President Sandra H. Robinson called the meeting of the 88th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2017 in the Capital Ballroom, at the Richmond Marriott Downtown in Richmond, Virginia and welcomed those in attendance.

Shirley A. Tetreault, Secretary, was present.

Valerie C. Tipps, Vice-Chaplain, Nominating Committee member Deep South, gave the invocation.

The colors were presented by the James River High School Junior ROTC Color Guard.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by David Robson, *Handbook for Flower Shows* Revision Committee Chairman, FSS Horticulture Instructors Chairman, Gardens Committee Headquarters Grounds.

Levar M. Stoney, Mayor, brought greetings from the City of Richmond.

Sarah Ann Parler, South Atlantic Region Director, gave the welcome to the Region.

Janice M. Clem, President of Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Inc., welcomed all to the state of Virginia.

Sharon W. Brown, President, of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania Inc., gave the response.

Jackie Reynolds, Credentials Chairman, gave the Preliminary Credentials Report as of 2:00 p.m. May 18, 2017 with a voting strength of 230 and moved its adoption.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</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>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGC Elected Officers</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGC Appointed Officers</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region Directors</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisory Committee</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH&amp;E Trustees</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Presidents</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>NGC Chairmen</td>
<td>112</td>
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<td>NGC Standing Committee Members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delegates</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less duplications</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Voting Strength</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Chair declared a quorum present.


Judy Binns, 2017 Convention Coordinator, moved the adoption of the convention agenda, as corrected.
Preliminary Registration

Kathy Ward, 2017 Convention Registration Committee Coordinator, gave the Registration Report as of 2:00 p.m. May 19, 2017 for information only.

- Registration: 230
- Spouses: 30
- Guests: 29
- Non-voting Garden Club members: 290
- Total Registration: 570

Committee to Approve Minutes

The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2017 Convention Meeting:

- Gay Austin, Second Vice-President, as Chairman
- Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President
- Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary

Timekeepers

The President appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:

- Mary Dixon, Gardens Committee Coordinator
- Debbie Hinchey, Award of Honor Committee Chairman

Tellers

The President appointed the following to serve as tellers:

- Kay Fisher, President’s Special Projects Coordinator, as Head Teller
- Donna Rouch, Nominating Committee, Rocky Mountain Region
- Mary Ann Moreno, Horticulture Committee, Container Gardening/Pollinators Chairman
- Joyce Bulington, Communications/print committee

Pages

The President acknowledged the pages present:

- Mary Owen, Page to the President
- Janice Clem and Vicki Goodwin, Page to the President-Elect

Welcome


The President recognized the Region Directors:

- Vera Bowen, New England; Anne M. Bucher, Central Atlantic; Sarah Ann Parler, South Atlantic; Carol M. Bullard, Deep South; Judy Newman, Central; Barbara S. Baker, South Central; Darlene Skari; Rocky Mountain; Kristie Livreri, Pacific

The President recognized the PH&E Trustees:

- Marge McGoff, Jeanette Pruin, and Barbara S. Baker. They serve with the other Trustees, Renee D. Blaschke, Shirley S. Nicolai, and Linda Nelson Bentson, Director.

Report of the Committee To Approve the Minutes

Gay Austin, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the May 2016 Convention meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan reported that the minutes were approved and circulated.

Reports of Officers

The following officers reported (copies on file):

- Sandra H. Robinson, President
- Nancy Hargroves, President-Elect, Liaison to State Garden Club Presidents and Region Directors.
- Gay Austin, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee and Internal Audit Committee Chairman
- Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President, Organization Study and Award of Excellence Committee Chairman
- Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary
Betty Grimes, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman
Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary
Pamela C. Hebert, Historian
Joan H. Corbisiero, Parliamentarian
Linda Nelson Bentson, PH&E Trustees Director

Memorial Service
Valerie C. Tipps, Vice-Chaplain conducted the Memorial Service in remembrance of departed garden club members.

Announcements
Arabella Dane reported on the photo contest before we adjourned.

Adjourn
The business session adjourned at 3:31 p.m. to reconvene at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, May 19, 2017.

Call to Order
The President reconvened the business meeting at 9:03 a.m. on Friday, May 19, 2017.

Invocation
Greg Pokorski, ES, GS and LD Schools Coordinator, GS Committee Advisor gave the invocation.

