

**NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**  
**81<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

Omni Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia

Friday May 14-16, 2010

**Call to Order**                      The President, Renee D. Blaschke, called the meeting of the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 2:41 p.m. on May 14, 2010 at the Omni Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia and welcomed those in attendance.

The Recording Secretary, Robin Pokorski, was present.

**Opening Exercises**              Nell Denman, Chaplain and Installations and Inspirations Book Chairman, gave the invocation.

The colors were presented by the Westlake High School Junior ROTC, Fulton County Schools. The national anthem was sung by Senior High Westlake student Keith Staley.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Marion Hilliard, Government Action Education Chairman.

A letter of greeting received from Sonny Perdue, Governor of the State of Georgia was read by Virginia GrandPrè, Corresponding Secretary.

Michael Sullivan, Director of Sales, representing Jim Hunt, Omni Hotel Manager welcomed NGC and its members to the Omni Hotel.

Mary Sue Colvin, Deep South Region Director, gave the welcome on behalf of the Deep South Region.

Betty Grimes, President of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. welcomed all to Georgia.

Mary Ellen Alden, President of the National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc. gave the response.

**Preliminary Credentials Report**              Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report showing a voting strength of 216 as of 7:30 a.m. May 14, 2010 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	1
NGC Elected Officers	7
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Regional Directors	8
Advisory Committee	3
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	34
Representatives of State Presidents	1
NGC Chairmen	125
NGC Standing Committee Members	84
Delegates	<u>43</u>
Subtotal	314*
Less duplications	<u>52</u>
Total Voting Strength	262

**ADOPTED**

\* Error in addition (316)

Quorum	The Chair declared a quorum present.										
Standing Rules of the 2010 Convention	Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian, read the Standing Rules of the 2010 Convention for adoption. <b>ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE</b>										
Convention Program	Deanna McFarlan, 2010 Convention Chairman, moved the adoption of the convention program. <b>ADOPTED AS CORRECTED</b>										
Preliminary Registration Report	Rigby Duncan, 2010 Convention Registration Committee Chairman, gave the registration report as of 7:30 a.m. May 14, 2010 for information only. <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Voting Strength</td> <td style="text-align: right;">262</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-Voting Members</td> <td style="text-align: right;">214</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spouses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guests</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>99</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">526</td> </tr> </table>	Voting Strength	262	Non-Voting Members	214	Spouses	41	Guests	<u>99</u>	Total Registration	526
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Committee to Approve Minutes	President Blaschke appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2010 Convention Meeting: Linda Nelson, Second Vice-President as Chairman Sandra Robinson, Third Vice-President Nancy Hargroves, Fourth Vice-President										
Timekeepers	President Blaschke appointed the following to serve as Timekeepers: Diane Dawson, Air Quality Chairman Susan Robinson, Government Action Committee Member – NE, DS, P Regions										
Pages	President Blaschke acknowledged the pages present.										
Welcome	The President welcomed the former NGC Presidents: Deen Day Sanders (1999-2001); Kitty Larkin (2005-2007); and Barbara D. May, Immediate Past President, (2007-2009).  President Blaschke recognized the Regional Directors: Kathy Thomas, New England; Carmie DeVito, Central Atlantic; Carolyn Patterson, South Atlantic; Mary Sue Colvin, Deep South; Joan Hood, Central; Mary Ann Moreno, South Central; Sandy Dennis, Rocky Mountain; Sandy Ford, Pacific  President Blaschke presented the PH&E Trustees: Joan B. Wipperman, Gerry St. Peters, June Kummer, Kitty Larkin, Barbara May, Director.										
Report of the Committee to Approve the Minutes	Shirley S. Nicolai, Chairman of the Committee to Approve the Minutes of the May 2009 Convention meeting in Houston, Texas reported that the minutes were approved and circulated.										
Reports of Officers	The following officers reported (copies on file): Renee, D. Blaschke, President Shirley S. Nicolai, First Vice-President, Liaison to State Garden Club Presidents and Regional Directors, Membership Chairman Linda Nelson, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee Chairman, Internal Audit Committee Chairman Sandra H. Robinson, Third Vice-President, Organization Study and Award of Excellence Committee Chairman, Plant It Pink Project Chairman Nancy Hargroves, Fourth Vice-President, Scholarship Committee Chairman, Coordinator for Outreach Committees, Liaison with Learn2Grow										

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

Reports of Regional Directors

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

Treasurer's Report

Barbara Mikkelson, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman reported. Copy on file.

