

MONTANA

Gardens



*Above: 2017-2019 MFGC President
Joyce Hendricks; Left: Joyce with NGC
President Nancy Hargroves; Right:
Norm DeNeal is crowned Garden Club
Member of the Year.*



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Fall 2017 - Volume 63 - Issue 2

President's Message

In May Linda Sadler, Phyllis White, Darlene Skari and I attended and represented MFGC at the National Garden Clubs Convention in Richmond, Virginia. MFGC President Linda gave a report on the activities in Montana and accepted our national awards. Speakers at the various events included Peter J. Hatch, professional gardener and historian who has spent 35 years as Director of Gardens and Grounds at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. He discussed how the gardens have evolved, been restored and gardens in progress. Another famous speaker was P. Allen Smith who has the PBS series "Garden Home," "Garden to Table" and "Garden Style." He shared the evolution of his gardens and told how he shares his knowledge not only on TV but by hosting children. "When asked about how he manages weeds he said ... *Start early and go often!*" We were also treated to nationally known floral designers.

In June our convention was held in Butte with many fellow garden club members in attendance. The theme of "Everything is Coming up Roses" was carried out with beautiful roses in many designs and as centerpieces at every meal. The business of the MFGC was addressed and educational programs on leadership and land restoration efforts were held. Tours of Butte gave opportunities to view areas that have been or are being restored. **Thanks to the Butte and Whitehall Garden Clubs for all of their hard work making the convention such a success!**

MFGC awards were given out to well deserving clubs and club members. Members of 23 clubs were honored with the Circle of Green Thumb Award. It is amazing to hear all the things garden club members are involved in. **Norm DeNeal** received the Garden Club Member of the Year and **Susan Andrews** received the Gardener of the Year. **Anna Hatcher**, a student in horticulture at Montana State University (MSU) was honored at the Life Members Banquet with a

\$1,000 scholarship. On Saturday night we received the National Garden Clubs Awards. **Kaitlyn Ann Goroski** of Wibaux received the NGC scholastic award of \$4,000. Thank you to Fay Weber for her work as Scholarship Chairman. **Glenna Waltee** was awarded the National Member Award of Honor representing the Rocky Mountain Region. **Congratulations Glenna! Thumb-R-Green Garden Club** earned an award for their Flower Show, which was quite an honor. We are proud of you for putting on the show and submitting evidence necessary to achieve this award.

For the last two years we have been talking about and sharing information about the National President's Project: Monarch Watch/Waystations. **Great News:MFGC** earned First Place for a Small State and received a "Service in Action" Award and \$200.00. You all should get a reward for the work you have done. **Thank you to everyone who had a part in making it possible.**

Saturday evening **Nancy Hargroves**, our National President, presented her theme: "**Plant America**" and her president's projects. Nancy did a wonderful installation ceremony using "Hands" as her theme with all of the sayings we have that include hands. We were delighted to have Nancy with us to share the entire convention in Butte.

I am delighted to serve as your president for 2017-2019. My Theme is "**Let's Grow in Montana.**" Please feel free to let me know what you are doing and what I can do for you so we can have a great gardening year.

Joyce Hendricks
MFGC President
2017-2019



MFGC 2017-2019 OFFICERS & DISTRICT DIRECTORS

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Western District #2

Donna Dowell

Southwestern District #3

Cathy Speich-Ferguson

Lewis and Clark District #4

Connie Leatherman

Central District #5

Ivy Jackson

Northern District #6

Carol Works

Hi-Line District #7

Gloria Tilleman

Yellowstone #10

Rosemary Power

Eastern Gateway District #12

Lynne Weischedel

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Linda Sadler, Chairman

Denise Fink

Phyllis White

Norman DeNeal

Darlene Skari

Ruth Layton

Mary Davis

Mary Olsen

Marie Jones

MONTANAGardens

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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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DEADLINE / ISSUE

November 1, 2017 – Winter 2017-2018
March 1, 2018 – Spring/Summer 2018
July 1, 2018 – Fall 2018

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NORM DeNEAL: 2017-18 GARDEN CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Proudly wearing his well-earned tiara and sash, Norm DeNeal was "crowned" MFGC Garden Club Member of the year at the MFGC Convention in Butte. Here are some highlights from the Application sent to MFGC nominating Norm DeNeal for Garden Club Member of the Year:

"This humble member has served at the local, state and national level for over 15 years. This gardener is involved in all aspects of gardening in two local garden clubs; actively participating in local garden club events from flower shows to fashion shows, advising other gardeners, leading the charge and acting as club president when needed to keep both clubs alive and thriving all while operating a landscaping business. This committed member has served as district director; and worn many hats throughout the years at the state level acting in various capacities including finance auditing committee member, nominating committee member, historian, chaplain and president for the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs (MFGC) as well as an editor for the Montana Gardens, our state newsletter. While serving as district director, a new garden club blossomed and together they hosted the state convention. This person has been supportive of the state awards by even sponsoring an award annually to encourage gardeners throughout Montana to create esthetically appealing gardens."

"This die hard gardener truly has a passion for beautifying the community and not letting us forget those who blazed the path before us in both the state and the nation. This has been done through endless research of news archives, photo collections and visiting fellow gardeners. This information was then condensed into stunning videos depicting the history of gardening in Montana, like how our state supplied the first Christmas tree to the White House, and stories of our rich heritage, such as how a Montana gardener became the most revered of all the NGC Presidents."

"Not only does this vibrant person extract our history to remind us of past accomplishments, but also springs into action transforming the surrounding communities, obtaining over \$400,000 worth of grants to develop public gardens. New gardens incorporating historical landmarks reverberate through our very souls as we stroll through them reading the educational signs and admiring the vibrant floral display that have been designed, created and maintained by this dedicated gardener. Through grants and endless toil, this gardener has proven that gardening is about planting the right plant in the right place to restore what has been lost for generations."

"Being a big proponent of education, this gardener has overcome technological hurdles and spent many a sleepless night to create educational videos for the MFGC library on Judges Council and Membership. The membership video developed was so fantastic that the NGC asked if they could use it to increase membership across the nation."

"He is deserving of our appreciation and honor for his endless volunteer hours making Montana's communities more beautiful, gardeners more educated and our gardens easier to maintain with low maintenance plants. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your many, many years of service to the Butte Garden Club, Anaconda Garden Club, Southwestern District, Montana Federation of Garden Clubs and National Garden Clubs, Inc. Just like the Lady of the Rockies, you carry the torch for the gardening community inspiring all those in your path. You are truly a rare gem in the garden of life, worthy of the traveling tiara and we are honored to call you our friend and fellow gardener."



