

# NEWSCAPE



*Center for Home Gardening, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, MO.  
Photo by Victoria Bergesen*

## From the Editor:

Welcome to our new readers! You are a busy group with many schools, refreshers, and events. *Please forward Newscap*e to your Consultants.

Please send me information about your projects, meetings, and schools by August 1, 2016 for inclusion in our Fall 2016 issue of *Newscap*e. I look forward to including articles and photos about your events.

All submissions must be original material. Photos are welcome! Please send articles in Word format and photos to [CSCarbaugh@verizon.net](mailto:CSCarbaugh@verizon.net).

**Caroline Carbaugh**

## OBJECTIVES OF THE LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDY PROGRAM

- ★ Develop a greater sense of appreciation, pride, and knowledge about our private and public gardens.
- ★ Become better educated to make changes in our surroundings so that they will be more beautiful, useful, convenient, ecologically sound, and easily maintained.
- ★ Stimulate interest in all phases of landscape design, including community planning that will affect all of our lives.
- ★ Develop a contingent of qualified Landscape Design Consultants to serve in such decision-making areas of public life as providing leadership, educational programs, scholarships, awards, and promoting better landscape design.



*Japanese Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, MO. Photo by Caroline Carbaugh*

## NEWS FROM YOUR NATIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

### FROM OUR NATIONAL CHAIRMAN:

Landscape Design Schools are planned in many states this year. Garden club members and their communities will be the beneficiaries. I hope the remaining LDS Chairmen will choose to “Leap Into Action” as well.

The LD article from which five questions on the exam would be based in any Course occurring this spring was not included in the Winter 2016 TNG issue. The LD article from which questions will come is titled “Success in the Landscape Design Process”, by Alexis Slafer. It is found in the TNG Fall 2015 issue. State LDS Chairmen will need to advise students of this and may want to provide them with a copy.

Please note a change in the site for a Course IV required reading, “*The History of Community Gardens...*” by Laura Lawson. It is now available at:

[Http://agriurban.rutgers.edu/WhatIsUrbanAg.html](http://agriurban.rutgers.edu/WhatIsUrbanAg.html).

The main menu for Urban Agriculture in New Jersey comes up. Go to the bottom of the page and select/click on “*A Brief History of Urban Garden Programs in the United States*”. In the lower left appears a block: “Lawson UGPlecturew ...ppt”. Click on it to download the Power Point presentation of the article. Increase the percentage at lower right to be able to better read the article. Move the arrow on the right column down to obtain all the pages.

*Keeping In Touch*, which includes schools information, is sent electronically now. Recipients include state newsletter editors and state webmasters. I urge the State LDS Chairmen to forward KIT to their local LDS Chairman, Consultants and students. If KIT is on your state website, inform your local LDS Chairman so she can pass on KIT. Do “Leap Into Action”. Victoria Bergesen, LDS Instructors Chairman, has written several helpful guidelines to assist the State LDS Chairmen in planning a LDS Course. As she concluded, “let’s all work together to make the LDS experience one that our students will value and remember happily.”

I encourage all State LDS Chairmen and local LDS Chairmen to read Greg Pokorski’s “NGC School News” found in TNG 2016 Winter issue.

This issue of *Newscape* contains articles about exciting happenings throughout NGC. Please share your state’s activities with us as inspiration for our projects.

**Jane Bersch, Chairman**



*Hibiscus,  
Sanibel Island, FL.  
Photo by Caroline Carbaugh*

### NGC SCHOOLS

*Stewards of the Land* (page 203) tells us “As problem solvers, landscape architects can anticipate a busy time in the future. Although the design process remains the same, the tools and communication technology used today are changing even the smallest landscape architecture offices. It is truly an exciting time to be a landscape architect.” The future is now and it is also an exciting time to be a Landscape Design Consultant. There are many and constant threats to good land use and assaults on nature’s beauty. The more we know, the more we can do to be caretakers of the land. There is always more to learn – new information and new ways of looking at things. Landscape Design Consultants can keep up to date by refreshing at Landscape Design School courses or at special refresher events, whether they be single subject refreshers or multiple refreshers. You can refresh for credit as often as once each calendar year. Don’t wait until your certificate is about to lapse – consider refreshing often for the educational experience and to support schools and refreshers with your attendance and participation.

Landscape Design Consultants and all NGC Consultants too often fail to realize the difference they can make in their local and state garden clubs, in their councils and in their communities. Now is the time to **leap into action** – help someone put on a school or refresher, recruit students, initiate

projects, present programs, write articles. Use your knowledge to recognize and promote good landscape practices. Whether you know it or not, you are probably impacting the world in a positive manner, and you can do more!

