

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

**Loews Philadelphia Hotel**  
**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

**May 23-24, 2018**  
**Millennium Hall (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**

Call to Order Nancy Hargroves, President called the meeting of the 89th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 9:02 a.m. on Thursday, May 23, 2018 at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and welcomed those in attendance.

Mary Owen, Recording Secretary, was present.

Opening Exercises The invocation was given by Lisa Arni, the Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs President.

The colors were presented by the Philadelphia Continental Chapter, National Society of *The Sons of the American Revolution* color guard.

The National Anthem was sung by Andrea Falchek, Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, District VI, Somerset Garden Club member.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Judith Tarbox, The Garden Federation of Maine, Inc. President.

A greeting to the city of Philadelphia was given by Michael DiBerardinis, Managing Director of the City of Philadelphia.

Regina Brown, Central Atlantic Region Director, gave the welcome to the Region.

Christine Leskosky, Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania President, gave the welcome to the state of Pennsylvania.

Lynda Dickerson, Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc. President gave the response.

Credentials Report Suzanne Potts, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. May 23, 2018 showing a voting strength of 250 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	8
Advisory Committee	4
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	44
Representatives of State Presidents	3
NGC Chairmen	45
NGC Standing Committee Members	159
Delegates (conventions only)	<u>38</u>
Subtotal	316
Less Duplications	<u>66</u>
Total Voting Strength	250

**ADOPTED**

Quorum	The Chair declared a quorum present.
Standing Rules of the Board of Directors	Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian, read the Standing Rules of the Convention. <b>ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE</b>
Convention Program	Pat Wolanski, 2018 Convention Chairman, moved to approve the Program' <b>ADOPTED</b>
Registration Report	Barbara Stoebenau, 2018 Convention Assistant Registrar, gave the registration report as of 8:00 a.m. May 23, 2018 for information only. Voting Strength ..... 250 Non-Voting Members.... 141 Spouses.....34 Guests.....16 Total Registration        441
Committee to Approve Minutes	The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2018 Convention Meeting: Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President, as Chairman Brenda Moore, Third Vice-President Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary
Timekeepers	The President appointed the following to serve as timekeepers: Pat Westgard, Finance Committee Member Mickie Marquis, Communications Non-Print Committee, Social Media
Appointment of Tellers	The Chair appointed the following to serve as tellers: Pam Hebert, Nominating Committee Member as Chairman Suzi Andrego, FSS Committee and Handbook Exam Committee Member
Pages	The President acknowledged the following pages: Grace Mitchell, Jane Bazzano, Mary Jane Martucci, Angela Raitano, and Diane Hughes.
Welcome	The President welcomed the former NGC Presidents: Lois Dupre' Shuster (2001-2003), Kitty Larkin (2005-2007), Barbara D. May (2007-2009), Shirley S. Nicolai (2011-2013) and Immediate Past President, Sandra Robinson. President Hargroves asked for a moment of silence in memory of June Wood, 2003-2005 NGC President.  The President recognized the Region Directors: Susan Hinkel, New England; Regina Brown, Central Atlantic; Judy Barnes, South Atlantic; Ann McCormick, Deep South; Fran Stueck, Central; Isabel Olsen, South Central; Jackie Watts, Rocky Mountain; Peggy Olin, Pacific.  The President presented the following trustees: Marge McGoff, Jeanette Pruin, Barbara Baker, Shirley Nicolai, and Sandra Robinson, Director.
Report of the Committee To approve the Minutes	Gary Austin, Chairman of the Committee to approve the minutes of the 2017 Convention in Virginia reported that the minutes had been approved and circulated.
Reports of Officers	The following officers reported (copies on file): Nancy Hargroves, President Gay Austin, First Vice-President, Liaison to State Presidents and Region Directors Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee and Internal Audit Committee Chairman

Brenda Moore, Third Vice-President, Organization Study Committee and Award of Excellence Committee Chairman  
 Mary Owen, Recording Secretary  
 Betty Grimes, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman  
 Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary  
 Shane Looper, Historian  
 Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian  
 Sandra Robinson, PH&E Trustees Director

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

Deep South – Ann McCormick, Region Director  
 Tricia Mitchell      Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.  
 Claudia Bates      Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Jane Hershey      The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.  
 Lena Bateman      Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.  
 Lynda Dickerson      The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.  
 Cindy Hintz      Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Central – Fran Stueck, Region Director  
 Anita Bierbaum      The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.  
 Sue Fuhrman      The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.  
 Juliene Bramer      Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc.  
 Carol Sue Brodbeck      Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Bonnie Schwichtenberg      Federated Garden Clubs of Minnesota, Inc.  
 Karen Blackmore      The Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.  
 Peggy Grubbs      Wisconsin Garden Club Federation

Report of NGC Project Grants and Partnerships      The following Chairmen of the NGC Project Grants and Partnerships reported (copies on file):

Betty Cookendorfer, *Plant America* Community Project Grant Awards Chairman reported that there were 418 applicants with 28 receiving funds.

Nancy Fulk, *Ames* Grant Awards Chairman and Prema Williams, *Ames* Representative reported that there were 57 applicants and 24 received tools.

Bonnie Satterthwaite, *Espoma* Grant Awards Chairman reported that there were 59 applicants (39 states represented) with a total of 14 awarded \$250 each.

