NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
83rd ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING
MINUTES

Adams Mark Hotel, Buffalo, New York
May 18 – 19, 2012

Call to Order
The President, Shirley S. Nicolai, called the meeting of the 83rd Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, May 18, 2012 at the Adams Mark Hotel, Buffalo, New York and welcomed those in attendance.

The Recording Secretary, Gay Austin, was present.

Opening Exercises
The colors were presented by the Old Fort Niagara 1812 Color Party and Field Music.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Renee D. Blaschke, PH&E Trustees Director, Advisory Committee Chairman, Budget Committee Member.

Angela Raitano, NGC Chaplain, Infrastructure Committee Chairman, gave the Inspirational Reading.

Babbidean Huber, Convention Chairman, brought greetings from the Honorable David Franzyk, Buffalon Common Council Member.

Pam Foehser, President of Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, welcomed all to the state of New York.

Judith A. Juno, President of the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs gave the response.

Preliminary Credentials Report
Sally K. Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report as of 6:00 p.m. May 17, 2012 with a voting strength of 353 and moved its adoption.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NGC President</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGC Honorary President</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGC Elected Officers</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGC Appointed Officers</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Directors</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisory Committee</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH&amp;E Trustees</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Presidents</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representatives of State Presidents</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGC Chairmen</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGC Standing Committee Members</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delegates</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less duplications</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Voting Strength</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADOPTED

Quorum
The Chair declared a quorum present.

Standing Rules of the 2012 Convention

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE
Babbidean Huber, 2012 Convention Chairman, moved the adoption of the convention program as corrected.

ADOPTED

Monica Hansen, 2012 Convention Registration Committee Chairman, gave the registration report as of 6:00 p.m. May 17, 2012 for information only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voting Strength</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Voting Members</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouses</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guests</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Registration</td>
<td>603</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Committee to Approve Minutes

President Nicolai appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2011 Convention Meeting:

Sandra H. Robinson, Second Vice-President as Chairman
Nancy Hargroves, Third Vice-President
Poss Tarpley, Corresponding Secretary

Timekeepers

President Nicolai appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:

Mary Owen, Membership Committee Member
Allison Beards, Landscape Design Schools Accrediting Chairman (SC, RM, P)

Pages

President Nicolai acknowledged the pages present.

Welcome


President Nicolai recognized the Regional Directors:
Joyce A. Kimball, New England; Jeanne T. Nelson, Central Atlantic; Mary Dixon, South Atlantic; Sara Lanier, Deep South; Florence Smith, Central; Judy Grotts, South Central; Terry Kroke, Rocky Mountain; Debbie Hinchey, Pacific

President Nicolai presented the PH&E Trustees:
Gerry St. Peters, Les Westgard, Kitty Larkin, Barbara D. May and Renee D. Blaschke, Director.

Report of the Committee to Approve the Minutes

Linda Nelson, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May 2011 Convention meeting in Washington D.C., reported that the minutes were approved and circulated.

Reports of Officers

The following officers reported (copies on file):
Shirley S. Nicolai, President
Linda Nelson, First Vice-President, Liaison to State Garden Club Presidents and Regional Directors, Membership Chairman
Sandra H. Robinson, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee, and Internal Audit Committee Chairman
Nancy Hargroves, Third Vice-President, Organization Study and Award of Excellence Committee and Award of Excellence Chairman
Gay L. Austin, Recording Secretary
Patsy Ruth Miller was absent, due to illness. Sandra H. Robinson, Finance Committee Chairman and Budget Committee Member read her report.
Poss Tarpley, Corresponding Secretary
Pam Hebert, Historian
Joan H. Corbisiero, Parliamentarian
Renee D. Blaschke, PH&E Trustees Director
Reports of Regional Directors and State Presidents

The following Regional Directors and State Presidents reported (copies on file):

**Pacific Region** – Debbie Hinchey, Director
- Becky Hassebroek – Alaska Garden Clubs
- Carol Parrott – Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Julie West – California Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Ann Swider – Hawaii Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Robyn McCarthy – Idaho Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Vicki Yuen – Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Garnet Ascher – The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Judith A. Juno – Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs

**South Atlantic Region** – Mary Dixon, Director
- Diane Caines – The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.
- Maida Owen Dantzler – The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.
- Judy B. Binns – Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Brenda Moore – West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.

Announcements

The following chairmen reported (reports on file):
- Patricia Cargnoni, Habitat for Humanity Chairman
- Elaine Dates – Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Chairman
- Kathleen Thomas – Incoming Communications Committee – Non Print

Adjourn

The opening business session adjourned at 3:45 p.m. to meet again at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 19, 2012.

Call to Order

President Shirley S. Nicolai called the business meeting of the 83rd Annual Convention to order at 9:33 a.m. on Saturday, May 19, 2012.

Inspirational Reading

Donna Pair, *Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems* Committee Member, gave the Inspirational Reading.

Interim Credentials Report

Sally K. Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Interim Credentials Report as of 6:00 p.m. May 18, 2012 with a voting strength of 372 and moved its adoption.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Vote</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NGC President</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH&amp;E Trustees</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Presidents</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representatives of State Presidents</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGC Chairmen</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGC Standing Committee Members</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delegates</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less duplications</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Voting Strength</strong></td>
<td>372</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADOPTED

Interim Registration Report

Monica Hansen, 2012 Convention Registration Chairman, gave the registration report as of 6:00 p.m. May 18, 2012 for information only.