Thank you for your involvement in NGC's Landscape Design School and if you have not already done so, is this the year you will leap into other NGC schools? Subjects overlap from school to school and I am sure you will learn things in Environmental Studies and Gardening Study Schools that will touch and expand your interests in Landscape Design.

Best wishes to all for a successful and productive new year. Let your NGC Schools committee members know how we can help.

**Greg Pokorski, NGC ES, GS, LD  
Schools Coordinator (and Master  
Landscape Design Consultant)**

### IT'S ALL ABOUT THE STUDENTS!

I have been working with the State Landscape Design School Chairmen for nearly a year now, and I think that we have all learned a lot. Your feedback is essential in improving the process of approving Instructors and their course materials. As LDS Instructors Chairman, my priority is always the students' educational experience. We want to educate and we *must* inspire.

Our students are adults, many of whom have college degrees and considerable gardening experience. Those who are retired value their time as much as those who are in the workplace or work full

time in the home. For most, course attendance is not just a day out. Many need to arrange for the care of children, spouses, parents and/or pets while they are away. They may need to travel long distances and pay for three-night hotel stays. We work very hard to keep our registration fees low, but those fees may be a small part of the expense incurred by our students.

We owe our students meticulous course materials. There should be no misspellings and no typos. Outlines should be neatly formatted. Anything else is disrespectful of our students. State LDS Chairmen should check course materials carefully before forwarding them to me.

We test our students to be sure that they have grasped the core concepts of the course material. In this regard we are testing the school as much as the student. As our students have little time to study or review, it is essential that we test for the core concepts and that these are included in the outlines.

To help our State LDS Chairmen, their Local Chairmen and the LDS Instructors, I have written guidelines for both the Chairmen and the Instructors. If you have not yet received these, please e-mail me at [victoriabergesen@gmail.com](mailto:victoriabergesen@gmail.com) for copies. Let's all work together to make the LDS experience one that our students will value and remember happily.

**Victoria Bergesen,  
NGC LDS Instructors Chairman**



*View of the St. Louis Gateway,  
Citygarden, St. Louis, MO.  
Photo by Victoria Bergesen*

### NGC FALL BOARD MEETING, ST. LOUIS, MO Citygarden, St. Louis

NGC Board Members toured the St. Louis Citygarden in Gateway Mall on September 18, 2015 during our Fall Board Meeting. We were all inspired with new ideas for landscape design and plant material during our visit to this creative sculpture garden. Some of us also found running through the fountains of the Spray Plaza a perfect antidote to long hours of sitting in meetings!

The history of this site is similar to that of many downtown sites in towns and cities across the United States. Landscape architect George Kessler designed Gateway Mall as part of the 1907 St. Louis city plan. This imposing Beaux Arts design began deteriorating in the 1950s, as the population moved to the new suburbs.

In 1999 a new master plan for St. Louis included a two-block sculpture garden in Gateway Mall. Eight years later (2007) approvals

and funding by the Gateway Foundation for the project were finally determined. All of us who are involved in civic projects, whatever their size and scope, need patience and persistence!



*Spray Plaza, Citygarden, St. Louis, MO.  
Photo by Victoria Bergesen*

Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects of Charlottesville, Virginia designed Citygarden. Warren T. Byrd Jr., Principal of the firm, describes the garden as “an urban oasis that is a hybrid between a sculpture garden, a botanic garden and a city park”. I think that “hybrid” is an apt word, because this space does not transition from one function to another, but integrates the three functions in every part.



*Eros Bendato by Igor Mitoraj,  
Citygarden.  
Photo by Victoria Bergesen*

Although Citygarden is only three acres, its long narrow space seems larger, borrowing visual space from the ineluctable view of the St. Louis Gateway. The design

contains many references to the geography and history of the site. Seventeen of the eighteen tree species are native to Missouri, as are most of the herbaceous plants. Missouri Botanical Garden consulted on plant choices and continues to advise on maintenance.

There are two buildings within Citygarden: a maintenance structure that blends in and a 60-seat café looking out over the gardens. Both structures, designed by Studio Durham of St. Louis, employ green roofs to improve the views of the high-rise buildings around the site and to capture rainwater.



*Untitled (Ringed Figure) by Keith Haring,  
Citygarden*

*Photo by Caroline Carbaugh*

The gardens include three fountains, including the spray plaza which made your NGC Board Members feel like five-year-olds for a few precious moments. This is a paved field of 102 vertical jets that project water eight feet into the air. A light show is incorporated after dark.