**MFGC President Linda Sadler with Norm DeNeal
MFGC Garden Club Member of the Year**

INTRODUCING NEW MFGC OFFICERS

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

SHERRY CORNELIUSEN

Sherry Corneliusen loves flowers and her hobby is gardening. She grew up near Glendive and married her high school sweetheart, Arvid. She is the mother of two and grandmother of six. She has been a 4-H leader for 45 years and recently retired from the Dawson County Extension Office after 30 years of service. Sherry has been a member of the Glendive Garden Club since 1979. She has a huge flower and vegetable garden. She became a Master Flower Show Judge in 2002 and a Master Gardener in 2007. Sherry was awarded the MFGC Garden Club Member of the year in 2004. A 20 year member of the Glendive Club, she has served as President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. She has served as Region 12 District Director and was State Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Chairman for several years. She has served as Penny Pines Chairman and was Community Garden/Growing Edibles Chairman. She also served as MFGC Chairman of the Judges Council



SECOND VICE PRESIDENT CONSTANCE LEATHERMAN

Constance is currently the president of the Townsend Garden Club and District Director for the Lewis and Clark District. She is a retired nurse who spent part of her career in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. Her interest in gardening came from her father, who was proud to have been one of the original members of the J&P Rose Test Panel, and, her husband, who came from a line of farmers. A Master Gardener, Connie lists exploring new techniques for growing in the often difficult conditions in her area, and traveling to garden conferences for continuing education. She looks forward to spending time with each of the Garden Clubs in the coming years.

TREASURER VICKY BARBIERI

Vicky grew up in Milford, New York, just eight miles south of Cooperstown, the home of baseball and James Fenimore Cooper. In Queens, NY she was first exposed to a garden club by her husband's aunt where she served as secretary and president. She moved to Big Timber, Montana in 2001 and now belongs to Hoe and Hope, Thumb-R-Green and Gallatin Empire Garden Club. She returned to New York in October to complete the last course of Flower Show School with a friend from Course I. This July she hopes to be a Master Judge after the Symposium in Missoula. Her 16 years here in Montana have been so fulfilling; the best is the wonderful people she has met. She says garden club people are all so friendly and accepting of new members!



RECORDING SECRETARY

LYNNE WEISCHEDEL

Lynne has been gardening since she was a young child, starting out with her Dad and maternal grandmother in a large vegetable garden. As an adult without a yard, she started a love for house plants, which her mother refers to as her "jungle." She has a small area for flowers and vegetables, and since her yard isn't large enough, she rents a space at the community garden. Lynne is getting her grandchildren involved, and she says the oldest one is really enjoying it this year. They all love to eat right out of the garden. She works full time at a Miles City bank and does a lot of volunteer work on community projects so she says it is a challenge keeping up with the weeds!



NGC PRESIDENT NANCY HARGROVES ADDRESSES MFGC



National Garden Club President Nancy Hargroves addressed the MFGC Convention on Saturday and told members and guests that she has been involved in gardening from day one since she grew up on a vegetable farm, also was where her grandmother's florist shop was located. Nancy lives in Franklin, Virginia and has held several positions on state, regional and national levels of garden club. She is honored to perform her duties as NGC president in light of many challenges due to changing technology and events in the world. She believes garden clubs will continue to exist because of our clubs' work in the community and that these communities benefit from our work. She said garden clubs know the importance of working with youth for the future of conservation and the environment and are often the conscience of the community. She believes gardening touches everyone in some way. It can be beauty, color, solitude, food, memories, therapy, land value, exercise or just the thrill of making something grow. She remarked garden club members are fiercely committed and asked, *"Aren't gardening people the happiest, friendliest and most generous people you know?"*

Nancy encouraged us to take part in her theme **"PLANT AMERICA"** and said the singular focus of **PLANT AMERICA** is on gardens and gardening. Following her speech she installed the 2017-2019 MFGC Officers in a very "hands on" presentation.

National President's Projects

It was so wonderful meeting and visiting with Nancy Hargroves, our National Garden Clubs President at our convention in Butte, June 22-24. Her theme for the next two years and continuing for four more years will be "Plant America," with a focus on gardens and gardening. She has established a new grant program, through an endowment fund, entitled "Plant America Community Project Grants" that will provide funding to clubs to help with their community projects. Clubs may apply for grants up to \$1,000 for project expenses. The deadline is November 1, 2017, money will be awarded by January 31, 2018 and projects must be completed by June, 2019. More information is available on the NGC website: <http://gardenclub.org>.

Nancy also has a new children's book entitled "The Saved Seed," written to teach children about the life cycle of a pumpkin seed. To order the book for your children or grandchildren or to present it to a public Library or school library, go to www.shopgardenclub.org.

Nancy mentioned they are also offering a program called "NGC Sponsored Trips". In October of 2017 they will visit gardens in the Hudson River Valley and in 2018 they will experience gardens in Georgia. More information can be found on the NGC website. Happy Gardening and remember to "Plant America" and "Let's Grow in Montana."

Sherry Corneliusen, First Vice President, MFGC

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP EMPHASIZES A POSITIVE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Pat Biggs, who has presented numerous leadership workshops for MFGC, gave an outstanding program to help members learn to take on a positive view of their clubs. She said this positive attitude is based on the desire to be good, then better, and then best. She told us, *"Don't be afraid of growing slowly, be afraid of standing still."* She encouraged us to change our vantage points and develop one negative to three positives when looking at what our club can accomplish. She asked us to review our vision. She said, *"A Vision is a statement about what your club wants to become. It should help your members feel proud and part of something larger than just their club. Your Mission is the goal that you have developed as a group. From these you decide how they will be monitored and evaluated. Finally as a group, what have you learned and does the plan need to be adapted?"* She reminded us, *"Your mind is a garden; your thoughts are the seeds."*

You can grow flowers or you can grow weeds."

During the workshop the audience was divided into four groups to formulate ideas on:

- **Membership**(Ideas included Plant Sales, Luncheon programs at other clubs' meetings, Fair Booths, Newspaper Articles)
- **Fund Raising**(Ideas -Teas, Quilt Raffles, Art in the Garden, Stepping Stones)
- **How To Get Your Garden Club Better Known in your Community**(Ideas – Floats in parades, Signs when working in Community, Flower Shows, T-shirts)
- **Programs to Stimulate Interest in Your Garden Club** (Ideas – Hands-on activities, Library or Nursery presentations, Farmer's Market Plant Sales)

A special thanks to Pat for her excellent Leadership Programs!



Pat Biggs

MONTANA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

80TH ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES

QUALITY INN & SUITES

Friday, June 23, 2017 Butte, Montana

Call to Order: Linda Sadler, MFGC President called the meeting of the 80th Annual State Convention of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 9:15 a.m. on Friday, June 23, 2017, at the Quality Inn and Suites, Butte, Montana and welcomed those in attendance.

Opening Exercises: Diane Ward, MFGC Recording Secretary, was present.