Report of Chairmen

The following chairmen reported:  
 Deen Day Sanders – Wafa Liaison  
 Pat Cargnoni – Habitat for Humanity Walk

Adjourn

The opening business session adjourned at 4:24 p.m. to meet again at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 15, 2010.

Call to Order

President Renee D. Blaschke called the business meeting of the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention to order at 9:02 a.m. on Saturday, May 15, 2010.

Invocation

Mary Ann Moreno, South Central Region Director, gave the invocation.

Interim Credentials Report

Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Interim Credentials Report as of 8:30 a.m. May 15, 2010 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	1
NGC Elected Officers	7
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Regional Directors	8
Advisory Committee	3
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	43
Representatives of State Presidents	1
NGC Chairmen	148
NGC Standing Committee Members	87
Delegates	<u>76</u>
Subtotal	384
Less duplications	<u>56</u>
Total Voting Strength	328

**ADOPTED**

Interim Registration Report

Joanne Bennett, 2010 Convention Registration Vice-Chairman, gave the registration report as of 8:30 a.m. May 15, 2010 for information only.

Voting Strength	328
Non-Voting Members	320
Spouses	49
Guests	<u>22</u>
Total Registration	719

Report of the Board of Directors Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary reported that the Board of Directors had met three times since the 2009 Annual Convention in Houston – at the 2009 Post Convention meeting in Houston, at the 2009 Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis and prior to the 2010 Convention in Atlanta on May 14. Informational sheets reflecting actions taken were distributed to the board members and delegates.

Budgets The 2010-2011 annual budgets of the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund and the Operation Wildflower Fund were presented for adoption.

**ADOPTED**

The 2010-2011 annual budget for the PH&E Fund, adopted by the Board of Directors, was presented for information only.

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

Deep South Region – Mary Sue Colvin, Director

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

Central Atlantic Region – Carmi DeVito, Director

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

Pacific Region – Sandra Ford, Director

Carol Norquist	Alaska Garden Clubs Carolyn Erickson
Carol Parrott, President-elect	Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Maryanne Lucas	California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Ann Swider	Hawaii Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Robyn McCarthy	Idaho Garden Clubs, Inc.
Kristie Livreri	Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.
Karen Brown	The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Carolyn Erickson	Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

Committee Reports The following committee chairmen reported (copies on file):

Deana Roberts, Tours Chairman  
Carol Catlin, New Cultivars Chairman

Recess The business session recessed at 10:50 a.m. to reconvene after luncheon at 2:00 p.m.

Call to Order President Renee D. Blaschke called the business meeting of the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention to order at 2:27 p.m. on Saturday, May 15, 2010.

Report of Chairman Barbara Wesley, World Gardening and Natural Disasters Chairman reported. (Copy on file.)

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

Rocky Mountain Region – Sandra Dennis, Director  
 Doris Duckworth Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Alice Langley Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Norman DeNeal Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Delroy Hemsath Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska  
 Terry Kroke North Dakota State Federation of Garden Clubs  
 Beverly Heidelberger South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Lynnette Jeffres Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 The President of The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc. was not able to attend.

