

MONTANA *Gardens*



LUCILLE JOHNSON NAMED MFGC 2013-14
GARDEN CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR

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President's Desk



Denise Fink
President MFGC
2013-2015
Glendive Garden Club

I am a Registered Respiratory Therapist and have spent a lifetime saving lives. I have saved a 21 week old baby that could lay in the palm of my hand and 100 year

old with hip fractures. I have worked cardiac rehabilitation, pulmonary rehabilitation, transplant patients, burn patients and pediatrics. In my work I have lived in Indiana, Florida, Michigan, Texas, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, and Montana. I have grown things in all these places. ***But nowhere was it as hard as in Montana!***

When I first arrived in Glendive the former owner had planted a row of onions. I thought, *"Great, it's early June, I'll plant a garden."* I took my little Mantis tiller out and fired it up and the tines skipped across the top of the soil. I went to my neighbor and said *"Shanna, my tiller can't cut the soil."* She said *"Water it."* I said, *"You're crazy,"* but like a good trooper I followed instructions and sure enough my little tiller turned that garden in nothing flat. That was my introduction into clay. Then I started some seeds. They sprouted. Two leaf stage, four leaf stage; and there they stayed for three weeks. ***No growth!***

By now I was a member of the Glendive Garden Club. I said, *"My seedlings won't grow."* They said, *"Have you fed them?"* Now I studied Botany in college and clearly remember that alkalotic soil binds with minerals and won't release them to plants, however that never translated to me to feed them!

This is what our garden clubs do for people. We help them to grow things, and to not waste money, beautify the environment, learn to design and landscape, and learn how to nurture. As I traveled across the State of Montana I listened to people talk about their clubs and projects and I reflected on how much they have done. Also I thought about the fabulous people in our clubs and all they have done for garden club members, the communities, the state and national organization. We need to honor the work and mentoring they gave us so freely. ***"Honor the Past!"***

Then I began to struggle with my new digital camera, how to take pictures, how to get them into the computer, how to send them, and the second half of my theme developed. ***"Embrace the future."***

We had a presentation at the National Convention in Seattle about Proven Winners. They take thousands of one type of plant and subject them to heat, starvation, drought, any kind of abuse; then they select the best plant, best flower, best leaves, best form, and they take that plant and clone it and produce thousands of it for the market as it is a *"proven"* winner. Just think of what cloning has done for the orchid industry.

Our floral designs are out of this world, as are the mechanisms we use to make them. You can make a painting of sedums and hang it on the wall. We need to embrace new technology. You can *Google* how to grow a tomato but you need a garden club (or a grandmother) to grow one. We need to be on *Facebook* or whatever comes next so we can grow our members. "Embrace the Future" I'm very proud to represent Montana Federation of Garden Clubs and I look forward to serving our members.

Thank you,

Denise Fink

MONTANA Gardens

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. promotes education, resources and networking opportunities for its members and Montana youth to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility.

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Cover Story

RAINBOW GARDEN CLUB'S Lucille Johnson Awarded Garden Club Member of the Year

COVER PHOTO: Incoming MFGC President Denise Fink and National Garden Club President Linda Nelson place the coveted tiara on Lucille Johnson.

Our Garden Club Member IS THE ENERGIZER BUNNY!

She is over 90 years old and just keeps **on going and going and going!** She has been an active garden club member since 1987. Her lovely yard on a large acreage south of Great Falls is filled with whimsical creations and is host to a variety of perennials, trees, annuals *and wild things* – deer, antelope, rabbits, geese, birds, raccoons – to name a few! Family and friends help her with mowing and tree trimming, but she can usually be found weeding and caring for flowers and garden plants by herself. She and her daughter operate “The Old House” collectibles, art and antiques located on her farm in their restored original farm house May through September.

She brings her love of floral design and decorating skills to RGC meetings whenever asked to create one of our “*arrangements of the month*” or decorate tables for a monthly meeting.

Her wonderful voice is heard above everyone whenever she leads us in song. She always puts her name on sign-up sheets for public beautification projects and is one of the first to enjoy getting her gloves in the dirt when we finally plant! She served two separate two-year terms as RGC president and she has chaired many committees, attended most District #5 meetings and state conventions. She is a Life Member and has served the Great Falls members as Chairman for four years.