Presentation of Colors – Pledge of Allegiance –
Rosemary Corrigan.

Welcome & Introductions – Linda Sadler, President, Nancy Hargroves, NGC President; Joyce Hendricks, MFGC President Elect; Sherry Corneliusen, MFGC 2nd Vice President; Jane Ereaux, MFGC Treasurer; Diane Ward, MFGC Recording Secretary; Phyllis White, MFGC Parliamentarian; Patricia Biggs, MFGC Corresponding Secretary.

Inspirational Thought – Cheryl Carroll, MFGC Chaplain.

Greeting: Dick Gibson, Historian and Geologist.

Registration Report: Barbara Willis, Registrar (On File)

Past State Presidents	4
State Officers	5
District Directors	6
Club Presidents	18
State Chairmen	13
Appointed Officers	2
NGC President	1
Regional Director	1
National Board Members	2
Regional Board Members	2
State Life Members	52
National Life Members	16
Club Members	89
Flower Show Judges	23
Student Flower Show Judges	8
Landscape Design Consultants	2
Student Landscape Design Consultants	0
Sub-Total	244
Less Duplications	154
Total MFGC Members attending	90

First Time Attendees	9
Guests	13
Total Guests and non-MFGC Members	14

Credentials Report: Patricia Biggs, MFGC Corresponding Secretary, gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. June 23, 2017 showing a voting strength of 75 (On File):

Elected Officers	5
Appointed Officers	2
District Directors	6
Past State Presidents	4
State Chairmen	16
Club Presidents	35
Delegates	23
Sub-Total	89
Less Duplications	16
Total Voting Strength	75

Quorum: Phyllis White, MFGC Parliamentarian declared a quorum present.

Garden Club Member of the Year: Sherry Corneliusen, Awards Chairman, presented Norm DeNeal with the Garden Club Member of the Year Award, 2017-2018.

Reading and Adoption of Convention Rules: Phyllis White, Parliamentarian read the Standing Rules. ADOPTED

Convention Program: Norm DeNeal, Convention Chairman, moved to approve the Program as printed. ADOPTED

Appointment of the Committee To Approve the 2017 Convention

Minutes: The President appointed the following to approve the 2017 Convention Minutes:

Lynette Dyk, Joanne Gibbons and Diana Raymond.

Appointment of Timekeepers, Tellers and Page: The President appointed the following to serve as timekeepers: Cathy Speich-Ferguson and Arlis Vanette. The President appointed the following to serve as tellers: Carol Works and Jim Sadler. The President appointed the following to serve as page to Nancy Hargroves: Karen Ranta.

Memorial Service: Cheryl Carroll, MFGC Chaplain conducted the memorial service for Garden Club Members who have died.

Report of 2016 Minute Approval Committee: Lynne Weischedel reported the minutes from the 2016 State Convention were read and approved.

Reports of Officers: President, Linda Sadler, 1st Vice President, Joyce Hendricks (On File), 2nd Vice President, Sherry Corneliusen (On File), Treasurer, Jane Ereaux (On File).

Garden Club Member of the Year: Sherry Corneliusen presented Norm DeNeal with the award.

Nominating Committee Report and Election: Darlene Skari, Chairman, and committee members; Paula Childers, Chester; Kathy Waters, Malta; Cheryl Carrol, Missoula; Judy Rente, Belgrade; Luana Maxwell, Great Falls; and Rosemary Power, Billings nominated Joyce Hendricks for President - Sherry Corneliusen for 1st Vice President – Constance Leatherman for 2nd Vice President – Vicky Barbieri for Treasurer and Lynne Weischedel for Recording Secretary. There being no other nominees, each candidate was elected by acclamation.

Report of District Director & Club President Reports:

Western District #2 – Cheryl Carroll (In Book)
Southwestern District #3 – Diane Ward (In Book)
Lewis and Clark District #4 – Betsy Heckel (In Book)
Central District #5 – Carol Brady (In Book)
Northern District #6 – Donna Arvidson (In Book)
Hi-Line District #7 – Gloria Tillman (In Book)
Yellowstone District #10 – Rosemary Power (In Book)
Eastern Gateway District #12 – Sherry Corneliusen (In Book)

Chairman Reports:

Report of Financial Review Committee, Treasurer, Jane Ereaux (On File)
Long Range Planning Report, Glenna Waltee
Report on Endowment Committee, Glenna Waltee, Past Treasurer (On File)
Member Services, Carol Works (On File)
NGC President's Project, Joyce Hendricks, 1st Vice President – "Plant America" (On File)
Cathy Atkinson Award, Vickie Barbieri, sponsored by Judges Council
Membership Report, Vanette Nagamori (On File)
Blue Star Report, Kathy Austin (On File)
Flower Show Credentials & Symposium Report, Susan Billmeyer (On File)
Judges Council Report, Glenna Waltee, Chairman (On File)

Lunch: Sponsored by Life Members

Blessing: Cheryl Carroll, Missoula Garden Club Life Members: Patricia Biggs, Chairman presented Anna Hatcher with the MFGC Life Members Scholarship

Circle of Green Thumbs Awards: Sherry Corneliusen, Awards Chairman

Gardener of the Year Award, Norm DeNeal presented Susan Andrews the \$100 award

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

MONTANA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. 80TH ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES

QUALITY INN & SUITES

Saturday, June 24, 2017 Butte, Montana

Call to Order: Linda Sadler, MFCG President called the continuation of the 80th Annual State Convention of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 9:15 a.m. on Saturday, June 24, 2017, at the Quality Inn and Suites, Butte, Montana and welcomed those in attendance.

Interim Registration Report: Barbara Willis, Registrar, reported the following credentials:

Past State Presidents-	5
State Officers -	5
District Directors-	7
Club Presidents-	13
State Chairmen-	16
Delegates-	22
NGC President-	0
Regional Director-	1
State Life Members-	25
National Life Members-	17
Club Members-	83
Alternate Delegates-	6
Flower Show Judges-	19
Student Flower Show Judges-	3
Landscape Design Consultants-	4
Student Landscape Design Consultants-	0
Guests-2, Less Duplications-	1
Total MFCG Members attending –	82
Total Guests and non-MFCG Members-	2

Interim Credentials Report: Patricia Biggs, MFCG Corresponding Secretary reported no change in credentials from day before.