Patricia Smith, *Natural Disasters* Chairman reported that \$47,000 had been distributed to states and clubs.

Adjournment      The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m. to meet again on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 9:15 a.m.

Call to Order      Nancy Hargroves, President, called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m.

Invocation      Deanna Sterns, President, Garden Club of Ohio, Inc. gave the invocation.

Interim Credentials Report      Suzanne Potts, Credentials Committee Chairman, gave the following Interim Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. on May 24, 2018 reporting a voting strength of 287 and moved its adoption.

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

Advisory Committee	5
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	48
Representatives of State Presidents	3
NGC Chairmen	45
NGC Standing Committee Members	164
Delegates (conventions only)	<u>67</u>
Subtotal	355
Less Duplications	<u>69</u>
Total Voting Strength	286

**ADOPTED**

Interim Registration                    Barbara Stoebenau, 2018 Convention Assistant Registrar, gave the registration report as of 8:00 a.m. May 24, 2018 for information only.

Voting Strength .....	286
Non-Voting Members.....	192
Spouses.....	38
Guests.....	<u>28</u>
Total Registration	544

Report of Board of Directors                    Mary Owen, Recording Secretary reported that the Board of Directors had met three times since the last Convention. Information sheets reflecting actions taken were distributed to the board members and delegates.

Adoption of Budgets                    Betty Grimes, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman, presented the 2018-2019 budgets for the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund and the Operation Wildflower Fund.

**ADOPTED**

The 2018-2019 annual budget for the PH&E Fund, adopted by the Board of Directors was presented for information only.

Adoption of Bylaw Amendments                    Brenda Moore, Third Vice-President and Chairman of the Organization Study Committee presented the following amendments to the bylaws for adoption by the membership.

(Amend by inserting or adding Underlined words and striking our words in ~~Strikethrough~~.)

**1. ARTICLE VI – MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 2. NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP**

Non-voting membership shall consist of ~~five~~ six classes: Honorary Life Members, who are not members of a Garden Club; Life Members who are not delegates; National Affiliates; International Affiliates; all categories of Youth Gardeners; and E-Members at Large.

E. E-Members at Large

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

**2. ARTICLE VII – DUES, FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

**Section 1. DUES**

D. E-Members at Large shall pay dues NGC as determined by the Board of Directors

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

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

Pacific Region – Peggy Olin, Region Director

Chris Wood	Alaska Garden Clubs
Marcella Brooks	Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Krystal Migliore	California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Ann Swider	Hawaii Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Claudia Hambacker	Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc.
Nancy Lee Loesch	Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.
Gaye Stewart	Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Joyce Lounsberry	Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

South Central – Isabel Olsen, Region Director

Derenda Stanley	Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Barbara Vance	New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.
Linda Lawson	Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc.
Betty Edwards	Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Smokey Bear visited the meeting. Chairman Jennifer Moreno announced the winners of the poster contest and the Region with the most entries (South Atlantic).

Reports of Committee Chairman The following Committee Chairman reported (copies on file):  
Andrea Little, Blue Star/Gold Star Memorial Markers Chairman  
Nancy Voyles, Scholarship Chairman  
Mary Ann Bryant, Tours Chairman  
Marsha Alexander, Wildflower Plantings Chairman  
Dorothy Yard, Flower Show Schools Chairman

Future Conventions Becky Crow, Conventions Coordinator and Pat Abercrombie, Vice-Coordinator reported future convention locations:

April 29-May 2, 2019 Beau Rivage Resort and Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi  
May 11-16, 2020 Potawatomi Hotel in Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
May 17-20, 2021 Meadowlands Hotel in Rutherford, New Jersey  
2022 Florida TBD  
2023 The Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia

Invitation to 2019 Convention Rhonda Rosetti, 2019 Convention Chairman, extended an invitation to the 2019 NGC convention in Biloxi, Mississippi on April 29- May 2, 2019.

Final Credentials Report Suzanne Potts, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Final Credentials Report as of as of 10:30 a.m. May 24, 2018 with a voting strength of 287 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	8
Advisory Committee	5
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	48
Representatives of State Presidents	3
NGC Chairmen	45
NGC Standing Committee Members	164
Delegates (conventions only)	<u>68</u>
Subtotal	356
Less Duplications	<u>69</u>
Total Voting Strength	287

**ADOPTED**

Final Registration Report

Jill Evans, 2018 Convention Registrar, gave the registration report as of 10:00 a.m. May 24, 2018 for information only.

Voting Strength .....	286
Non-Voting Members....	200
Spouses.....	38
Guests.....	30
Total Registration	554

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m. to reconvene at the Design Banquet.

Call to Order and adjournment

The President reconvened the meeting at the Design Banquet on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. and adjourned the 89th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. sine die.

<u>    <i>Mary Owen</i>    </u>	<u>    8/20/2018    </u>
Mary Owen, Recording Secretary	Date
<u>    <i>Nancy Hargroves</i>    </u>	<u>    8/20/2018    </u>
Nancy Hargroves, President	Date
<u>    <i>Mary Warshauer</i>    </u>	<u>    8/20/2018    </u>
Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President	Date
<u>    <i>Brenda Moore</i>    </u>	<u>    8/20/2018    </u>
Brenda Moore, Third Vice-President	Date
<u>    <i>Robin Pokorski</i>    </u>	<u>    8/20/2018    </u>
Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary	Date