

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 Niagra 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.

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	46
Representatives of State Presidents	1
NGC Chairmen	129
NGC Standing Committee Members	86
Delegates	<u>115</u>
Subtotal	403
Less duplications	<u>50</u>
Total Voting Strength	353

ADOPTED

Quorum The Chair declared a quorum present.

Standing Rules of the 2012 Convention Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian, read the Standing Rules of the 2012 Convention for adoption.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

Convention Program	Babbidean Huber, 2012 Convention Chairman, moved the adoption of the convention program as corrected.										
	ADOPTED										
Preliminary Registration Report	<p>Monica Hansen, 2012 Convention Registration Committee Chairman, gave the registration report as of 6:00 p.m. May 17, 2012 for information only.</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Voting Strength</td> <td style="text-align: right;">353</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-Voting Members</td> <td style="text-align: right;">199</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spouses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guests</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>13</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">603</td> </tr> </table>	Voting Strength	353	Non-Voting Members	199	Spouses	38	Guests	<u>13</u>	Total Registration	603
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Committee to Approve Minutes	<p>President Nicolai appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2011 Convention Meeting:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Sandra H. Robinson, Second Vice-President as Chairman Nancy Hargroves, Third Vice-President Poss Tarpley, Corresponding Secretary</p>										
Timekeepers	<p>President Nicolai appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Mary Owen, Membership Committee Member Allison Beards, Landscape Design Schools Accrediting Chairman (SC, RM, P)</p>										
Pages	President Nicolai acknowledged the pages present.										
Welcome	<p>The President welcomed the former NGC Presidents: Lois Dupre'Schuster (2001–2003); Kitty Larkin (2005–2007); Barbara D. May, (2007–2009); and Renee D. Blaschke, Immediate Past-President (2009–2011).</p> <p>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</p> <p>President Nicolai presented the PH&E Trustees: Gerry St. Peters, Les Westgard, Kitty Larkin, Barbara D. May and Renee D. Blaschke, Director.</p>										
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	<p>The following officers reported (copies on file):</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">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</p>										

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.
 Judy Barnes The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.
 Maida Owen Dantzer 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.

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	<u>119</u>
Subtotal	426
Less duplications	<u>54</u>
Total Voting Strength	372

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.

Voting Strength	372
Non-Voting Members	513
Spouses	39
Guests	<u>8</u>

Report of the Board of Directors 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.

Amendments to Bylaws 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

Budgets 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.

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

New England Region – Joyce Kimball, Director

Bronwyn Schoelzel	The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.
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 Flickr-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 Marsheck 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)
 2014 Norman, Oklahoma, April 30 – May 3, 2014.
 2015 Louisville, Kentucky (Installation year)
 2016 Undecided
 2017 Richmond, Virginia (Installation year)
- Invitation to 2013 Convention Meeting Jeanette B. Priun, 2013 Convention Chairman, extended an invitation to the 84th Annual Convention in Seattle, Washington, May 24 – 26, 2013 at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel.

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	<u>120</u>
Subtotal	427
Less duplications	<u>54</u>
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.....	<u>13</u>
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.

Courtesy 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 July 31, 2012
Gay L. Austin, Recording Secretary Date

Shirley S. Nicolai July 31, 2012
Shirley S. Nicolai, President Date

Sandra H. Robinson *July 31, 2012*
Sandra H. Robinson, Second Vice-President Date

Nancy L. Hargroves *July 31, 2012*
Nancy L. Hargroves, Third Vice-President Date

Poss Tarpley *July 31, 2012*
Poss Tarpley, Corresponding Secretary Date