Chairman Reports Continued: NGC and Murphy Scholarship, Fay Weber, Chairman presented Kaitlyn A. Goroski with the scholarship. (On File)
Media Library/Speakers Bureau, Linda Clark, Chairman (In Book)
Montana Gardens, Patty Schlaeger, publisher (On File)
Birds and Habitats, Nelone Nielson, Chairman (In Book)
Butterfly Report, Kathy Waters (In Book)
Native Plants, Bees etc., Sue Leferink, Chairman (In Book)
Life Members, Patricia Biggs reported that Pat Schlaeger is the new Chairman (In Book)

Chairman Reports Continued:

Youth Poetry, Greg Cooper, Chairman
Youth Coordinator of Jr. Clubs, Jennifer Strzelczyk reporting for Toni Ziegler, Chairman
Website and Facebook, Phyllis White and Annie Molluck, Chairman (In Book)
Smokey Bear, Jennifer Strzelczyk, Chairman (On File)

Adoption of 2017-2018 Budget: Jane Ereaux, MFCG Treasurer – presented the proposed 2017-2018 budget.
Sherry Corneliusen moved to adopt the 2017-2018 budget, Joyce Hendricks seconded the motion. Adopted

Leadership Workshop, Patricia Biggs

Lunch: MFCG Awards Luncheon, Sherry Corneliusen – 2nd Vice President and Awards Chairman

Blessing: Cheryl Carroll, Missoula Garden Club

Award Presentations: Sherry Corneliusen, Awards Chairman, presented State awards. Linda Sadler, President, presented National awards. Susan Andrews was awarded the Gardener of the Year Award, \$100. Joyce Hendricks accepted the National President's Project Award. Glenna Waltee was awarded the National Award of Honor for the Rocky Mountain Region

Program Speaker: Dr. Robert Pal,
Ecological Restoration Specialist

Announcements: Glendive Garden Club presented Invitation to attend MFCG Fall Board on October 20-21, 2017.
MFCG State Convention will be in Helena, MT, June 14-16, 2018. Susan Billmeyer presented invitation to attend a Japanese flower arranging demonstration in Chinook, MT on July 19, 2017, by Jane Redman, Ikebana Society.
Symposium in Missoula on July 21-22, 2017
RMR 2017 Fall Board in Jamestown, SD
2019 State Convention in Miles City on June 21-22
Montana will host the Regional Convention in 2019

Installation Banquet: Linda Sadler, MFCG President presiding.

Blessing: Cheryl Carroll

Remarks by Nancy Hargroves, NGC President (On File)

Installation of Officers: Nancy Hargroves presiding.

Courtesy Resolution: Patricia Biggs, MFCG Corresponding Secretary (On File)

Benediction: Cheryl Carroll

Adjourned: 9:30 p.m.

Diane Ward, MFCG Recording Secretary

Approved by /s/ Joanne Gibbons /s/ Lynette Dyk
/s/Diana Raymond /s/ Lynne Weischedel



Captions Top left to right: Thumb-R-Green accepting their National Flower Show Award; Jim Sadler in the "Battle of the Judges"; Jane Ereaux wins the quilt drawing.

Bottom left to right: NGC President Nancy Hargroves and MFCG President Linda Sadler present Glenna Waltee the RMR National Award of Honor; MFCG President Linda Sadler presents Susan Andrews the Gardener of the Year Award



BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKER IN HAVRE

The Bullhook Blossoms Garden Club of Havre successfully dedicated one Blue Star Memorial Marker and one Byway Marker on Flag Day June 14, 2017. The Memorial Marker is in place at Memorial/Bakke Park on 5th Avenue and the Byway marker will be affixed to a rock and placed near the WWII memorial on the Courthouse grounds.

Many members of the community attended on the drizzly cool day. Garden Club officers included MFGC president Linda Sadler, Blue Star chairman Kathy Austin, Corresponding Secretary Pat Biggs, and Darlene Skari, Rocky Mountain Regional Director. Also in attendance were Havre Mayor, County Commissioners, Mrs. Montana, US Border Patrol Agents, and Representative Jacob Bachmeier. Representatives from the American Legion and Auxillary, VFW, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts helped with the ceremony. The Havre Lions Club donated both time and funds to see this project through, and the Hill County Community Foundation awarded a grant. Thanks to all who helped and all who attended. Stop by one of our memorials to reflect and remember our Veterans - past, present and future. Pictured below are Bullhook Blossoms members with the two memorial markers.

Jody Olson, President, Bullhook Blossoms Garden Club



ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION 82nd MEETING AUGUST 25-26, 2017 JAMESTOWN, NORTH DAKOTA



Jackie Watts - Rocky Mountain Region Director 2017-2019

Plant your American Dream * Mind your Footprints * And Gather the Friendships

The Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs cover a very large area with almost 750,000 square miles. Our 8 states are among the top 19 states with the most square miles. In spite of this large area, we enjoy very close friendships. These friendships are very apparent in our regional and national meetings. At this past May's NGC meeting you could see us all comparing notes on the weather, discussing what grows in our areas, gardens we had visited and just plain enjoying each other's friendships. These topics and activities are of great concern to our national president Nancy Hargroves. These concerns are found in her program "Plant America." I encourage you to attend our 82nd RMR Meeting in Jamestown, ND.

A Registration Form and information on the meeting are on pages 11-12 in the "Rocky Mountain Rambler." For more information contact Laura Miller at llmillee@gmail.com or go to the NGC Rocky Mountain Region website.

We hope to see you in Jamestown for a very productive meeting and a great time!

2017 MFGC DISTRICT MEETINGS

Each spring a meeting of all the clubs in each District is held. While the District Director chairs the meeting, it is a joint effort of the hosting club and the District Director to prepare a business and educational meeting that is attended by the MFGC state officers. This is an important meeting to share ideas and information about what the clubs are doing. The following pictures reflect individual club members who attended their respective District Meeting.

GLENDIVE GC – DISTRICT 12



MILES CITY GARDEN CLUB – DIST 12



RAINBOW GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 5



GREAT FALLS FLOWER GROWERS – DISTRICT 5



DEARBORN GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 5



STEVENSVILLE GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 2



MISSOULA GARDEN CLUB– DISTRICT 2



ANACONDA GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 3



WHITEHALL GC – DISTRICT 3



DILLON GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 3



GUMBO GALS GC OF NASHUA – DISTRICT 7



JUMPING JUNIPERS GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 7



2017 MFGC DISTRICT MEETINGS

BULLHOOK BLOSSOMS – DISTRICT 7



CHESTER GC – DISTRICT 6



MALTA DIRT DAUBERS – DIST. 7



SACO GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 7



SOW AND GROW GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 10



THUMB-R-GREEN – DISTRICT 10



HOE AND HOPE GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 10



TOWNSEND GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 4



BELGRADE BLOOMERS – DISTRICT 4



GALLATIN EMPIRE GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 4



HELENA GARDEN CLUB – DISTRICT 4



From April 26 through May 6 MFGC President Linda Sadler, MFGC First VP Joyce Hendricks and MFGC Second VP Sherry Corneliusen traveled together all across the state of Montana to meet with clubs in each of the Districts. They enjoyed the warm hospitality at each District session, as well as excellent food served and the outstanding programs that were presented.