She thinks nothing of driving 12 miles into Great Falls on a daily basis (*barring bad weather road conditions*). **She rarely misses garden club board and membership meetings!** This member is no stranger to community service and sharing her talents. She is a 16-year member of the “*String-A-Longs*,” a ukulele group performing 7-8 times a month at retirement and nursing homes. For over 70 years she has been active in the Eagles Auxiliary and has held almost every office. She is also a past president and long-time member of the BPOE Does and still cooks at the Elks Lodge every Tuesday. She continues to judge high school debate teams and 4-H clothing at the State Fair. Active in other organizations and community affairs, she is a member of the Town & Country Extension Club, a Board Member of the 10th Street Bridge Committee, and has been an election judge and still proudly works election polls. Throughout the years she has been asked to sing as a soloist and with choral groups, has performed with many dance groups, and has marched with drill teams.

With pride and love for our wonderful club member, Rainbow Garden Club graciously submits Lucille Johnson for consideration.

Congratulations to LUCILLE JOHNSON – Montana Federation of Garden Club's Garden Club Member of the Year!

76th Annual MFGC Convention Minutes

*Jorgenson's Inn
Helena, Montana – June 28-29, 2013*

On Friday, June 28, 2013 the MFGC meeting was called to order with President Phyllis White presiding. The Lewis & Clark County 4-H Ambassadors presented the colors and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kathy Austin, Rainbow Garden Club. Grace Lucas, MFGC Chaplain gave an inspirational reading.

Jeff Hagener, Director, MT Dept. Fish, Wildlife & Parks gave the official greeting and spoke about water conservation.

President Phyllis White introduced her officers at the head table and NGC President, Linda Nelson. Preliminary reports were given and the Convention Program and Rules were adopted and approved. President Phyllis thanked the Townsend Garden Club for hosting the convention. Lucille Johnson from the Rainbow Garden Club was presented the Garden Club Member of the Year tiara and seated at the head table. The Memorial Service was conducted by Linda Sadler.

Minutes of the Fall Board Meeting, State Officer Reports, Review of Audit Committee and the Treasurer's Report were all approved and filed. The following MFGC By-Laws were amended and approved:

Article V – Membership – approved Article V 2.b.1. Individual Member: Any individual who has not paid the annual dues by October 1 of the fiscal year shall be suspended from membership in MFGC and lose all membership privileges

Article XIII – Advisory Council – approved Article XIII 1. Members shall be the past presidents of MFGC who are dues paying members and are active in their clubs and districts.

Reports of District Directors and Club Presidents from District # 2- Western, District # 3 – Southwestern, District # 4 – Lewis & Clark, and District # 5 – Central were given.

The Friday Luncheon “*Treasures from the Garden*” was presided by MFGC President-elect, Denise Fink, honoring the Long Range and Nominating Committee and the Flower Show and Landscape Design Schools. Following remarks from NGC President Linda Nelson, Circle of Green Thumbs were awarded.

continued pages 4-5

Convention Highlights



*Linda Nelson, NGC President
with a floral arrangement in her honor*



*Phyllis White, MFGC President
with a floral arrangement in her honor*



Denise Fink – Incoming MFGC President

Friday Afternoon programs were presented by Cheryl Carroll on the Secrets of Petite Design; Brent Sarchet on Vegetable Gardening; Kenton Rowe and Chris McGowan on the Art of Taking Better Pictures. Fun was had by all at the Life Members Dinner, Dance and Meeting: “Cowpokes and Dance Hall Girls.”

The Saturday session was called to order by MFGC President Phyllis White. Annie Mollock gave the Credentials Report: 1 National President, 8 State Officers, 7 District Directors, 13 Club Presidents, 4 proxies for Club Presidents, 6 Advisory Council Members, 25 State Chairmen, 50 delegates, Guests 5, (33 duplicates) Total Voting Strength – 73. Ruth Layton reported 111 individuals registered. Glenna Waltee MFGC Treasurer presented the proposed budget which was approved.

The Nominating Committee Report was given by Norm DeNeal: **Recording Secretary- Lynne Mahan, Treasurer – Glenna Waltee. 2nd Vice President – Joyce Hendricks, 1st Vice President – Linda Sadler.** There were no nominations from the floor. All officers were elected.