<table>
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<tbody>
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<td>513</td>
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<td>Spouses</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guests</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
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Gay Austin, Recording Secretary, reported that the Board of Directors had met three times since the 2011 Annual Convention in Washington, D.C., – at the Post-Convention Board meeting in Washington, D.C.; at the 2011 Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri and prior to the 2012 Convention in Buffalo, New York, on May 18. Informational sheets reflecting actions taken were distributed to the board members and delegates.

Having been recommended by the Organization Study Committee, approved by the Executive Committee and Board of Directors at the 2011 Fall Board meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, the proposed amendment to the NGC Bylaws was read by Gay Austin, Recording Secretary:

Insert new **ARTICLE XIII – ELECTRONIC MEETINGS**

“The Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees and all NGC Committees are authorized to meet by telephone conference or through other electronic communications media so long as all the members may simultaneously hear each other and participate during the meeting.”

*The remaining Articles in Bylaws will be renumbered.

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

Sandra H. Robinson, Chairman, Finance Committee, presented the 2012-2013 annual budgets of the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund and the Operation Wildflower Fund for adoption.

**ADOPTED**

The 2012-2013 annual budget for the PH&E Fund, adopted by the Board of Directors, was presented for information only.

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

**New England Region** – Joyce Kimball, Director

- Kathleen Marty – The Garden Club Federation of Maine, Inc.
- Heidi Kost-Gross – The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.
- Virginia Urdi – New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Judy Hager – Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Gay Gaston – Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont, Inc.

**Rocky Mountain Region** – Terry Kroke, Director

- Audrey Coyle – Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Floanna Crowley – Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Phyllis White – Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Linda Shaw – Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska
- Linda Bellemare – North Dakota State Federation of Garden Clubs
- Darlene Pearson – South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Roberta Bolton – Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Darla Anderson – The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.

**Deep South Region** – Sara Lanier, Director

- Jo Ann Wade – The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.
- Jan Sillik – Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Suzanne Wheeler, First Vice President – The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
- Mary Sue Colvin, Former DS Director – Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
- Nancy Moore – The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.
- Valerie C. Tipps – Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Reports of Chairmen

The following chairmen reported (reports on file).
Mary Sue Colvin, Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems
Betsy L. Steele, Plantings for Public Special Places
Sara F. Brooks, Plant it Pink
Candace Morgenstern, Member Services
Adrienne Langan, Natural Disasters Grants
Pat Cargnoni, Habitat for Humanity
Deana Roberts, Tours
Robin Pokorski, Photo Archiving and Flkr-ettes
Sage and Roses Project - A monetary award for the purchase of a Blue Star Memorial Marker was announced as having been won by the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Recess

The business session recessed at 11:00 a.m. to reconvene after luncheon at 1:45 p.m.

Call to Order

President Shirley S. Nicolai called the business meeting of the 83rd Annual Convention to order at 1:53 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, 2012.

Memorial Service

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

Reports of Regional Directors and State Presidents

The following Regional Directors and State Presidents reported. (copies on file.)

Central Region - Florence Smith, Director
Susan P. Cooney The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.
Rosemarie P. Springer The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
Nancy Stark Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
Barbara Halverson Federated Garden Clubs of Minnesota, Inc.
Judy Sheets The Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.
Marion H. Books Wisconsin Garden Club Federation

South Central Region - Judy Grotts, Director
Nancy Keisman Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Shirley Tetreault New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.
Donna Marshack Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc.
Kathryn Cox Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

Central Atlantic Region - Jeanne Nelson, Director
Regina I. Brown The Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs
Linda Masland The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.
Vivian Morrison The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.
Pam Foehser Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.
Aggie Goss The Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
Vickie Godwin National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc.
Gail S. Corle The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania

Future Conventions

Anne Bucher, Conventions Coordinator, and Phyllis Steele, Vice-Coordinator, reported on future convention locations:

2013 Seattle, Washington, May 24 -26, 2013 (Installation year)
2015 Louisville, Kentucky (Installation year)
2016 Undecided
2017 Richmond, Virginia (Installation year)

Invitation to 2013 Convention Meeting

Final Credentials Report

Sally K. Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Final Credentials Report as of 12:00 noon, May 19, 2012 with a voting strength of 373 and moved its adoption.

NGC President 1
NGC Honorary President 0
NGC Elected Officers 4
NGC Appointed Officers 4
Regional Directors 8
Advisory Committee 4
PH&E Trustees 5
State Presidents 48
Representatives of State Presidents 1
NGC Chairmen 140
NGC Standing Committee Members 92
Delegates 120
Subtotal 427
Less duplications 54
Total Voting Strength 373

ADOPTED

Final Registration Report

Monica Hansen, 2012 Convention Registration Committee Chairman, gave the registration report as of 12:00 p.m., May 19, 2012 for information only.

Voting Strength .............373
Non-Voting Members .......558
Spouses ....................39
Guests .......................13
Total Registration 983

Adjournment

The President adjourned the business session at 3:03 p.m. to reconvene at the Awards Banquet.

Call to Order

Shirley S. Nicolai, President, called the meeting to order at 9:04 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, 2012.

Presidential Citations

President Nicolai presented Presidential Citations to Babbidean Huber, Chairman; Barbara Campbell, Vice-Chairman; and Judith Tucholski-zon, Vice-Chairman of the 2012 Annual Convention.

Courtsey Resolution

Nancy Donaldson, Resolutions Chairman, read the Courtesy Resolution.

ADOPTED

Benediction

Robin Pokorski, Photo Archiving of Accomplishments Chairman, gave the benediction.

Adjourn Sine Die

President Shirley S. Nicolai adjourned the 83rd Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. at 9:13 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, 2012 Sine Die.

Gay L. Austin

Gay L. Austin, Recording Secretary

Shirley S. Nicolai

Shirley S. Nicolai, President

July 31, 2012

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