This garden is one you should not miss during a visit to St. Louis. It is free and it is open all the time. Use the address 801 Market St. for your GPS, although there are many entrances. They have a free interactive iPhone app that can enhance your visit. There is also an

audio tour that you can download as an MP3 file. Visit their website for more information. <http://www.citygardenstl.org/>

**Victoria Bergesen**



*Big Suit by Erwin Wurm, Citygarden.  
Photo by Caroline Carbaugh*

## STATE NEWS

### Georgia

Save April 22-24, 2016 for a planned Tri-Refresher in Augusta, Georgia. The refresher will be submitted for approval when the Sacred Heart Garden Festival releases its final speaker list. The refresher will include the Festival’s speaker series, private garden tours, floral and landscape exhibits and flower show.

The Festival is a Southeast Tourism Society Top 20 Event. Festival details will be available at [SacredHeartGardenFestival.com](http://SacredHeartGardenFestival.com). In addition we will have a buffet dinner and evening speaker. Scott Davis will share information about the historic Twin Gables landscape design including photographs of the current garden, original garden plans, and its original landscape designer. For more information contact event chairman Virginia Allen, [vallenotr@aol.com](mailto:vallenotr@aol.com), 706-736-6793.

**Maryland**

The Landscape Design Council of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland had a wonderful holiday meeting at Homestead Gardens in Davidsonville. Their very knowledgeable and entertaining horticulturist, Gene Sumi, spoke to us regarding the care and propagation of amaryllis, cyclamen, poinsettias and Christmas Cactus. After our meeting we enjoyed shopping with a 20% off coupon in the beautifully decorated store and nursery before going to the nearby Irish Pub for a festive lunch.

Our next meeting will be a trip to Chanticleer Garden in Wayne, PA on May 11, 2016. Chanticleer was a gift to the public from the Rosengarten family, who began planning the garden a century ago. It is divided into 15 distinct areas, each offering practical ideas that translate well into the home landscape. We will have a guided tour of the gardens and the first floor of the house at a cost of \$20 per person. After lunch in nearby Wayne, Carolyn Walker will take us on a tour of her private nursery, Carolyn’s Shade Gardens. Car pooling will be arranged.

The Council will be making Landscape Design Awards in the spring based on the recent submissions.

The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland Landscape Design School had very successful Course I and II schools and look forward to Course III April 26-28, 2016 in Annapolis, Maryland. Kirk Brown will be among our noted and popular instructors. Kirk travels throughout

the United States doing programs as John Bartram or Frederick Law Olmsted. There is great excitement about Kirk presenting one of the Course III topics (Development of Landscape Architecture and Design from 1840-1940) as Frederick Law Olmsted! We hope you will join us for Course III in historic Annapolis. Information can be found on the website [www.fgcofmd.org](http://www.fgcofmd.org).

**Jane Chambers, LDS Chairman**



*Diana Bonner, Jane Chambers, Rosemary Dawley and Carolyn Braverman at Homestead Gardens. Photo by Susie Middleton*

**Massachusetts**

In October 2015, over 90 students, refreshers and guests enjoyed a tour of the 1.1 acre Bressingham Garden at Elm Bank at the LDS at Massachusetts Horticultural Society (MHS), located on a former country estate in Wellesley, MA. MHS, founded in 1829, is the oldest, formally organized horticultural institution in the United States. The perennial Bressingham Garden, designed by noted author, horticulturist and English garden designer Adrian Bloom of Bressingham Gardens in Norfolk, England, features a four-season display of trees, shrubs and plants with a specific focus on sustainability and inspiration for residential landscape design.

Suzanne Higham, landscape designer, chair of the award winning Exhibit *Eden on the Charles* at the 2014 Boston Flower Show and former Bressingham Garden keeper, led the students on a tour of the gardens, explaining design principles and maintenance procedures. She also explained how it manages to thrive despite no supplemental watering, particularly during the hot, dry summers we experience here.

Next year we will be touring and evaluating the design of the Italianate Garden at MHS!

