NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
84th ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING
MINUTES

Sheraton Hotel, Seattle, Washington

May 24 – 26, 2013

Call to Order

The President, Shirley S. Nicolai, called the meeting of the 84th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 2:25 p.m. on Friday, May 24, 2013 at the Sheraton Hotel, Seattle, Washington and welcomed those in attendance.

The Recording Secretary, Gay L. Austin, was present.

Opening Exercises

The colors were presented by the Seattle Fire Department Honor Guard.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Robin Pokorski, Photo Archiving Chairman.

Angela Raitano, NGC Chaplain, Infrastructure Committee Chairman, gave an inspirational reading.

Jean Goddan, Seattle City Council Member, brought greetings from the City of Seattle.

Debbie Hinchey, Pacific Region Director, gave the welcome on behalf of the Pacific Region.

Judith Juno, President of Washington Federation of Garden Clubs, welcomed all to the state of Washington.

Donna Marsheck, President of Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc., gave the response.

Preliminary Credentials Report

Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. May 24, 2013 with a voting strength of 243 and moved its adoption.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NGC President</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGC Honorary President</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGC Elected Officers</td>
<td>5</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>
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<tr>
<td>State Presidents</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Representatives of State Presidents</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGC Chairmen</td>
<td>109</td>
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<td>NGC Standing Committee Members</td>
<td>66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delegates</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>293</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less duplications</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Voting Strength</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADOPTED

Quorum

The Chair declared a quorum present.

Standing Rules of the 2013 Convention

Joan Corbiserio, Parliamentarian, read the Standing Rules of the 2013 Convention for adoption.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE
Convention Program

Jeannette Pruin, 2013 Convention Chairman, moved the adoption of the convention program as corrected.

ADOPTED

Preliminary Registration Report

Shirley Baker, 2013 Convention Registration Committee Chairman, gave the registration report as of 12:30 p.m. May 24, 2013 for information only.

Voting Strength 243
Non-Voting Members 176
Spouses 51
Guests 79
Total Registration 549

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 L. Hargroves, Third Vice-President
Posa Tarpley, Corresponding Secretary

Timekeepers

President Nicolai appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:

Jennifer Moreno, Special Education Activities Chairman
Suzanne Potts, Nominating Committee (Central Region),
Youth Recyclable Sculpture Contest Chairman

Tellers

President Nicolai appointed the following to serve as tellers:

Darleen Newell, Plant Society Liaison, Head Teller
Susan Robinson, Container Gardening Chairman
Elaine Gunderson, Strategic Planning Committee

Pages

President Nicolai acknowledged the pages present:

Mary Ann Moreno, Page to the President
Joan Craig, Page to the President-Elect
Marilyn Topp and Dorothy Munroe, General Convention Pages

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 Hinchev, Pacific

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

Report of the Committee to Approve the Minutes

Sandah H. Robinson, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May 2012 Convention meeting in Buffalo, New York reported that the minutes were approved and circulated.

Reports of Officers

The following officers reported (copies on file):
Shirley S. Nicolai, President
Linda Nelson, President-Elect, Liaison to State Garden Club Presidents and Regional Directors, Membership Chairman
Sandra H. Robinson, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee Chairman, Internal Audit Committee Chairman
Nancy L. Hargroves, Third Vice-President, Organization Study and Award
Adjourn  The opening business session adjourned at 3:15 p.m. to meet again at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 25, 2013.

Call to Order  President Shirley S. Nicolai called the business meeting of the 84th Annual Convention to order at 9:03 a.m. on Saturday, May 25, 2013.

Invocation  June B. Ashworth, School Gardens/Pollinators Chairman, gave the invocation.

Interim Credentials Report  Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Interim Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. May 25, 2013 with a voting strength of 313 and moved its adoption.

| NGC President  | 1 |
| NGC Honorary President  | 0 |
| NGC Elected Officers  | 5 |
| NGC Appointed Officers  | 4 |
| Regional Directors  | 8 |
| Advisory Committee  | 4 |
| PH&E Trustees  | 5 |
| State Presidents  | 46 |
| Representatives of State Presidents  | 2 |
| NGC Chairmen  | 130 |
| NGC Standing Committee Members  | 80 |
| Delegates  | 104 |
| Subtotal  | 368 |
| Less duplications  | 55 |
| Total Voting Strength  | 313 |

ADOPTED

Interim Registration Report  Shirley Baker, 2013 Convention Registration Chairman, gave the registration report as of 9:00 a.m. May 25, 2013 for information only.

| Voting Strength  | 313 |
| Non-Voting Members  | 237 |
| Spouses  | 51 |
| Guests  | 51 |
| Total Registration  | 652 |

Nominating Committee Report  Gay L. Austin, Recording Secretary, read the bylaws pertinent to the election of officers.

