of the 2015 Convention reported that the minutes had been approved and circulated.

Reports of Officers

The following officers reported (copies on file) :

- Sandra. H. Robinson, President
- Nancy L. Hargroves, First Vice-President, Liaison to State Presidents and Region Directors, Future Planning Committee Chairman, Liaison to American Horticultural Society
- Gay Austin, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee and Internal Audit Committee Chairman
- Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President, Organization Study Committee and Award of Excellence Committee Chairman
- Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary
- Betty Grimes, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman
- Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary
- Pamela C. Hebert, Historian
- Joan H. Corbisiero, Parliamentarian
- Linda Nelson Bentson, PH&E Trustees Director

Reports of Region Directors and State Presidents

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

- Central Region - Judy Newman, Director
- Laurel DeBoer The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.
 - Jodi L. Meyer The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
 - Loretta M. Daisy Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc.
 - Marilyn M. McIntosh Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
 - Betty Beck Federated Garden Clubs of Minnesota, Inc.
 - Nancy Bahn Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.
 - Gerianne Holzman Wisconsin Garden Club Federation
- South Atlantic Region - Sarah Ann Parler, Director
- Edith Nelson The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.
 - Gail Hill The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.
 - Yvonne Anna Morris The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.
 - Janice M. Clem Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 - Judith A. Guye West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Sandra H. Robinson, President, called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m.

Invocation

The invocation was given by Kitty Larkin, 2005-2007 President, Leap Into Leadership Committee Vice-Chairman, and Golden Circle Member.

Interim Credentials Report

Sally K. Warner, Vice-Chairman of the Credentials Committee gave the following Interim Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. May 6, 2016 showing a voting strength of 293 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	8
Advisory Committee	6
PH&E Trustees	6
State Presidents	47
Representatives of State Presidents	2
NGC Chairmen	134
NGC Standing Committee Members	136
Delegates (conventions only)	<u>67</u>
Subtotal	416

Less Duplications 123
 Total Voting Strength 293

ADOPTED

Interim Registration Report Mary Pulick, 2016 Convention Registrar, gave the registration report as of 8:00 a.m. May 6, 2016 for information only.

Voting Strength288
 Non-Voting Members.....433
 Spouses.....24
 Guests.....20
 Total Registration 765

Report of the Board of Directors Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary reported that the Board of Directors had met three times since the 2015 Convention in Louisville, Kentucky – at the Post Convention Board meeting in Louisville, Kentucky; at the Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, September 2015 and prior to the 2016 Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan on May 5, 2016. Information sheets reflecting actions taken were distributed to the board members and delegates.

Adoption of the Budgets Betty Grimes, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman, presented the 2016-2017 budgets for the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund and the Operation Wildflower Fund.

ADOPTED

Adoption of Bylaw Amendments The 2016-2017 annual budget for the PH&E Fund, adopted by the Board of Directors was presented for information only.

Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President and Chairman of the Organization Study Committee presented the following amendments to the bylaws for adoption by the membership.

1. Page 5, Article VII, DUES, FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS:
 B. Annual Dues of Affiliate Member Organizations
 CURRENTLY READS:
 1. Annual dues of each Affiliate Member Organization shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per annum payable to NGC Headquarters by October 31.
 STRIKE 1. and RENUMBER the remaining items in Section B
ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

2. Page 5, Article VII, DUES, FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS:
 B. Annual Dues of Affiliate Member Organizations:
 CURRENTLY READS:
 2. Annual dues of each National Affiliate Member organization shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per annum payable to NGC Headquarters by October 31.
 STRIKE “fifteen dollars (\$15.00)” and INSERT “thirty dollars (\$30.00)”
ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

Proviso: Effective June 1, 2017

CURRENTLY READS:
 3. Annual dues of each International Affiliate Member organization shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per annum payable to NGC Headquarters by October 31.
 STRIKE “twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)” and INSERT “thirty-five dollars (\$35.00)”

ADOPTED AS AMENDED BY 2/3 VOTE

Proviso: Effective June 1, 2017

3. Page 14, Article XI, ELECTION OF OFFICERS,
Section 1. ELECTIONS, B:
CURRENTLY READS: All elections shall be by ballot and a majority vote shall elect. However, in the event that there is only one nominee for any elected office to be filled, election may be by voice.
STRIKE: the words "election may be by voice"
INSERT: "the Chair shall declare the nominee elected."
TO READ: All elections shall be by ballot and a majority vote shall elect. However, in the event that there is only one nominee for any elected office to be filled, the Chair shall declare the nominee elected

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

Report of International
Affiliates

Sara Lambarri, International Affiliates, Activities/Protocol Chairman, reported on the activities of the International Affiliates and introduced Gloria Remedi as the new International Affiliates Activities Chairman

Reports of Region Directors
and State Presidents

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

New England Region - Vera Bowen, Region Director
Jane Waugh Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut Inc.
Suzanne Bushnell The Garden Club Federation of Maine, Inc.
Betty Sanders The Garden club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.
Jane W. Goodwin New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Catherine Moore Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Susan Hinkle Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont, Inc.