Interim Credentials Report
Sally K. Warner, Credentials Vice-Chairman, gave the following interim Credentials Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 19, 2017 with a voting strength of 320 and moved its adoption.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NGC President</td>
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<td>State Presidents</td>
<td>49</td>
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<td>NGC Chairmen</td>
<td>135</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGC Standing Committee Members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delegates</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less duplications</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Voting Strength</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADOPTED

Interim Registration Report
Kathy Ward, 2017 Convention Registration Coordinator, gave the interim Registration Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 19, 2017 for information only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voting Strength</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouses</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guests</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-voting Garden Club members</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Registration</td>
<td>696</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nominating Committee Report
Nancy Voyles, Nominating Committee Chairman, introduced the members of the Nominating Committee and read the slate of officers for 2017-2019 as nominated by the committee:
Gay Austin, First Vice-President
Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President
Brenda Moore, Third Vice-President
Mary Owen, Recording Secretary
Betty Grimes, Treasurer
Election of Officers

Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary, read the bylaws pertinent to the election of officers.

As there were no other nominations from the floor, the chair declared all of the above elected with Nancy Hargroves, President-Elect, to serve as President.

Report of the Board of Directors

Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary, reported that the Board of Directors had met two times since the last convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan - at the 2016 Full Board Meeting in Portland, Maine, and in Richmond, Virginia on 5/18/17. Informational sheets reflecting actions taken were distributed to the board members and delegates.

Budgets

Betty Grimes, Treasurer, presented the 2017-2018 annual budgets of the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund and the Operation Wildflower Fund for adoption.

ADOPTED

The 2017-2019 annual budget for the PH&E Fund, adopted by the Board of Directors, was presented for information only.

Bylaw Amendments

Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President and Chairman of the Organization Study Committee presented the proposed bylaw amendments:

Amend by striking out words in Strikethrough font and inserting or adding Underlined words

ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP
Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP
Voting membership shall consist of members of State Garden Clubs that are affiliated with members of NGC.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP
Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP, A. Eligibility
A State Garden Club shall have been organized for a minimum of one year, shall have a minimum membership of ten (10) clubs and shall be recommended by the Director of the Region in which it is located.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP
Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP, B. Application
Application shall be submitted to the NGC Board of Directors through the Director of the Region in which the State Garden Club is located, from the State Garden Club. Application shall be accompanied by per capita dues and a typewritten list of names and addresses of state officers in order of rank, and state chairmen; and names of member clubs in alphabetical order including the names and addresses of the Presidents.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE VII – DUES, FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS
Section 1. DUES, A.
4. State Garden Clubs failing to remit dues by October 31 shall be excluded from any tabulations used to determine NGC Awards and shall not be eligible to submit Scholarship applicant(s).

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE VIII – OFFICERS- ELIGIBILITY
Section 1. ELECTED OFFICERS
G. Officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, or until their successors are elected. No elected officer shall serve more than one term in the same office except
the Recording Secretary who may serve non-consecutive terms and the Treasurer who may serve no more than five (5) consecutive terms.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS
Section 2. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT,
E. Serve as a member of the Finance Committee, a member of the Internal Audit Committee, and ex officio a member of the Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees and the Membership Committee.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS
Section 2. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT,
H. Serve as a signatory on all NGC accounts

Proposal #7a:
Section 7. TREASURER,
P. Serve as a signatory on all NGC accounts

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS
Section 5. THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT,
E. Be responsible for publishing changes to NGC Standing Rules.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE XVI - COMMITTEES
Section 5. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
The Membership Committee shall consist of a chairman appointed by the President with a minimum of six (6) members on the committee. The First Vice President/President-elect shall serve as ex officio member of this committee.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

ARTICLE XVI - COMMITTEES
Section 6. ORGANIZATION STUDY COMMITTEE
The Organization Study Committee shall consist of the Third Vice President as Chairman and no more than eight members appointed by the President. The Vice Presidents, Second-Vice President, the Parliamentarian and the Executive Director shall attend the meetings and participate except for the right to make motions and the right to vote. The First Vice-President may attend as a guest.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

CONFORMING AMENDMENT
ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, ELECTED OFFICERS
Section 2. FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT,
F. Attend the meetings of the Organization Study Committee as a guest and participate except for the right to make motions and to vote.

Report
Arabella Dane reported on the results of the photo contest

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

South Atlantic Region - Sarah Ann Parler, Director
  Edith Nelson The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.
  Judy Bond The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.
  Yvonne Anna Morris The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.
  Janice M. Clem Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
  Judith A. Guye West Virginia Garden Club, Inc.
Central Atlantic Region - Anne M. Bucher, Director
Marty N. Rushlow  The Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs
Nickola L. Schwab  The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.
Jo Sellers  National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc.
Susan O'Donnell  The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.
Patricia M. Wania  Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.
Lynn Fronk  The Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
Sharon W. Brown  The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, Inc.

Deep South Region - Carol M. Bullard, Director
Jan Thomas  The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.
Claudia Bates,  Incoming President Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Martha H. Price  The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.
Jeanette Gatzman  Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc
Debby B. Cooper  The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc.
Pamela L. Dowd  Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Recess  The business session recessed at 10:37 a.m. to reconvene after luncheon.