Central Region – Joan Hood, Director  
 Stephanie Greene The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.  
 Joyce Bulington The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.  
 Yvonne Niles Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc.  
 Lynn Dinvald Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Sue Neuhart Federated Garden Clubs of Minnesota, Inc.  
 Jean Roseman The Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.  
 Judy Pitcher Wisconsin Garden Club Federation

South Atlantic Region – Carolyn Golden Patterson, Director  
 Kay Fisher The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.  
 Mary Lou Goodman The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.  
 Betsy Steele The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.  
 Judy Binns, First Vice-President Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 June Ashworth West Virginia Garden Club, Inc

Memorial Service Nell Denman, Chaplain, conducted the Memorial Service of NGC members lost during the past year. (Copy on file)

Report of Chairman Elaine Dates, Smokey Bear Contest Chairman, together with Iris Velez, National Symbols Program Manager from the U.S. Forest Service presented the Smokey Bear Contest winner (out of 33,000 entries) from Virginia.

Adjourn The business session adjourned at 4:18 p.m. to meet again on Sunday May 16, 2010 at 2:30 p.m.

Call to Order President Renee D. Blaschke called the business meeting of the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention to order at 2:39 p.m. on Sunday, May 16, 2010.

Invocation Sandra Ford, Pacific Region Director, gave the invocation.

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

New England Region – Kathleen Thomas, Director  
 Donna Nowak The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.  
 Rebecca Linney The Garden Club Federation of Maine, Inc.  
 Linda Smith The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.  
 Diane McMillen New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Vera Bowen Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Stephanie Hockensmith Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont, Inc.

South Central Region – Mary Ann Moreno, Director  
 Phyllis Byrum Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Shirley Tetreault New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.  
 Patsy Ruth Miller, OGC member Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc  
 Jacki Simmers Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

Reports of Chairmen The following chairmen reported: (Copies on file.)

Jeanne Nelson, "Beautify Blight"  
 Jan Warshaur, Calendar Committee Chairman  
 Jimmie Meinhardt, Blue Star Memorial Markers  
 Sara Brooks, Garden Therapy  
 Lila Peterson, "Golden Days"  
 Pat Cargnoni, Habitat for Humanity

Future Conventions Anne Bucher, Conventions reported on future convention locations:  
 2011 Washington, D.C. – JW Marriott Hotel, May 27-29  
 2012 Buffalo, New York – Adams Mark Hotel, May 16-19  
 2013 Seattle, Washington – May 24-26  
 2014 Oklahoma TBD  
 2015 Kentucky TBD

Invitation to 2011 Dale DeFeo, 2011 Convention Chairman, extended an invitation to the 82<sup>nd</sup> annual  
 Convention Meeting Convention in Washington D.C.

Final Credentials Report Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Final Credentials Report as  
 of 12:00 p.m. May 16, 2010 showing a voting strength of 345 and moved its  
 adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	1
NGC Elected Officers	7
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Regional Directors	8
Advisory Committee	3
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	48
Representatives of State Presidents	2
NGC Chairmen	148
NGC Standing Committee Members	87
Delegates	<u>87</u>
Subtotal	401
Less duplications	<u>56</u>
Total Voting Strength	345

**ADOPTED**

Interim Registration Report Rigby Duncan, 2010 Convention Registration Committee Chairman, gave the  
 registration report as of 8:30 a.m. May 15, 2010 for information only.

Voting Strength .....	345
Non-Voting Members .....	403
Spouses .....	50
Guests.....	<u>26</u>
Total Registration	824

Presentation of Gift Betty Grimes, President of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. presented President  
 Blaschke with a gift of a crystal daffodil.

Adjourn The President adjourned the business session at 4:10 p.m. to reconvene at the  
 Awards Banquet.

Call to Order Renee D. Blaschke, President, called the meeting to order at 10:42 p.m. on Sunday,  
 May 16, 2010.

Courtesy Resolution Pamela C. Hebert, Resolutions Chairman, read the Courtesy Resolution.

**ADOPTED**

Benediction

Nell Denman, Chaplain, gave the benediction.

Adjourn Sine Die

President Renee D. Blaschke adjourned the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. at 10:50 p.m. on Sunday, May 16, 2010 Sine Die.

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Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary	Date
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Renee D. Blaschke, President	Date
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Linda Nelson, Second Vice-President	Date
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Sandra H. Robinson, Third Vice-President	Date
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Nancy L. Hargroves, Fourth Vice-President	Date
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