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

Deep South Region - Carol M. Bullard, Region Director
Jan Thomas Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.
Arlene S. Rand Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Martha H. Price The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
Jeanette Gatzman Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
Debby B. Cooper The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.
Pamela L. Dowd Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Pacific Region - Kristie Livreri, Region Director
Martie Black Alaska Garden Clubs
Judy Tolbert Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Susan C. Bennett California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Ann M. Swider Hawaii Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Janet D. Petersen Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc.
Vicki Yuen Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.
Shirley J. Schmidt Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Terry A. Critchlow Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

Reports of Chairmen The following chairmen reported (reports on file):
Andrea Little, Blue Star/Gold Star Families Memorial Markers Chairman
Mary Sue Colvin, Environmental Concerns Coordinator
Becky Hassebroek, Bee a Wildlife Action Hero Chairman
Carcille Burchette, Plant It Pink Chairman
SAGE & ROSES Blue Star Memorial Marker – awarded to Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. (Stone & Thistle Garden Club)
Mary Ann Bryant, Tours Chairman

Memorial Service Sara F. Brooks, Chaplain, conducted the Memorial Service.

Adjournment The business meeting recessed at 11:47 a.m. to reconvene after luncheon at 2:30 p.m.

Call To Order Sandra H. Robinson, President called the meeting to order at 2:45 p.m.

Invocation The invocation was given by Linda Sadler, Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. President.

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

South Central Region - Barbara S. Baker, Region Director
Rose Knight Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Suzy Andrego New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.
Mary Ann Holman Oklahoma Garden Clubs Inc.
Betty Edwards, Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.
Vice-President

Rocky Mountain Region, Darlene Skari, Region Director
Louise Niekerk Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Jackie G. Watts Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.
Linda H. Sadler Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Charlotte A. Swanson Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska
Terry Kroke North Dakota State Garden Clubs
Former President
Mary K. Lerssen South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Connie McKay The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.
Vice-President
Lynette Jeffres Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Future Conventions Becky Crow, Conventions Coordinator and Pat Abercrombie, Vice-Coordinator reported future convention locations:
May 16-21, 2017 – Richmond Marriott Hotel in Richmond, Virginia
May 21-24, 2018 – Loews Philadelphia Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
April 30-May 5, 2019 Beau Rivage Resort and Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi

Invitation to Next Year's Convention .Judy B. Binns, 2017 Convention Chairman, extended an invitation to next year's convention in Richmond, Virginia on May 16-21, 2017.

Final Credentials Report Sally K. Warner, Credentials Vice-Chairman, gave the following Final Credentials Report as of as of 8 a.m. May 6, 2016 with a voting strength of 293 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	8

Advisory Committee	6
PH&E Trustees	6
State Presidents	47
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NGC Chairmen	134
NGC Standing Committee Members	136
Delegates (conventions only)	<u>67</u>
Subtotal	416
Less Duplications	<u>123</u>
Total Voting Strength	293

ADOPTED

Final Registration Report Mary Pulick, 2016 Convention Registrar, gave the registration report as of 2:00 p.m. May 6, 2016 for information only.

Voting Strength	293
Non-Voting Members....	428
Spouses.....	24
Guests.....	<u>20</u>
Total Registration	765

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m. to reconvene at the Awards Banquet.

Call To Order Sandra H. Robinson, President, called the meeting to order at 9:05 p.m.

Presidential Citations The President presented Brenda Moore and Jean Ohlmann with a Presidential Citation and a frog pin for writing "*The Frightened Frog*".

Courtesy Resolution The President presented Marge McGoff, Convention Chairman, Sharon Yantis, Vice-Chairman, and Carol Brodbeck, Vice-Chairman/Fundraising with Presidential Citations.

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

ADOPTED

Benediction Sara F. Brooks, Chaplain, gave the benediction.

Adjournment The President adjourned the 87th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. at 9:23 p.m. on Friday, May 6, 2016 sine die.

Shirley A. Tetreault

Shirley A Tetreault, Recording Secretary 6/17/16
Date

Sandra H. Robinson

Sandra H Robinson, President 6/17/16
Date

Gay Austin

Gay Austin, Second Vice-President 6/17/16
Date

Mary Warshauer

Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President 6/17/16
Date

Robin Pokorski

Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary 6/17/16
Date