Call to Order  The President called the business meeting of the 88th Annual Convention to order at 3:03 p.m. on Friday, May 19, 2017.

Woodsy Owl joined the meeting. The Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster contest winners were announced.

Central Region - Judy Newman, Director
Laurel DeBoer  The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.
Jodi L. Meyer  The Garden Club of Indiana, Inc.
Loretta M. Daisy  Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc.
Marilyn M. McIntosh  Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
Betty Beck  Federated Garden Clubs of Minnesota, Inc.
Nancy Bahn  Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.
Gerianne Holzman  Wisconsin Garden Club Federation

Rocky Mountain Region - Darlene Skari, Director
Louise Niekerk  Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Jackie G. Watts  Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.
Linda H. Sadler  Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Charlotte A. Swanson  Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska
Les Westgard  North Dakota State Federation of Garden Clubs
Mary K. Lerssen  South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Geoff Ellis  The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.
Lynette Jeffres  Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Adjourn  The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. to reconvene at 9:30 a.m. on May 20, 2017.

Call to order  The President called the business meeting of the 88th Annual Convention to order at 9:37 a.m. on Sunday May 20, 2017.

Invocation  Becky Hassebroek, Bee a Wildlife Action Hero Chairman, gave the invocation.

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

Reports of the Region
South Central Region - Barbara S. Baker, Director
Rose Knight  Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Presidents
Suzy Andrego  New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.
Mary Ann Holman  Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc.
Carol Moore  Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

Pacific Region - Kristie Livreri Director
Martin Black  Alaska Garden Clubs
Judy Tolbert  Arizona Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Susan C. Bennett  California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Janet D. Petersen  Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc.
Nancy Lee Loesch  Nevada Garden Clubs, Inc.
Shirley J. Schmidt  The Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Terry A. Critchlow  Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs
*Hawaii Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. - no representative

New England Region - Vera Bowen, Director
Suzanne M. Bushnell  The Garden Club Federation of Maine, Inc.
Betty Sanders  The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.
Jane W. Goodwin  New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Blakeley, Szosz'  Incoming President Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Susan Hinkle  Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont, Inc.

Presidential Citation
The President presented Presidential Citations to Mary Ann Bryant, Tours Chairman and Neil Sanders, Author.

Reports of Chairmen
The following Committee Chairmen reported (copies on file).
Andrea Little, Blue Star Memorial Markers Chairman
Robin Pokorski, Leap into Leadership Chairman
Mary Ann Bryant, Tours Chairman
Isabel Olsen, Penny Pines Chairman
Jacqueline L. Connell, Crown Bees
Barbara Hadsell, Gardening Schools Chairman
Martha Morgan, Wildflower Grants/Awards Committee
Arabella Dane, Photography Contest Chairman
Poss Tarpley, Webmaster
Carcille C. Burchette, Plant It Pink Chairman
Greg Pokorski, ES, GS, and LD Schools Coordinator
Carolyn Golden Patterson, Native Plants
Lynne Ehnert, Youth Coordinator

Future Conventions
Becky Crow, Conventions Coordinator, and Pat Abercrombie, Vice-Coordinator, reported on future convention locations:
2019  Biloxi, Mississippi - April 30-May 5 at the Beau Rivage Hotel
2020  TBA
2021  New Jersey - TBA

Invitation to 2018 Convention Meeting

Final Credentials Report
Jackie Reynolds, Credentials Chairman, gave the following final Credentials Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 20, 2017 with a voting strength of 233 and moved its adoption.
NGC President 1
NGC Honorary President 0
NGC Elected Officers 5
NGC Appointed Officers 4
Region Directors 8
Kathy Ward, Convention Registration Chairman, gave the final Registration Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 20, 2017 for information only.

Voting Strength 233
Spouses 34
Guest & Speakers 55
Non-voting Garden Club members 456
Total 778

The President adjourned the business session at 11:25 a.m. to reconvene at the Installation Banquet.

The President, called the meeting to order at 9:20 p.m. on Saturday, May 20, 2017.

Angela L. Raitano, Resolutions Chairman, read the Courtesy Resolution and moved its adoption.

Valerie C. Tipps, Vice-Chaplain, gave the benediction.

The President adjourned the 88th Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. at 9:28 p.m. on Saturday, May 20, 2017 sine die.
Shirley A. Tetreault 6-12-17  
Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary  
Date

Sandra H. Robinson 6-12-17  
Sandra H. Robinson, President  
Date

Gay Austin 6-12-17  
Gay Austin, Second Vice- President  
Date

Mary Warshauer 6-12-17  
Mary Warshauer, Third Vice- President  
Date

Robin Pokorski 6-12-17  
Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary  
Date