Arabella Dane, Nominating Committee Vice-Chairman, introduced the members of the Nominating Committee and submitted the slate of officers for 2013 – 2015 as nominated by the committee:

- Sandra H. Robinson, First Vice-President
- Nancy L. Hargroves, Second Vice-President
- Gay L. Austin, Third Vice-President
- Carol L. Hall, Recording Secretary
- Betty Grimes, Treasurer

Election of Officers  As there were no other nominations from the floor, the election was held by voice
vote and all of the above were elected.

Linda Nelson, President-Elect will serve as President.

Report of the Board of Directors

Gay L. Austin, Recording Secretary, reported that the Board of Directors had met two times since the 2012 Annual Convention in Buffalo, New York — at the 2012 Fall Board Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas and prior to the 2013 Convention in Seattle, Washington on May 24. Informational sheets reflecting actions taken were distributed to the board members and delegates.

Amendments to Bylaws

On behalf of the Organization Study Committee, Nancy L. Hargroves, Third Vice-President and Organization Study Committee Chairman moved the following bylaw amendments for adoption.

1. PAGE 4, Article VI, MEMBERSHIP, Section 2. NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP, first paragraph currently reads: “Non-voting membership shall consist of six classes: Honorary Life Members, who are not members of a Garden Club; Life Members who are not delegates; Affiliates; National Affiliates; International Affiliates; and all categories of Youth Gardeners.”

   STRIKE: “six”
   INSERT: “five”
   STRIKE: “Affiliates”

   To read: “Non-voting membership shall consist of five classes: Honorary Life Members, who are not members of a Garden Club; Life Members, who are not delegates; National Affiliates; International Affiliates; and all categories of Youth Gardeners.”

2. PAGE 4, Article VI, MEMBERSHIP, Section 2. NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP, C. currently reads: “All NGC Life Members shall receive a subscription to The National Gardener, if requested.”

   STRIKE: letter “C” and renumber D and E.
   (Formatting error) This sentence belongs with “B”

3. PAGE 4, Article VI, MEMBERSHIP, Section 2. NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP, D. Affiliates, National Affiliates and International Affiliates currently reads:

   “Any organization, within the United States or its territories or possessions, or any such organization in a foreign country, expressing a desire to further the objectives and purposes of NGC shall be eligible for the applicable affiliate membership as listed below:

   1. Affiliate Membership—Organizations within the United States or its territories or possessions which are local or regional in scope;
   2. National Affiliate Membership—Organizations within the United States or its territories or possessions which are national in scope;
   3. International Affiliate Membership—Organizations in a foreign country.

   Affiliate Membership may be accorded to such organizations upon recommendation in writing to the NGC Affiliates, National Affiliates or International Affiliates Chairman from a state garden club, a member garden club, or an affiliate organization, by submitting an application and required dues.”

   DELETE “Affiliates,” from title.
   DELETE #1. “Affiliate membership within the United States or its territories or possessions which are local or regional in scope.
   IN #2. DELETE: “which are national in scope” to now read:
   “National Affiliate Membership—Organizations within the United States or its territories or possessions.”
   RENUMBER
SUBSTITUTE: “Affiliate Membership may be accorded to such organizations by the submission of an application and required dues to NGC Headquarters.”

To read: PAGE 4, Article VI, MEMBERSHIP, Section 2. NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP, C. “National Affiliates and International Affiliates Any organization within the United States or its territories or possessions, or any such organization in a foreign country, expressing a desire to further the objectives and purposes of NGC shall be eligible for the applicable affiliate membership listed below:

1. National Affiliate Membership – Organizations within the United States or its territories or possessions
2. International Affiliate Membership – Organizations in a foreign country.