District Director and Club President Reports continued from District # 6 – Northern, District #7 – Hi-Line, District # 8 – East Central, District # 10 – Yellowstone, and District # 12 – Eastern Gateway. Announcement of Elections Held on Friday: Life Members – Susan Woods – Chair, Annie Mollock – Secretary; Judges Council – Sherry Corneliusen – Chair, Darlene Skari – Secretary, Susan Andrews – Treasurer. Following Chairman Reports an Invitation to the MFGC Fall Board Meeting in Missoula October 12, 2013 was extended by Jim Sadler and an Invitation was presented for the 77th MFGC Convention in Billings on June 20 – 22, 2014 – Hosted by Thumb R Green and Sow & Grow Garden Clubs.



Linda Sadler – Incoming MFGC First Vice President

Convention Highlights

The MFGC Awards luncheon “Flowering Gem Stones” was presided by Linda Sadler honoring District Directors and the 2013 Convention Committee. MFGC Award presentations were made by Phyllis White, MFGC President and Denise Fink, President-Elect and Awards Chairman. Saturday programs included Terrariums by Kellee Anderson; Community Gardening by Amy Grisak; and, Winning Ribbons at Flower Shows by Jim Sadler.

The Installation Banquet “Montana’s Treasures” was presided by MFGC President Phyllis White and honored former MFGC Presidents and the MFGC 2011-2013 Elected Officers, Appointed Officers and Committee Chairmen. The Parade of 2013-2015 District Directors and Club Presidents preceded the banquet and remarks by out-going President, Phyllis White. Linda Nelson, NGC President presented the National Awards and Scholarship; and installed the 2013-2015 MFGC Officers. Excitement prevailed as winners for the Montana Treasurer Chest Raffle were drawn. Following a courtesy resolution by Mary McLane, past MFGC State President and benediction by Grace Lucas, MFGC chaplain the session was closed.



*The Life Member's Banquet was all about fun!
Cowpokes & Dance Hall Girls*



Lots of fun with a line dancing lesson or two thrown in!

? Fellow Gardeners: Enclosed are Quiz questions from Convention. Send answers to Denise Fink. We will pool the winners annually and draw for a prize!

1. *Who won a prestigious national award from MFGC?*
2. *Which club won the most awards.*
3. *Which clubs had new youth clubs.*
4. *Who won Garden Club member of the year?*
5. *Name three of the Circle of Green Thumb Winners.*



Jane Ereaux receives the 2013 NGC Member Award of Honor for the Rocky Mountain Region.



The state convention is a time of awards. Lynn and Linda Predmore of Helena receive the Gardener of the Year Award.

National Garden Club President Addresses MFGC



Linda Nelson
NGC President

The National Garden Club's 43rd president, Linda Nelson was the MFGC's honored guest at our convention in Helena. Her selected theme during her administration is

MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE...Choices Matter. She stated her theme is rooted in NGC's Conservation Pledge to protect and conserve Earth's natural resources.

I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet Earth and promise to promote education so that we may become caretakers of our air, water, land, forest and wildlife.

Linda said this broad theme was selected so that any of the projects that are the hallmark of garden club activities could be designed and executed in a way that protects and conserves our natural resources. She said that we, as garden club members, have all the power and should understand our national garden club program's monetary value that supports our great community projects. She added that we need to understand all we can do to the environment to be better caretakers of our natural resources. She encouraged us to promote educational programs so that if we "know better" we can "do better." We should pay attention to what we are doing; investigate better practices and consider "nature's way" such as learning how the soil feeds our plants and not using as many chemicals or fertilizers.

She advised us to look at our regular projects as a start and then build upon them, keeping the Conservation Pledge in mind. It is important that we promote education as the key in making responsible decisions for now and the future. Educated garden club members are responsible stewards who are able to make wise choices for saving and protecting our Planet Earth and its natural resources. Linda urged all the clubs to enter the NGC award programs. She said the generous grants from National Garden Clubs, Inc. provide monetary awards to financially "seed" our projects.