We were honored to have Master Consultant Natalie Wolf attend this course as a refresher. Wolf took her first LDS class in 1961 and became a Landscape Design Critic in 1963 after taking four courses. A Charter Member of the Landscape Design Critics Council in MA, Wolf provides dedicated and distinguished service to the GCFM and the community through her garden club membership. She is a former trustee of MHS and is a recipient of a gold medal from the MHS for her work as an educator, international flower-show judge and volunteer for “inspiring new floral designers and aspiring gardeners to make horticulture a part of their lives.” She continues to be an active member of Judges Council and faithfully attends the monthly GCFM board meetings. She is a member of the Garden Club of West Newton and Temple Shalom Garden Club. Wolf’s lifelong passion has been designing beautiful spaces, and her current specialty is making some of the region’s senior housing developments resemble galleries

of contemporary art. Wolf's continued dedication to the community, GCFM and the LDC is truly inspirational to all our members.

**Maureen O'Brien, LDS Chairman**



*At Bressingham Garden, Wellesley, MA. Photo by Maureen O'Brien*

**Texas**

On September 21 and 22, the Landscape Design School, Series XXIV, School III, was held at the President George H. W. Bush Library in College Station, Texas. The Presidential Library offers the rotunda to non-profit groups for programs and has beautiful landscaping and sculptures. The school started decades ago and has been held continuously in Texas usually in February and September except for the September following Hurricane Ike.



*AMGC workers at Texas LDS, Sept. 2015. Photo by Heather White*

That year, the designated location was commandeered as a housing location for evacuated nursing home patients and the school was cancelled.

The current LDS State Chairman is Diane Perez, with her able assistants Michele Wehrheim, Registration, and Debbie Puetz, on credentials. The local NGC club, A&M Garden Club has assisted in the school, providing workers for registration, book sales, lunch and snack service and welcoming committee, for decades. This school varies in attendance from 75-150 people and is done in conjunction with Dr. William Welch, Texas Agri-life Extension Service, and a large network of qualified instructors that come at Dr. Welch's invitation. Two special speakers this year included Greg Grant, noted horticulturist and landscape designer with many publications, and Alan King, landscape architect who did the landscaping for the HGTV home and a *Southern Living* home in the past. There were also additional speakers on disability accessible playgrounds, herbaceous perennials in the landscape and historical plantings. This school featured a special tour of several homes and a commercial installation. Many master gardeners, a few city planners/architects, and NGC members were in attendance. The funds from the school are used to fund scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students in Horticulture, and Landscape Design. Two recipients of scholarships, Lauren Kilpatrick and Jennifer Eaves, were present at the

school and thanked attendees for their support of higher education scholarship.

**Heather White, LDS Accrediting**



*Members Texas Garden Club, LDS, Sept. 2015. Photo by Heather White*

**A Green Wall in Pennsylvania**



This green wall, located in downtown Pittsburgh, PA and the largest of its kind in that city, will protect the building, catch rainwater and provide habitat for pollinators and birds. The wall features a trellis covered with five types of vines.

*Photo by Poss Tarpley*

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN  
SCHOOLS/REFRESHERS****Arizona****November 12 - 14, 2016.****Phoenix.** Course I. State  
Chairman: Joyce Girvin  
(774) 217-8253**California****April 28 - 29, 2016. Santa Rosa.**Course IV. Chairman: Alexis  
Slafer (323) 292-6657;  
ASlafer@ca.rr.com**Connecticut****March 22 - 24, 2016. New****Haven.** Course II. State  
Chairman: Susan Laursen (203)  
415-2077; sklaurson@aol.com**Florida****March 28 - 29, 2016. Sarasota.**Course III. Chairman: Karen Gott  
(954) 532-5602;  
kgott1219@comcast.net**November 9 - 10, 2016. New****Smyrna Beach.** Course III.  
State Chairman: Sally  
Flanagan (386) 428-3170**November 16 - 17, 2016.****Sarasota.** Course IV. Chairman:  
Karen Gott (954) 532-5602;  
kgott1219@comcast.net**Georgia****April 22 - 24, 2016. Augusta.**Tri-Refresher. Event Chairman:  
Virginia Allen, 706-736-6793;  
vallenotr@aol.com,**Illinois****March 28 - 29, 2016.****Glenview.** Course III. State  
Chairman: Bobby G. Nicholson  
(773) 619-3025;  
pyramidgardens@yahoo.com**Maryland****April 26 - 28, 2016. Annapolis.**Course III. Co-Chairmen:  
Diana Bonner (410) 643-6779;  
debonner@verizon.net;  
Ann Christ seiki@comcast.net**Massachusetts****October 27 - 29, 2016.****Wellesley.** Course III.  
Chairman: Maureen O'Brien  
(781) 407-0065;  
greenescapes@hotmail.com**Michigan****October 24 - 25, 2016.****Kalamazoo.** Course I.  
State Chairman: Terry Harding  
(231) 947-0568;  
wsharding@chartermi.net**New York****April 5 - 7, 2016. Chappaqua.**Course IV. Chairman: Antoinette  
Babb (845) 246-4445;  
Aplantlady1011@hotmail.com**Ohio****July 27 - 29, 2016. Canton.**Course IV. State Chairman: Pat  
Smith (330) 875-9317;  
playnlearn345@aol.com*Tropical plants, Center for Home  
Gardening, MO Botanical Garden,  
St. Louis, MO.**Photo by Victoria Bergesen***Tennessee****June 18 - 26, 2016. LDS****Refresher.** Tour of gardens and  
historic sites in Virginia  
including Monticello, UVA,  
Montpelier, Richmond, Colonial  
Williamsburg, Norfolk Botanical  
Garden.**Texas****September 26 - 27, 2016.****College Station.** Course I. State  
Chairman: Diane Perez (713)  
984-1901; dmperez@hal-pc.org**Virginia****April 6 - 7, 2016. Virginia Beach.**Course III. Chairman: Glenda H.  
Knowles (757) 345-6618;  
ggknowles@cox.net**West Virginia****May 18 - 20, 2016.****Morgantown.** Course II. State  
Chairman: Donna L. Davis (304)  
684-3136;  
dadodavis@frontiernet.net**PLEASE consult our  
website for the latest  
information on schools  
and refreshers:  
[www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)**