Affiliate Membership may be accorded to such organizations by the submission of an application and required dues to NGC Headquarters.”

#1 - #3 ADOPTED

4. PAGE 17, Article XVI- COMMITTEES Section 2. Advisory Committee A. currently reads: “The Advisory Committee Shall Consist of the past presidents of NGC.”
   STRIKE “Past” before “Presidents” and insert the word “former”.
   To read: “The Advisory Committee shall consist of the former presidents of NGC.”
   CHANGE the word “Past” to “former” president in all places where applicable in bylaws.

ADOPTED

5. PAGE 21, Article XVII, FINANCES, Section 2. Finance Committee, C. Funds, a) PH&E Fund 2) currently reads: “A percentage, … of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for: (a) investment fees, audit fees and legal fees of this fund;
   STRIKE: “and legal fees” and insert “and” between words “fees, audit”
   To read: 2) “A percentage…of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for: (a) investment fees and audit fees of this fund.”
   (b) through (e) remain unchanged.

6. PAGE 21, Article XVII, FINANCES, Section 2. Finance Committee, C. Funds b) Scholarship Fund 2) currently reads: “A percentage, …of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:
   (a) scholarships;
   (b) one-half (1/2) of the subscription fees to The National Gardener for NGC Life Members;
   (c) Expenses incurred by the Scholarship Chairman;
   (d) Transfers to the General Fund for one half (1/2) of the NGC Life Membership Committee expense.
   INSERT: New (c) “investment fees and audit fees of this fund;”
   INSERT: New (d) “payroll expenses associated with scholarships;”
   (a) and (b) remain unchanged. Renumber remaining
   To read: 2) “A percentage…of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for: (a) scholarships; (b) one-half (1/2) of the subscription fees to The National Gardener for NGC Life Members; (c) Investment fees and audit fees of this fund; (d) Payroll expenses associated with scholarship; (e) Expenses incurred by the Scholarship Chairman; (f) Transfers to the General Fund for one half (1/2) of the NGC Life Membership Committee expense.”
7. PAGE 23, Article XVII, FINANCES, Section 2. Finance Committee, C Funds, e) Operation Wildflower Fund 2) currently reads: “A percentage shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”

**ADD:** New (c) “Investment fees and audit fees of this fund.”
(a) and (b) remain unchanged
To read: 2) “A percentage ... shall be available for use during succeeding years for: (a) Promotion of the objects and purposes of the organization; (b) Transfers to the Scholarship Fund by a majority vote of the Finance Committee; (c) Investment fees and audit fees of this fund.”

8. PAGE 23, Article XVII, FINANCES, Section 2. Finance Committee, C Funds d) NGC Endowment Fund 2) currently reads: “A percentage... shall be available for use during succeeding years for: (a) investment fees, audit fees and legal fees of this fund;”

**STRIKE:** “and legal fees” and insert “and” between words “fees, audit”
To read: “A percentage ... shall be available for use during succeeding years for: (a) Investment fees and audit fees of this fund,” (b) and (c) remain unchanged.

#5 - #8 ADOPTED

**Budgets**

Betty Grimes, Treasurer, presented the 2013-2014 annual budgets of the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund and the Operation Wildflower Fund for adoption.

**ADOPTED**

The 2013-2014 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 State Presidents (or their representatives) 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 Central Region** – Judy Grotts, Director
  - Nancy Keisman – Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
  - Shirley Tetreault – New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.
  - Donna Marsbech – Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc.
  - Kathryn Cox – Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

**Recess**

The business session recessed at 10:20 a.m. to reconvene after luncheon at 2:00 p.m.

**Call to Order**

President Shirley S. Nicolai called the business meeting of the 84th Annual Convention to order at 2:01 p.m. on Saturday, May 25, 2013.

**Reports of Regional Directors and State Presidents**

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

- **Central Atlantic Region** – Jeanne T. Nelson, Director
  - Regina L. Brown – The Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs
Jackie Handley President Elect, The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.
Vivian Morrison The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.
Gail McGee President Elect, Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.
Mickey Marquis President Elect, The Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
Vickie Godwin National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc.
Gail S. Corle The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania

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 Dantzler The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.
Judy B. Binns Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Brenda Moore West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.