MFGC FALL BOARD MEETING

Church of Christ(Sargent & Grant Avenue)
October 20-21, 2017 Glendive, Montana

IS IN THE AIR

Friday, October 20

2:00 – 3:00 pm Registration
2:30 pm Finance Committee
4:00 pm Executive Committee
(MFGC Elected/Appointed Officers)
Advisory Committee
(Former State Presidents)
5:00 pm Judges Council
6:00 – 6:30 Registration
6:30 pm Dinner
7:00 pm Demonstration on fairy gardens

Saturday, October 21

8:30 – 9:00 am Registration and Continental breakfast
9:00 am Board of Directors Meeting

12:00 Lunch

12:30 pm Speaker: Chris Dantic,
Makoshika Park Ranger
After Program - Business resumes
3:00 pm Adjourn

Registration Form

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____

Club _____

Check all that apply:

___ State Officer ___ Club President ___ District Director ___ State Chairman ___ Advisory Council ___ GC Member

___ Registration (Includes Continental Breakfast) \$25.00

___ Friday Dinner \$12.50

___ Saturday Lunch \$12.50

Total enclosed \$ _____

Attention State Chairmen and Officers: Please check box below if you are bringing a display and indicate approximate size as space is limited. I ☐ bring a display Approximate size _____

Make checks payable to Glendive Garden Club and send to Brenda Kartevold, 536 Road 106, Glendive, MT 59330. Please bring items for ways and means table. Thank you.

Hotels in Glendive:

Astoria Hotel, 406-377-6000, www.stayastoria.com
Comfort Inn: 406-365-6000 or 800-228-5150, www.comfortinn.com
Days Inn: 406-365-6011 or 800-329-7466, www.daysinn.com
Holiday Inn and Suites: 406-377-3300 or 888-211-9874, www.ihg.com
La Quinta Inn and Suites: 406-377-7300, www.lq.com
Oak Tree Inn: 406-377-2050, www.oaktree.com
Riverside Inn: 406-377-2349, www.riversideinnnglendive.com
Super 8 : 365-5671, 800-800-8000, www.super8.com
Yellowstone River Inn: 406-377-4433, www.yellowstoneriverinn.net

Contact the Glendive Chamber of Commerce for more information: www.glendivechamber.com or www.visitglendive.com

To get to The Church of Christ from most motels at Exit 215, take Merrill Ave South until you pass a big dinosaur at the EPEC Building (old Safeway) on the left, follow the street through an underpass and continue on Barry Street for 2 blocks. At stop sign turn right on Sargent, go 6 blocks and Church of Christ will be on the left. Pull into the parking lot as door on the street is not open. For questions call Sherry Corneliusen 406-486-5787 or sher@midrivers.com. See you at Fall Board.

WHITEHALL GARDEN CLUB MEMBER'S PHOTOS SELECTED BY NGC PHOTO CONTEST

Below (left) is a fabulous image of a honey bee in a flower full of pollen, photo by Whitehall Garden Club member, Jill Honer. This image was one of two images chosen by the National Garden Club's photo contest judges. Our own member, Jill Honer, (photo number two), was honored as a runner up, out of 400 images, in this year's photo contest by the National Federation of Garden Clubs. The criteria this year was: "Looking deeper into nature." We are all proud of Jill who was honored at the Montana Garden Club Convention in Butte by the MFGC President, Linda Sadler.

Jill Honer was given the certificate in the photo (below right) by our WGC secretary, Maureen Dawson on June 7 at the WGC meeting at the Borden Conference Center in Whitehall.



We all are very proud of one of our own, Jill Honer!!! Jill's photographic images are truly excellent and are "National Geographic" worthy.

YOUTH REPORT

I'm happy to report that there are nine registered youth clubs in the state of Montana. I'm hoping that we'll see an increase by this time next year. There are always groups out there that would love the help of a Garden Club. Look to 4-H, Girl/Boy Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, and teachers. If you know of any others please let me know.

A new book has been published and is available through National. Its title is "The Saved Seed." Consider buying a copy for your club. Also think about donating a copy to your local library or grade school.

Here's an easy way to save tomato seeds. Kids should love this because it's squishy and messy. Squeeze the seeds from a very ripe tomato onto an index card or other heavy paper. Let the seeds dry and label them. Come Spring you can peel the seeds off the paper and plant them.

Malta Dirt Daubers are paired up with the Boys/Girls Club. We recently helped them plant a pizza garden. The kids planted tomatoes, peppers, onions, herbs and some flowers for attracting bees.

If you do projects with kids please let me know so I can share with others. We can all learn from each other.

Remind your youth clubs about the poetry and essay contests. The themes for the Youth Poetry Contest are: 2017 "Let it Grow" and 2018 "Pop Goes the Seed." The High School Essay Contest themes are: 2017 "Community Gardens – A Solution to Blight, Crime and Hunger" and 2018 "The Impact of Bottled Water on the Environment and Water Supply." Please send all Poetry and Essay Entries to Greg Cooper.

Toni Ziegler, Montana Youth Chairman



Membership Report

Considering how many senior garden club members have passed away, our overall membership for the state of Montana is only down by two members. We have a total of 684 members in Montana. While many clubs lost members, our membership was offset by a gain in new members.

In the 2016-17 membership contest, the two top clubs with a percentage gain of membership were very close.

The Belgrade Bloomers Garden Club gained five members with a total of 18 members for the first place prize of \$25. The Helena Garden Club gained four members with a total membership of 16 and won the second place prize of \$20.

**Vanette Nagamori,
Membership Chairman**

MONTANA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

2017-2019 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

GARDEN CLUB INFRASTRUCTURE

CHAPLAIN – Cheryl Carroll canyoncarrolls@gmail.com
MONTANA GARDENS – Patty Schlaeger, Managing Editor

tamarackgroup@yahoo.com
 Norman DeNeal – Copy Editor
denealnorman@gmail.com
 Phyllis White – Copy Editor
gardens@bresnan.net
 Diane Ward – Circulation –
mydoubleheartranch@gmail.com

WEBSITE – Phyllis White – Web Master www.mtfgc.org
gardens@bresnan.net

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE –

Glenna Waltee – glennawaltee@yahoo.com
 Rosemary Corrigan – jcorrigan@q.com
 Jim Sadler – jimsadler@bresnan.net

FINANCE COMMITTEE – Linda Sadler, Chair
lindahillsadler@gmail.com

Vicky Barbieri – vgbar@itstriangle.com
 Joyce Hendricks – rnjhend@charter.net
 Sherry Corneliusen – sher@midrivers.com
 Connie Leatherman – steve5connie@mt.net
 Glenna Waltee – glennawaltee@yahoo.com

FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Gail Zarr – 406-452-8789
 Norman DeNeal – denealnorman@gmail.com
 Lynette Dyk – lynnettedyk@gmail.com