In closing she remarked her pleasure in meeting with MFGC and looks forward to working with our clubs as we discover how our ***Choices Matter*** and that we are ***Making a World of Difference!***



MONTANA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUB'S 2013 CIRCLE OF GREEN THUMBS

- Anaconda - Naomi Sullivan**
- Belgrade Garden Club - Nancy Riebe**
- Billings Sow and Grow - Kathleen Hettinger**
- Butte Garden Study Group - Dave and Julie Butler**
- Dillon Garden Club - Nancy Johnson**
- Galletin Empire Garden Club - Judy Rente**
- Glendive Garden Club - Becky Vetter**
- Great Falls Flower Growers - Sherry Meadors**
- Gumbo Gals of Nashua - Linda Kaveschan**
- Helena Garden Club - Lynne Cook**
- Jumping Junipers of Chinook - Susan Billmayer**
- Malter Dirt Daubers Garden Club - Sharon Miller**
- Missoula Garden Club - Donna Dowell**
- Rainbow Garden Club - Florence Murphy**
- Saco Garden Club - Tina Marks**
- Stevensville Garden Club - Judi Vannatta**
- Thumbs R Green Garden Club - Betty Ferguson**
- Townsend Garden Club - Mary Olsen**
- Whitehall Garden Club - Vaia Errett**

*Congratulations
Ladies and Gentleman!*

MONTANA FEDERATION GARDEN CLUB Officers & Members Attend NGC "Rain Shine" in Seattle



Top: Montana garden club members attending the National Garden Club Convention

Bottom Left: NGC President Linda Nelson

Bottom Right: A beautiful arrangement by Rene van Rems

Glenna's Corner By Glenna Waltee, MFGC Treasurer

A great big thank you to the Conrad Garden Club! They were the only garden club that actually got their dues paid by June 1st! They were quickly followed by the Whitehall Garden Club, Butte Garden Study Group, Bullhook Blossoms Garden Club, Mission View Garden Club, Malta Dirt Daubers Garden Club, Joliet Garden Club, Missoula Garden City Garden Club and the Dearborn Garden Club - all getting their dues paid in June. *It's greatly appreciated!*



When sending in your membership list with the dues, please indicate who your officers are for this year and show which members are Life Members. That will certainly help keep the records up-to-date.

Please remember to send your Junior Garden Club Annual Registration Form in with their dues of \$1 so they will be eligible for Junior gardener awards.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL MEETING

Salt Lake City, Utah – September 13-15, 2013

"Tread Lightly on Land and Water"

Beverly Heidelberger, Director Rocky Mountain Region, says we are encouraged to walk through nature gently, as not to disturb it, but leave it as Mother Nature has designed. To keep with our Region's theme, *"Tread Lightly on Land and Water"* and the National President's Project we are asking that the Conservation Pledge be recited at all meetings.

The Regional Project *"Make Water Choices for a Green World"* – **Water! Water! Water!** Is so important to our economy and our life style in the RMR area. From drought to floods, from deep snow packs to open winters, it is an annual challenge. Water needs to be conserved and kept clean.

Let's start in our own backyards by watering lawns and gardens wisely and prevent contaminated water runoff. The overuse of chemicals could filter into the water cycle causing further problems. Just keep water in mind with whatever you do inside and outside your home.

Beverly is looking forward to the convention in Salt Lake City and visiting with all RMR members in the eight regional states.

Scholarship Winner



Joshua Pecukonis receives the \$3,500 Scholarship from National Garden Club President Linda Nelson.

Joshua Pecukonis, a native of Great Falls, is the winner of the \$3,500 scholarship from the National Garden Clubs. He was invited to the

Saturday night MFGC Convention banquet to accept the scholarship award from NGC president Linda Nelson. Josh was also the recipient of the \$2,000 Rainbow Garden Club Scholarship and the 2013 Whitehall Garden Club Scholarship in the amount of \$450.

Josh, an Environmental Horticulture Science major at Montana State University, distinguished himself with his academic ability, work ethic and amount of time he gives to volunteering and community service. When he was 8 years old, he obtained a \$5,000 loan to put up a cold frame greenhouse. He then sold plants at the Farmer's Market. He has been in 4-H, helped others with horticulture workshop presentations, has built a butterfly house and was the Key Note Speaker for a past MFGC convention. He has also competed in the Montana State Fair with his flowers, produce and crops. He hopes to eventually open his own plant nursery specializing in drought tolerant perennials and xeriscaping.