Central Region – Florence Smith, Director
Susan P. Cooney The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.
Rosemary P. Springer The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
Sandy Wales President Elect, Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc.
Nancy Stark Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
Barbara Halverson Federated Garden Clubs of Minnesota, Inc.
Judy Sheets The Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.
Marian H. Books Wisconsin Garden Club Federation

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

Adjourn The business session adjourned at 3:07 p.m. to meet again on Sunday May 26, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.

Call to Order President Shirley S. Nicolai called the business meeting of the 84th Annual Convention to order at 9:31 a.m. on Sunday, May 26, 2013.

Invocation Elaine Gunderson, Strategic Planning Committee Member, gave the invocation.

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

Deep South Region – Sara Lanier, Director
Jo Ann Wade The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.
Jan Sillik Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Carol R. Silcox The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
Mary Jacobs Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.
Nancy Moore The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.
Valerie C. Tipps Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Rocky Mountain Region – Terry Kroke, Director
Trudi Lake President Elect, Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Floranna Crowley Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.
Phyllis White Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Linda Shaw Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska
Lena 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.

New England Region – Joyce A. 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.

Reports of Chairmen

The following chairmen reported: (Copies on file.)
1. Bonnie Borne, Scholarship Chairman
2. Patricia Cargnoni, Habitat for Humanity Gardens Chairman
3. Mary Sue Colvin, Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems, Chairman
4. Adrienne Langan, Natural Disasters Grants, Chairman
5. Art Loesch, Penny Pines Chairman
6. Marian McNabb, Butterfly Chairman
7. Greg Pokorski, Gardening Study Chairman, ES, GS, LD Schools Coordinator
8. Idalia Aguilar, International Affiliates Schools Liaison, IA Gardening Study Schools Liaison, Translator for the President
9. Kathy Thomas, Webmaster (JUNE 1, 2013)
   Member side – USER NAME – member
   PASSWORD - world
10. Jan Warshauer, Vision Of Beauty Calendar Chairman

Future Conventions

Anne Bucher, Conventions Coordinator, and Phyllis B. Steele, Vice-Coordinator, reported on future convention locations:
2015 - Crowne Plaza, Louisville, Kentucky – April 30 – May 3, 2014
2016 – Michigan - TBA
2017 – Virginia – TBA
2018 – Wisconsin – TBA

Invitation to 2012 Convention Meeting

Donna Marsheck, 2014 Convention Chairman, extended an invitation to the 85th annual Convention in Norman, Oklahoma, April 30 – May 3, 2014.

Final Credentials Report

Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Final Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. May 26, 2013 with a voting strength of 349 and moved its adoption.

NGC President  1
NGC Honorary President  0
NGC Elected Officers  5
NGC Appointed Officers  4
Regional Directors  8
Advisory Committee  4
PH&E Trustees  5
State Presidents  47
Representatives of State Presidents  2
NGC Chairmen  130
NGC Standing Committee Members  80
Delegates  118
Subtotal  404
Less duplications  55
Total Voting Strength  349

ADOPTED

Final Registration Report

Shirley Baker, 2013 Convention Registration Committee Chairman, gave the registration report as of 9:00 a.m. May 26, 2013 for information only.

Voting Strength ..............349
Non-Voting Members ........199
Spouses .........................53
Guests..........................52
Adjourn
The President adjourned the business session at 11:15 a.m. to reconvene at the Installation Banquet.

Call to Order
Shirley S. Nicolai, President, called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 26, 2013.

Courtesy Resolution
Pamela C. Hebert, Historian, read the Courtesy Resolution prepared by Nancy Donaldson, Resolutions Chairman.

Benediction
Angela Raitano, Chaplain, gave the benediction.

Adjourn Sine Die
President Shirley S. Nicolai adjourned the 84th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. at 8:55 p.m. on Sunday, May 26, 2013 Sine Die.

_________________________ 8-26-2013
Gay L. Austin, Recording Secretary Date

_________________________ 8-26-2013
Shirley S. Nicolai, President Date

_________________________ 8-26-2013
Sandra H. Robinson, Second Vice-President Date

_________________________ 8-26-2013
Nancy L. Hargroves, Third Vice-President Date

_________________________ 8-26-2013
Poss Tarpley, Corresponding Secretary Date