HISTORIAN – Denise Fink – FINK52daf@gmail.com

LONG RANGE PLANNING AND ORGANIZATIONAL STUDY COMMITTEE – Darlene Skari
ds kari@3riversdbs.net

Phyllis White – gardens@bresnan.net

MEMBERS SERVICES – Carol Works
mtgardener59520@outlook.com

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE – Vanette Nagamori
nugatory@gmail.com

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Linda Sadler, Chair
 (Members to be elected)
lindahillsadler@gmail.com

NGC PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

Jim Sadler – Backyard Habitat
jimsadler@bresnan.net
 Sue Leferink – Bees redtigger88@outlook.com

COMMITTEES - AWARDS

MFGC AWARDS – Connie Leatherman
steve5connie@mt.net

CATHY ATKINSON AWARD – Vicky Barbieri
vgbar@itstriangle.com

PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS – Donna Dowell
roses.1942@gmail.com

MFGC & NGC FLOWER SHOW AWARDS
 Susan Andrews – sugar30@littleappletech.com

YEARBOOK AWARDS – Annie Mollock
dragonflydragonfli@yahoo.com

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR RMR

Sherry Corneliusen – sher@midrivers.com
"Plant your American Dream, Mind your Footprints, and Gather the Friendships"

2017-2019 NGC PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

Sherry Corneliusen sher@midrivers.com
"Plant America"

CIVIC DEVELOPMENT

BLUE STAR MARKERS – Kathy Austin
Kathyaustin65@msn.com

EDUCATION

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS – Susan Billmayer
gsee@itstriangle.com

FLOWER SHOW CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN
 Susan Billmayer gsee@itstriangle.com

SYMPOSIUM CHAIRMAN – Susan Billmayer
gsee@itstriangle.com

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS – Christi Mock
Mock25_9@msn.com

MFGC LIFE MEMBERS SCHOLARSHIP

Patty Schaefer tamarackgroup@yahoo.com

NGC AND MURPHY SCHOLARSHIP – Fay Weber
fayweber@bresnan.com

MEDIA LIBRARY/SPEAKERS BUREAU – Linda Clark
lindaclark113@msn.com

HORTICULTURE

BIRDS AND HABITATS – Nelone Nielson
 406-866-3197

BUTTERFLIES AND HABITATS –

Kathy Waters imbup2@gmail.com

PENNY PINES – Sharon Doll Sdollmt12@hotmail.com

NATIVE PLANTS: WILDFLOWERS – Susan Andrews
sugar30@littleappletech.com

XERISCAPE GARDENING AND WATER

CONSERVATION – Sue Leferink
redtigger88@outlook.com

MFGC SPONSORED GROUPS

JUDGES COUNCIL – Cheryl Carroll
canyoncarrolls@gmail.com

LIFE MEMBERS – Patty Schlaeger
tamarackgroup@yahoo.com

NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERS – Carol Works
mtgardener59520@outlook.com

YOUTH

YOUTH POETRY, ESSAYS, SCULPTURE CONTESTS
 – Greg Cooper

greengator4@gmail.com

YOUTH COORDINATOR – Toni Ziegler
ziggy4@itstriangle.com

SMOKEY BEAR / WOODSY OWL

– Jennifer Strzelczyk
jenstrzelczyk@gmail.com

MFGC 2017 AWARDS

GARDEN CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Norm DeNeal - Butte Garden Study Group