Great Falls Flower Growers and Rainbow Garden Club Host Standard Flower Show

Gardeners it's time to get ready to display all those beautiful flowers you have worked so hard to grow! Please enter your flowers and plants in the show. **Remember, to submit an entry it has to be in your possession for at least 6 weeks prior to the show.**

If growing flowers isn't your cup of tea, we know you will enjoy looking at all the wonderful entries. **See you there!**

August 23, 2013 - Entries accepted 1-7 PM

August 23 - Workshop for Children, Novices 4-6 PM

August 24, 2013 - Judging 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Public Viewing - 1:00 - 7:00 PM

August 25, 2013 - Public Viewing 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL

Patty Howse - 406-750-7702

Ivy Jackson - 406-453-0516

Luana Maxwell - 406-452-8227

This and That by Linda Sadler "Garden Fragrances"

What a beautiful summer evening I was experiencing the other day in my garden. It was early evening and the colors were popping. Serenity and beauty were the emotions I felt.

The air is quiet but a fragrance is stimulating my senses. As I am not aware of the source, I began to search for the source of the pleasant fragrance. I wander down the garden paths in search of the sweet source filling my olfactory senses. I walk by the rose arbors overflowing with William Baffin roses in bloom. Their fragrance is not the one for which I am searching. The blooming lilies have a sweet strong fragrance. Out in a far corner of our garden I discovered the fragrant source. The source was the Korean Lilacs covered in small lavender flowers.

Have you wandered through gardens being aware of the many fragrances? Fragrances are stronger at different time of the day and especially after a storm or when plants have been watered.

To have pockets of fragrance, plant several like plants close together. You may want to buy plants known for their fragrance. Zone 4 flowers which are fragrant are peonies, lily of the valley, bearded iris, garden philox, oriental lilies, day lilies, witch hazel, fragrant blue hosta, rugosa roses and some tea roses, hyacinth, primrose and licorice plant to name a few. *Have fun searching for fragrant plants and experiment with them in your garden!*



Montana Treasure Chest Raffle

GRAND PRIZE WINNER OF THREE DAY
LAS VEGAS TRAVEL, HOTEL AND CASH

CONGRATULATIONS!

BEV GALLIGHERIS, Hamilton, Montana

2ND PLACE PRIZE – KINDLE

Diane Ward

3RD PLACE PRIZE - SAMSUNG 19" TV

Susan Yurman

4TH PLACE PRIZES:

Cement Boot Planters – Linda Sibley

Craftsman Blower Vac – Cindy Carlton

Tree Pruner – Carmen McIlhatten

Garden Cart – Judy Matovich

Cordless Hedge Trimmer – Elaine Ulrichny

Cement Bear Planter – Cathy Ray

Two Grecian Urns – Connie Fitzpatrick

Wheelbarrow Planter – Denise Fink

Resin Bird Bath – Kathy Austin

50" Garden Bench – Ardele Smith

A Magical Convergence – MFGC Fall Board Meeting

Friday, October 11th

- 1:30 – 4:00** Entries Accepted for “A Magical Tiny Halloween”
Flower Show
- 2:30** Finance Committee (MFGC Elected State Officers)
- 3:45** Elected and Appointed State Officers
- 4:30** Advisory Council (Former MFGC Presidents)
- 6:30** Flower Show Reception – *Everyone welcome.*

Saturday, October 12

- 8:30** Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:30** Judges Council Meeting
- 10:30** Board of Directors Meeting (open to all attendees)
- 12:15** Lunch, Rocky Mountain Region Award Presentations
- 1:15** Board of Directors Meeting continues
- 3:00** Dismissal

Everyone Attending Must Register!