**TRI-REFRESHERS**

**Florida**

**June 13 - 15, 2016. Gainesville.**  
 Chairman: 2016 Jeanice Gage;  
 jeanicegage@cox.net

**Indiana**

**April 11 - 13, 2016. Spencer.**  
 Chairman: Edie Dyer Wilson  
 (812) 397-2619;  
 wowedie@aol.com

**Maine**

**September 25 - 27, 2016.**  
**NGC Fall Board, Portland, Bar Harbor.** Chairman: Mary  
 Ericson; travlir@metrocast.net

**Michigan**

**May 2, 2016. NGC Convention, Grand Rapids.** Co-Chairmen:  
 Lynn Dinvald & Nancy Higgins;  
 MichRefresh@aol.com

**New York**

District II, Federated GC of  
 NYS: Part 1. **Bay Shore, NY**  
**March 16, 2016** & part 2:  
**Medford, NY, April 16.**  
 Chairman: Victoria Bellias;  
 vikkibellias@gmail.com

**Ohio**

**June 7 - 8, 2016. Columbus.**  
 Chairman: Pat Rupiper;  
 patruper@gmail.com

*Gardens at Sunnylands, the Annenberg estate in Rancho Mirage, CA, feature golden barrel cacti, agave, and palo verde trees. Photos by Caroline Carbaugh*



*Joshua Tree National Park, CA. Piles of monzogranite blocks are spread across the desert surrounded by cacti and Joshua trees. The Joshua tree, Yucca brevifolia, is a member of the Agave family and is native to southwestern North America. Below is the blossom of a Joshua tree.*

*Photos by Caroline Carbaugh*



**Galapagos Islands and Machu Picchu— Unique Landscapes**

Last fall, a group of gardeners joined NGC President Sandra Robinson on a memorable trip to the Galapagos Islands. Some of us extended our trip into Peru, Land of the Incas and up to Machu Picchu. Two very unique landscapes awaited us.

The Galapagos Islands are an archipelago of volcanic islands located just at the equator and about six hundred miles east of Ecuador. Thirteen major islands, six smaller islands and several minor islets make up the archipelago. They are scattered over 53,300 square miles of ocean. The Park Service is dedicated to protecting the flora and fauna of these islands and also eradicating any alien species, goats and rats, which threaten them. The islands are on UNESCO’s World Heritage List.

Shortly after our arrival on board National Geographic ‘Endeavor’, by zodiac, we were off, on zodiacs, for the first of many wet landings.



*Areas of black lava rock.*

For some islands, it meant landing and walking over an area of black lava. On others, it was along a coarse red sand beach. Lush green highlands awaited us inland on one island. Mangrove thickets hugged the shore on another. A black sand beach. Barren landscape. High cliffs of solid volcanic ash.