GARDENER OF THE YEAR

Susan Andrews – Gallatin Empire Garden Club, \$100

BELGRADE BLOOMERS GARDEN CLUB

A-4a Florence Baker Award for most judges, \$20

A-6a Alice Hamilton Award, \$20

A-11a Ruby Benjamin Wildflower Photograph Award, \$10

A-21a Elizabeth Kehmeier Club Scrapbook Award, certificate

B-5-a KerinMcCarver Special Award, \$15

B-11d Esther Hamel Butterfly Garden Award, certificate

B-12 Mary Lee Award, Mary Ann Byerly, certificate

C-1a Award of Appreciation, certificate

C-3a Floral Design Award, \$20

C-10-1 Yearbook Award – certificate

C-12 – Photography Contest Award, \$20

E-1a Standard Flower Show, \$20

BULLHOOK BLOSSOMS GARDEN CLUB

A-20b Marie Jones Container Gardening Award, \$15

A-21a Elizabeth Kehmeier Club Scrapbook Award, \$25

B-1a Mae Burke Magill Award, \$20

B-5a KerinMcCarver Special Award, certificate

B-6 Laura Works Memorial Award, \$25 for largest increase in Life Members

C-1a Award of Appreciation, \$50

C-9,2 Multi Media Award, \$20

C-10 -2 Yearbook Award, A-2, certificate

D-1a Youth Club Sponsorship Award, certificate

D-2a Youth Gardening Award, \$20

DEARBORN GARDEN CLUB

A-5 Charlotte Straub Award, \$20

A-8 JunneJohnsrud Membership Award, by percentage, \$20

A-15 Mae Brennan Habets Publicity Book Award, \$10

A-20b Marie Jones Container Gardening Award, certificate

A-21b Elizabeth Kehmeier Club Scrapbook Award, \$25

B-4 KerinMcCarver Membership Award, most new, \$15

C-10-3 Yearbook Award, \$20

E-7B District Flower Show – Central District, \$20

E-11 Flower Show Schedule – Central District, \$20

DILLON GARDEN CLUB

A-18a Alpha Mitchell Living Legacy Award, certificate

A-20a Marie Jones Container Gardening Award, certificate

A-25a Darlene Skari Public Workshop Award, certificate

B-5a KerinMcCarver Special Award, certificate

B-9a Cathy Atkinson Creative Design Award – Cathy Speich-Ferguson - \$25

B-9a Doris Richard, certificate

C-9, 2 Multi Media Award, certificate

D-2 Youth Gardening Award, certificate

GALLATIN EMPIRE GARDEN CLUB

A-4b Florence Baker Award for most judges \$20

A-5b Charlotte Straub City Beautification Award, certificate

A-7b Esther Hamel & Blanche Burns Garden Therapy Award, \$15

A-9 Lillian Westin Wildflower Award, \$25 Susan Andrews

A-10 Ceri Breen Wildflower Conservation Award, \$20 Susan Andrews

A-11b Ruby Benjamin Wildflower Photography Award, \$10 Susan Andrews

B-3 Dearborn Garden Club Award, \$10 Susan Andrews B-9 Cathy Atkinson

Floral Design Award – Susan Andrews, certificate B-12 Mary Lee Award –

Susan Andrews, quilt \$20

GREAT FALLS FLOWER GROWERS

A-4c Florence Baker Award for most judges, \$20

A-6c Alice Hamilton Award, Amy Grisak - \$20

A-20 a Marie Jones Container Garden Award, certificate – Pat Biggs

A-24 Mary Davis Patriotic Garden Award, \$25

A-7c Esther Hamel & Blanche Burns Garden Therapy Award, \$15

A-13c Florence Baldwin Environmental Education Award, \$10

A-25c Darlene Skari Public Workshop Award, certificate

MFGC State Chairman Leadership Award, certificate – Pat Biggs

B-12 Mary Lee Award, Kerry Hovland, certificate

C-1c Award of Appreciation, \$50, Patty Howse

C-5 Bird Report Award, \$20 Pam McKeever

C-7 Bird Scrapbook Award, \$20 Pam McKeever

C-10-4 Yearbook Award, \$20

D-1 b Youth Sponsorship Award, \$20

HELENA GARDEN CLUB

A-25a Darlene Skari Public Workshop Award, certificate

B-1a Mae Burke Magill Award, certificate

C-10,1 Yearbook Award, certificate

MALTA DIRT DAUBERS GARDEN CLUB

A-5a Charlotte Straub Award, \$20

A-6a Alice Hamilton Award, Kathy Waters, certificate

A-13a Florence Baldwin Environmental Education Award, \$10

A-17 Rose Kopp Special Children Award, \$10

A-18a Alpha Mitchell Living Legacy Award, certificate

A-20 Marie Jones Container Gardening Award, certificate

A-21a Elizabeth Kehmeier Club Scrapbook Award, certificate

A-25a Darlene Skari Public Workshop Award, \$25

B-1a Mae Burke Magill Award, certificate

B-2 Rainbow Garden Club Civic Beautification Award - \$50

B-5a KerinMcCarver Award, Certificate

B-7 MFGC State Chairman Leadership Award, Kathy Waters, \$25

B-11d Esther Hamel Butterfly Garden Award, Kathy Waters, \$50

C-3b Floral Design Award, \$20

C-3a Floral Design Award, certificate

C-10-1 Yearbook Award, \$20

D-1a Youth Sponsorship Award, \$20

MILES CITY GARDEN CLUB

A-15b Publicity Press Book, certificate

C-2a Horticulture Award, \$20

RAINBOW GARDEN CLUB

A-17c Rose Kopp Special Children Award, \$10

A-18c Alpha Mitchell Living Legacy Award, \$10

A-20a Marie Jones Container Gardening Award, Patricia Schlaeger, \$15

A-23 Mary J Olsen Trees Award, \$10

A-27 Phyllis White Conservation Award, \$50

B-12 Mary Lee Award, Patricia Schlaeger, certificate

B-12 Mary Lee Award, Sharron Mashburn, certificate

C-10-4 Yearbook Award, certificate

THUMB R GREEN GARDEN CLUB

C-10-2 Yearbook Award, \$20

E-10 Standard Flower Show Staged in a Public Building, 1st place, \$20

TOWNSEND GARDEN CLUB

A-7a Esther Hamel & Blanche Burns Garden Therapy Award \$15

A-18 Alpha Mitchell Living Legacy Award - \$10

A-20 Marie Jones Container Gardening Award, Glynis Scott, Certificate

A-21a Elizabeth Kehmeier Club Scrapbook Award, certificate

A-21a Elizabeth Kehmeier Club Scrapbook Award – Lynette Dyk, certificate

B-1a Mae Burke Magill Award, certificate



UNDER MONTANA'S BIG SKY

MILES CITY GARDEN CLUB

The Miles City Garden Club had a busy spring of planting for our community projects. Our Blue Star Memorial Garden made it through the long winter; we added more flowers and improvements, one being edging donated by a generous local business. We also added to the Post Office perennial garden and completed other annual plantings around the community; as always, we had a ton of fun together.

The club welcomes several energetic, new members; and, with sadness, we said goodbye to two long-standing members and officers, Donna Zimmer and Darlene Russell, who had cancer and passed away within days of one another. Both were stellar women who weren't afraid to get their hands dirty or volunteer for anything that needed done. Being true crafty gardeners, they had lots of flowers and treasures that were donated to the club. We used some of the plants in our community plantings and annual plant swap and sale. We organized a Treasure Sale that included much of their garden creations.

Our \$500 scholarship winners for this year are Jasmine Evans from Glendive and Jacob Swope from Miles City. Both are going into Ag Business. Our next planned event is our floral show on July 29 entitled *"Timeless Garden Bounty."*



DEARBORN GARDEN CLUB

The March meeting presentation was by Sue Leferink, Helena Garden Club, on Native Plants and Landscaping. April's was Pat Parker, Ulm, MT on Landscaping and Fire Safety. Pat is plant producer for Ace Hardware so he answered questions about plants. May's speaker was Tanya E. Murphy, US Forestry Service on Restoration Following a Forest Fire in Montana. Tanya also drew the ticket for the Scholarship Fund Quilt which was won by our own member Grace McBride. Honorary members were recognized.

In June the 2017-2019 elected officers were: President Colleen Mason, VP Jo Lee Burman, Secretary Trish Vielleux, Treasurer Marian Rau, and Directors Judy Fettig, Marcie Bateman, Helen Shewman, Kitty Wojtala and Donna Ahlert.

WHITEHALL GARDEN CLUB



The group photo (above) is of the June 7th meeting of the Whitehall Garden Club members. We had a record breaking membership attendance of 24 people at the Borden's Conference Center. Pictured below is Cathy Hatch (standing) giving an excellent workshop on how to identify and attract wild birds to your yard. Cathy presented a very detailed PowerPoint presentation with bird photo and identification, as part of her workshop.

Thanks again Jack and Melissa for your continued support of our Whitehall Garden Club *where we beautify Whitehall, one flower at a time!*



GREAT FALLS FLOWER GROWERS FEDERATED 75 YEARS AGO

The Great Falls Flower Growers organized in 1933 and federated in 1938. There are currently 48 members with 43 active and 5 honorary. GFFG meets on the first Friday of each month, September through June, at the Black Eagle Community Center. In December the club holds its annual Christmas Tea. The admission is free, but the money earned from a bake sale, homemade crafts, floral arrangements, silent auction and raffle tickets provides money for scholarships awarded each spring to upper classmen majoring in a horticulture related field.

We have gardens at the Great Falls Visitors Center, Great Falls Library Park, Paris Gibson Square and each year we plant a memorial tree for deceased members. The Montana Veteran's Memorial flower beds are planted by our club members and we have a Junior Garden Club. In January we host the Senior Citizen's Birthday Party. We co-host a flower show every other year. We believe in our Conservation Pledge: *"I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, its air, soils and minerals, its forests, water and wildlife."* **Please come and check us out. We are always happy to welcome new members!**

MEMORIALS AND ENDOWMENTS

MEMORIALS

In Memory of my sister, Darlene Harpster

Glenna Waltee, \$50

In Memory of Dona Zimmer

Miles City Garden Club, \$20

In Memory of Darlene Russell

Miles City Garden Club, \$20

BLUE STARS

Congratulations and thank you to the host clubs of the 80th annual Montana Federation of Garden Clubs Convention. It was a great convention! Thank you to the outgoing MFGC executives for a job well done. Congratulations to the incoming executives and we look forward to "Growing in Montana as we Plant America."