Registration due September 23, 2013 (\$5 late fee applies after 9/23)

Registration: \$25 + Continental Breakfast and Lunch = \$45

____ Attending Flower Show Reception Friday evening

Make checks payable to and send to:

Jim Sadler, Chair

1220 Clements Rd

Missoula, MT 59804-2908

Accommodation arrangements at Val-U-Inn 3001 SW Brooks St. (406) 721-9600

Rates: Mention “Montana Federation Garden Club” \$80 (3+) \$75 (2)

Name: _____ Phone: _____
(Print)

Club: _____ Email: _____

Check all that apply: (*voting member)

____ State Officer* ____ Club President* ____ District Director*
____ State Chairman* ____ Advisory Council* ____ Garden Club Member

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____



THE MAGICAL & TINY WORLD OF HALLOWEEN
THE MISSOULA GARDEN CLUB PRESENTS A SMALL STANDARD FLOWER SHOW

Open to those attending the MFGC Fall Board Meeting

Entries accepted 1:30 – 4:00 PM October 11th, Judging follows

General Chairman: Jim Sadler (406) 728-4743 jimsadler@bresnan.net

Under Montana's Big Sky

News from Montana Garden Clubs

DARBY



This is the Blue Star Memorial that was re-dedicated by Ginny Coleman of the **Blooming Britches Garden Club** of Hamilton. This memorial had been "lost" for many years and was recently found. It was re-dedicated on the original dedication date (day and month).

CHESTER



The **Chester Garden Club** dedicated a new bench and sculpture in the Garden Club Corner of the Chester City Park. Proceeds from the club's annual plant sale go toward the maintenance of this area.

During the dedication several members gave a brief history about the corner. The Chester GC has been involved with the city park since 1956. The "soda" water in Chester wasn't very good for their plants and water was first hand carried to the corner. They remarked their plants didn't really take off until Lake Elwell water was brought here in 1963. Weather permitting, club members enjoy their city park corner and gather in the area for sack lunches followed by a business meeting.

HI-LINE CLUB NEWS HAVRE

Pat Floyd of the Bullhook Blossoms Garden Club gathered materials for floral arrangements which were made by club members during their July meeting. Club members were able to take their arrangement home to enjoy. Pictured below are Gloria Tilleman and Minnie McCann with their arrangements.



NASHUA

District 7 Directors Jane Ereax and Sharon Miller attended the July **Gumbo Gals** meeting. They visited the National Weather Bureau in Glasgow, then held a meeting at a member's home. Pictured below are Gumbo Gals going over their new yearbook.



MALTA AND SACO

The **Malta Dirt Daubers** and the **Saco Garden Club** have just finished working at the Phillips County Fair. Each club had a community booth with sheaves, fruits and vegetables. They also contributed arrangements and flower specimens to the Floriculture Department. There were 100 percent more entries than last year which was a good showing for Phillips County.

Pictured below are garden club members with MFGC Judge, Susan Billmeyer.



Youth Awards

POETRY CONTEST Excite and encourage our youth to express and explore their creative thoughts through different types of poetry. NGC's Poetry Contest enables our Youth to embrace their creativity through the art of writing.

Eligibility: Kindergarten through 9th grade.

2013 Theme- *Protecting & Conserving our Natural Resources*

2014 Theme- *Good Stewards of Our Earth*

Contest Rules:

1. All entries must be typed and titled.
2. Include name, address, age, grade, school of participant on the back of entry.
3. Sponsoring garden club and state garden club name must be identified.
4. Sponsoring garden club may be that of a Grandparent.
5. All entries become the property of NGC, Inc.
6. Poems do not have to rhyme.
7. Poems may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick, or Haiku.

HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST The High School Essay Contest is open to all High School Students. The rules are in the fall issue of the National Gardener in odd numbered years, on the NGC's website and are available from the NGC and Regional Essay Contest Chairman.

Contest Rules:

Length of Essay: Between 600-700 words. The entry will be penalized if the essay does not conform to the required length. All words are to be counted. Students should write the essay so it is suitable to be published in *The National Gardener*.

2013 Theme: *Today's Choices Affect Tomorrow's World.*

2014 Theme: *Choosing to make a Difference for a Better World.*

Contest are open to high school students 9th through 12th grades.

The contest must be sponsored by: single Garden club, group of member club, council or districts, or a state garden club. A \$1000 scholarship will be awarded to the national winner. If the winner is an underclassman, the \$1000 scholarship will be held by NGC without accrued interest until such time the student enters college.

YOUTH SCULPTURE CONTEST To encourage youth to keep our planet green and to get involved with saving the environment, this contest is open to children in grades 4-8. The sculpture is limited to a size that would fit onto an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper and must consist of recyclable, reused and reduced materials.

Application Procedure: Obtain the application form from the NGC website and provide the requested information. On the back of the form print photos of the sculpture. Two 4 inch by 6 inch photos are recommended. Submit the photos to the sponsoring club by the deadline.