*Flightless cormorant and iguana*

The flora and fauna of the Galapagos are special and the islands are home to a most varied wildlife. Our first sighting was the coal black marine iguanas near the airport at Baltra. Brown pelicans would be seen at all the islands, often diving into the azure blue waters. Magnificent Frigatebirds drifted on the air currents. A large colony of these birds were nesting along the trail on North Seymour Island. Over the next week we would sight many endemics, species which are found nowhere else. Half of the Galapagos 2800 native terrestrial species are species indigenous to the islands. Tiny Galapagos Penguins out on a swim. Darwin finches, fifteen small bird species who have adapted different sized and shaped beaks. A Galapagos Hawk. Many Giant Tortoise, the world’s largest tortoise, capable of living up to 170 years, on Santa Cruz Island. In the early nineteenth century, it was this diversity of species which led

naturalist Charles Darwin to suggest that species evolved in response to their environment.



*Land iguana*

On each island there would be an endemic species, the dark black marine iguana, the coppery land iguana, blue footed boobies, some with their young tucked safely under their breast, marine turtles, a flightless cormorant spreading its wings to dry, land iguanas grouped together on the lava rocks soaking up the sun to maintain their body temperature,



*Marine iguanas soaking up the sun*



*Blue Footed Booby*

Galapagos sea lions, along the beaches we walked, playing in the surf, sleeping on lava rocks, swimming alongside our kayak,

investigating the toes of someone seated on the beach near their pool of water in which they splashed. All unimpressed or disturbed by us. Many colorful red and yellow Sally Light-foot crabs scampered across the lava rocks while a sea gull chased a land iguana. A Galapagos fur seal, sleeping on the rocks.



*Galapagos  
Giant  
Tortoise*

Fauna on the islands varied. A Giant Prickly Pear Cactus, *Opuntia echios*, and Galapagos cotton, *Chala*, in the more arid areas. Here too were Palo Santos trees, leafless still, awaiting the rain. A brilliant Vermillion flycatcher perched on a branch. Lichens and mangroves along several coasts. Many true ferns in the moist highlands of Santa Cruz Island.

The importance of protecting this beautiful and fragile environment, of responsible tourism, became firm in our minds. All too soon our days on board 'Endeavor', with daily informative lectures by the naturalists and delicious Ecuadorian food, came to an end.

Some of us went on to Lima and Cusco, the Inca Empire capitol city situated at 11,000 feet. Peru, the land of the Incas, is a melting pot of Inca culture and history and

Spanish traditions. We would learn much of the culture and history of Peru over the next week. Along the way, we spent two days in the Sacred Valley of the Inca. We climbed the massive Inca fortress of Ollantaytambo, up steep stone terraces which hung on the mountain slopes. The stones for its construction were dragged from quarries across the river and up the hillside. In the Valley, the slopes of the Andes along the Urubamba River were terraced for plantings of corn, one the Incas major crops, potatoes being the other major crop. Erosion was prevented.

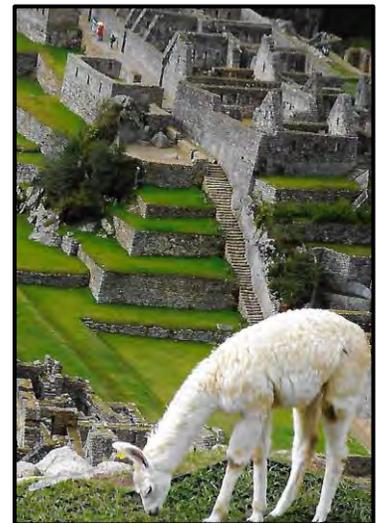


*Machu Picchu*

The highlight of the Peru extension was the citadel Machu Picchu. This sacred Inca citadel, 8500 feet above sea level, deep in the Andean jungle, sits on the slope uniting two mountains, Pitucusi and Huayna Picchu. It is surrounded by the Urubamba River. The stones for its construction were quarried nearby and dragged over. This impressive

engineering feat, begun around 1450, is thought to be part of a series of grand palaces of the Incan nobility. Priests, soldiers, servants and craftsmen also lived there. A system to deal with torrential rains was included in the construction along with an urban sector and a terraced agricultural sector. The citadel was abandoned in the 1530s when civil war broke out over who was to be the Inca ruler and with the successes of the Spanish who had arrived on the continent. The Spanish never discovered Machu Picchu and the jungle soon took it over. It was not until 1911 that Hiram Bingham first saw Machu Picchu, structures collapsed, jungle covering the stones. Today the buildings have been restored with the existing stones. In 1983, UNESCO gave Machu Picchu the title of a mixed(natural and cultural) world heritage. Indeed, this is an awesome and unique landscape.

**Jane Bersch, NGC LDS Chairman**



*Llamas roam Machu Picchu*

*All photos by Jane Bersch.*