Dearborn Garden Club - Cascade, Montana - District 5

LIFE MEMBER'S ROSES

Rose Pins and Certificates given for \$50

Contributions or memorials:

Susan Billmayer - \$200 (4 pins)	Carol Works - \$50
Luanna Maxwell - \$50	Christi Mock - \$50
VanetteNagamori - \$50	Sherry Corneliusen - \$50
Jane Ereaux - \$100 (2 pins)	JoLee Burman - \$50
Gail Williamson - \$50	Mary Ellen Zellmer - \$50
Petrini Family Memorial from Patricia Schlaeger - \$50	

CHANGES/ADDITIONS FOR THE 2107-19 MFGC DIRECTORY

Mason, Colleen - 52 Rising Sun Lane, Cascade, MT
59421-8025 ccmmason@gmail.com

VanetteNagamori: nugatory@gmail.com

Jody Olson: jodykolson@gmail.com

Gloria Tilleman: parents@tillemanmotors.com

Sherry Corneliusen: email: sher@midrivers.com

Diana Raymond: dkraymond5@gmail.com, Shelby MT
59474, phone: 406-470-0977

Pat Biggs: notrees1004@charter.net

Carol Works: add NGC Life Members Chair, winter address:
7750 E. Broadway Rd. Lot 181, Mesa, Az. 85208 phone 480-354-1956

Kathy Austin: kathyaustin65@msn.com

Jennifer Strzelczyk: jenstrzelczyk@gmail.com

Susan Andrews: phone 406-582-4135

Connie Leatherman: cell 406-581-0603

Diane Ward: Whitetail Road

Colleen Hoffman: 406-273-3973

Add: **Cathy Ferguson** as Southwestern#3 District Director,
Changes: Gallatin Empire Garden Club president to **Susan Andrews/Susan Woods**, Conrad Garden Club: McKenzie Graye President, Add **NGC Social Media Chairman** to Phyllis page 4
Ranney, Betty 3221 Ave. F, Billings, Mt. 591026516
phone: 406-656-7795 c- 406-690-4454

Branney3@gmail.com (president of Sow and Grow)

Norm DeNeal: denealnrm@gmail.com

Greg Cooper: greengator4@gmail.com

Correction: Mary Ann Roller is president of Saco Garden Club



Wrapping It Up

The 80th Annual MFGC Convention was a success in many, many ways. Congratulations go out to Norm DeNeal and his convention committees. This session had everything to make a meeting great:

Excellent Programs and Speakers, Interesting Tour Venues, Great Food, Time and Places to Network and Make New Garden Club Friends

When you add in some new program and time changes, this meeting was primed for success. Combining the Life Members program and the Circle of Green Thumbs in a luncheon made way for the entertaining "Battle of the Judges" enjoyed by all. Our NGC President, Nancy Hargroves is so congenial. She made herself available to everyone whether it was for a "selfie" with her, or just to visit with you about gardening in Montana or in her state of Virginia.

But most important was our time in casual conversation or networking. I recalled how MFGC President Linda had addressed the convention and said that following a recent trip, she was excited upon returning home in Missoula to find several Milk Weed plants flourishing in the field across the street. But just a few days later she looked out in dismay to see the entire field had been mowed. ***No more Milk Weed plants for the Monarch Butterflies!*** In a conversation with Jim Sadler the following day I made a comment that we need to do more than just pass out brochures to save the plight of the Monarchs. This mowing was a prime example of how we need to communicate with our city and county governments and have them mow around and preserve patches of milk weed. He said a conversation with these officials could be a start in the right direction. Then I took it a step further and suggested, as garden club members who spot patches of milk weed in and around our area, we should have a small sign to stick in the ground by the plant(s). Such a sign could read, ***"Protected Plant For the Preservation of our Monarch Butterfly population – Do not cut or mow!"*** Maybe this could even turn into a specific grant application from NGC to pay for small signs on stakes!

Just a small thought, but look what happens when you come to convention and network!

Patty Schlaeger, Editor Montana Gardens

**NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S
THEME FOR 2017-19**



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN
REGION
DIRECTOR'S
THEME**

**Plant Your American
Dream * Mind Your
Footprints * And Gather
The Friendships**

**MTFGC
PRESIDENT'S
THEME FOR
2017-19**

**Let's Grow in
Montana!**



**Visit our website at
www.MTFGC.org**



**find us on facebook!
facebook.com/MontanaGardens**

**2017
CIRCLE OF GREEN THUMB
AWARD WINNERS**

Anaconda Garden Club – Rosemary Corrigan
Belgrade Bloomers Garden Club – Annie Mollock
Bullhook Blossoms Garden Club – Jody Olson
Butte Garden Club – Susie Williams
Chester – Ann Wickum
Conrad Garden Club – Marilyn Waite
Dearborn Garden Club – Colleen Mason
Dillon Garden Club – Gail Hansen
Gallatin Empire Garden Club – Judy Locker
Glendive Garden Club – Sharon Doll
Great Falls Flower Growers – Delores Gregory
Gumbo Gals Garden Club – Bonnie Meyer
Helena Garden Club – Karen Chadwick
Jumping Junipers – Nita Jergeson
Malta Dirt Daubers – Rosemary Veseth
Miles City Garden Club –
Darlene Russell and Donna Zimmer
Missoula Garden Club – Cheryl Carroll
Rainbow Garden Club – Sharon Winchell
Stevensville Garden Club – Clara Armstrong
Thumb-R-Green Garden Club – Merita Murdock
Townsend Garden Club – Glynis Scott
Whitehall Garden Club – Kathy Hatch



**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

**AUGUST 1, 2017 – Deadline for
Rocky Mtn Regional Awards**
**AUGUST 25-27, 2017 – Rocky Mtn
Regional Meeting
Jamestown, North Dakota**
**NOVEMBER 1, 2017 – NGC Award of
Excellence #23 and #24 send to
Connie Leatherman**
**DECEMBER 1, 2017 – Youth Poetry
Contest, Send to Greg Cooper**
**DECEMBER 1, 2017 – Club Yearbooks
Send to Annie Molluck**
**DECEMBER 1, 2017 – All National
Awards Send to
Connie Leatherman**
**DECEMBER 1, 2017 – NGC Standard
Flower Show Award – Send to
Susan Andrews.**