SMOKEY BEAR WOODSY OWL POSTERS All poster entrees must be sponsored by. Local Garden Club. Posters must feature Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl and must not feature both together. Smokey Bear posters must include Smokey's wildfire prevention message. **ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES!** Woodsy Owls posters must include Woodsy's conservation message: **LEND A HAND! CARE FOR THE LAND!**

Entries for Youth Awards must be sent to sponsoring club by December 15th. State Chairman must receive them by January 1st. All other rules can be obtained from the NGC website www.gardenclub.org or the state chairman, Jennifer Strzelczyk stdjes37@shu.edu

Wrapping it up... Notes from Patricia Schlaeger, Editor

We hope you have enjoyed this *Montana Gardens!* President Denise Fink and I have taken editorial license to redesign the format for ease in reading and to keep costs in line. We will be accepting advertisements in future editions, to promote our garden related suppliers. Go Green...please opt to receive your newsletter **IN COLOR** on line!

Congratulations to Past President Phyllis White and Editor Erika Reece for their Award-winning publication...it's going to be hard to fill their shoes! Phyllis White is editing our NGC President's newsletter, *Keeping In Touch* so be sure to download each edition at www.gardenclub.org

Montana Gardens is your publication and is our vehicle to get timely news to members. Please keep our publication deadlines in mind and share your achievements with us. Just as we share plant cuttings with each other, Garden Club members enjoy sharing ideas. Let's keep our NGC President's goal to educate...**know better, do better!**

President Denise Fink has a case of 2014 Vision of Beauty Calendars. Your club can order them and she will mail them or deliver them at Fall Board. E-mail her at fink52daf@gmail.com if you are interested. Denise is also starting the "*Linda Nelson Educational Grant*" that will help pay for speakers from the Speakers Bureau to come to clubs.

MFGC now has 855 members as of May 31, 2013. Although we lost one of the oldest clubs in the state, we have two new clubs. **Let's set a goal to top 1,00 this year!**

BIG SKY STARS

A Star to the Miles City Garden Club for their Flower Show "Movin' Off The Place" by Denise Fink



DONATIONS

ENDOWMENT FUND interest will be used for grants to fund speakers, seminars, workshops or the purchase of technological equipment to present programs. **Donations are tax deductible.**

In Memory of Lorna Tempel

by Darlene Skari - \$25 to the Endowment Fund

In Memory of Ralph Backa, husband of Joyce Backa

by Denise Fink - \$25 to the Award Program

In Memory of Ralph Backa

by Dearborn Garden Club \$25

In Memory of Ralph Backa

by Helen Shewman \$25

In Memory of Ralph Backa, husband of Joyce Backa

by Phyllis White - \$25 to the Endowment Fund

MONTANA Gardens
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MFGC 2013-2015 Committee Chairs

Blue Star Memorial Marker and Landscaping

Kathy Austin kathyaustin65@msn.com

Chaplain Norman DeNeal normandeneal@hotmail.com

Mt. Gardens Editor Patty Schlaeger tamarackgroup@yahoo.com

Assistant Editor Denise Fink fink52daf@gmail.com

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RMR Award of Excellence

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E awards, flower shows, Kathy Atkinson Design Award

Gary Clark 2275 Sunlite Lane, Missoula, Mt. 59804-6300

Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl Jennifer Strelczyk

P.O. Box 1254. Malta, Mt. 59538-1254

REMINDER: A MFGC Directory will be available at the Fall Board Meeting and will include all Officers, Committee Chairs, District Directors and Information on Club Presidents.

Dates to Remember!

AUGUST 10TH

RMR Awards – Linda Sadler

NOVEMBER 1ST

Yearbooks

Winter Montana Gardens

NGC Award of Excellence #23 #24 – Linda Sadler

DECEMBER 1ST

NGC Awards – Linda Sadler

All Flower Show Awards – Gary Clark (*evaluations due within one week of flower show*)

Youth Poetry, Sculpture, and Essay – Tonya Lescantz

JANUARY 7TH

Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl – Jennifer Strelczyk

MAY 1ST

MFGC Awards – Linda Sadler

E Awards, Kathy Atkinson Design Award – Gary Clark