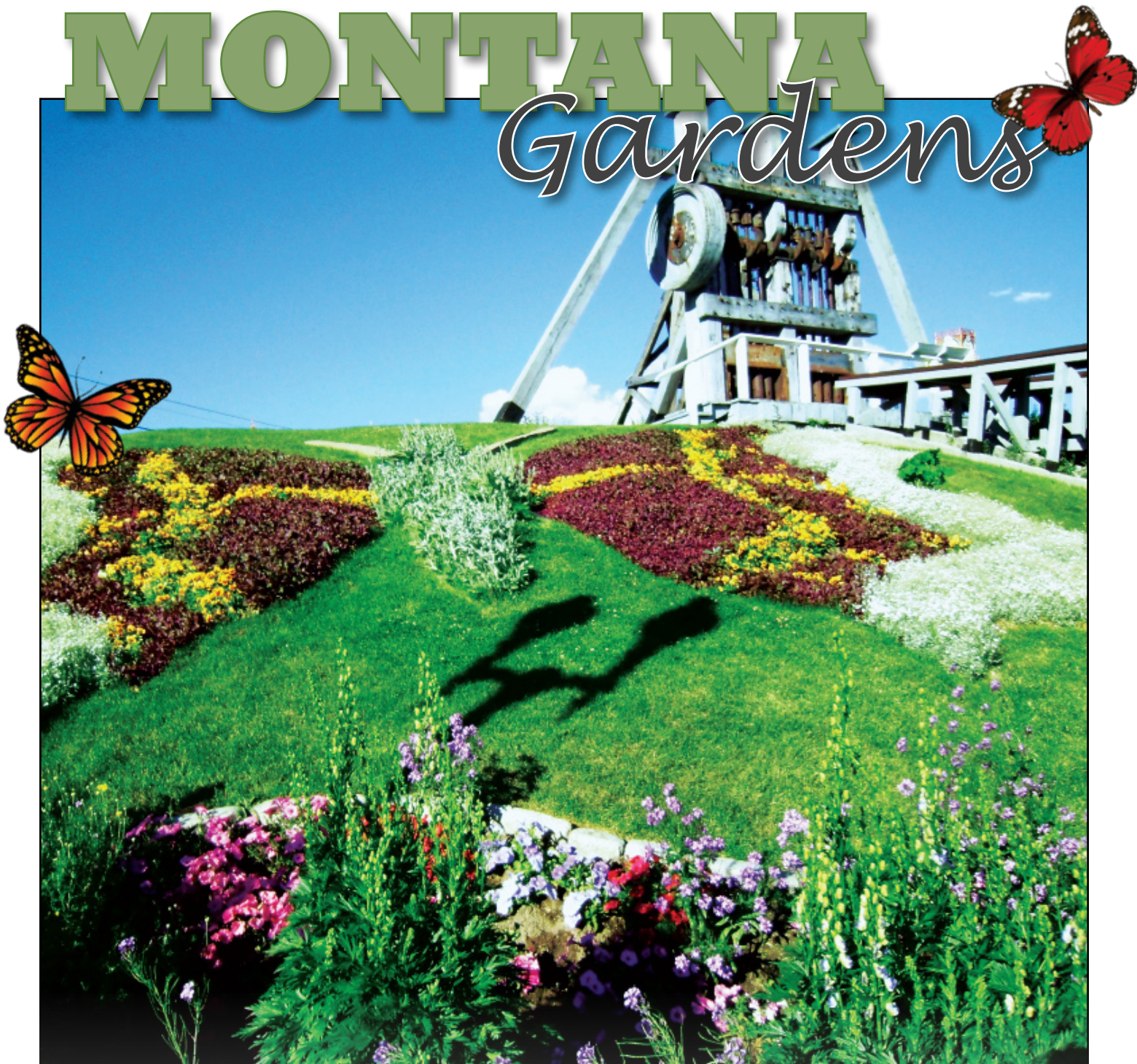


MONTANA

Gardens



Old Lexington Gardens is a garden on a mill reclamation site in Butte, Montana. Pictured above is the butterfly and stamping mill (crushing machine). Photo courtesy of Norm Deneal.

— In This Issue —

President's Message • Nominating Committee Report • MFGC Awards Due April 15
Pollinator Power Publication • Designing Your Butterfly Garden • Havre Garden Club Blue Star Marker
Convention Program Promotion • 80th Annual Convention Registration • Penny Pine Program
Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Article Contest Winners • Instructors Symposium • Flower Show School
Under Montana's Big Sky • Donations and Memorials • 60th Anniversary for RNG • Address Changes
Tidbit from Linda • Wrapping it up • Smokey Bear Poster Winners • Dates to Remember

The Official Publication of The Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Spring 2017 | Volume 63 | Issue 1



President's Message



All good things must come to an end, and, my term as your state president will soon end. During my term I have had many wonderful learning experiences. Our Montana clubs have varied approaches to working on the same type of projects. It was a pleasure reviewing the projects.

It is amazing the number of hours members have spent volunteering in our communities. I have enjoyed viewing many of your community projects. It was great to see several of these award

winning projects when I traveled with the officers to the District Meetings.

I have also learned our members are very hospitable. Your hospitality has been greatly appreciated and enjoyed. I have gotten to know more about members and their talents and have made many friends.

I learned Montana is a big state from border to border. As gardeners, the environmental problems we face can be extreme. Since I live in a river valley in the western part of Montana, I learned that my problems can be much different than those who live on the eastern prairie. I learned that gardening is a challenge. Gardening in the eastern prairie where it is hot, windy, and dry is far different from the moisture of the western mountains. *We all have one thing in common and that is our love for nature and things that grow!*

I learned about the plight of bees, butterflies, birds, frogs, and wildlife. As members, we are doing our part to

save and promote habitat for the vanishing species.

By attending Flower School Courses, I learned more about flower shows. Horticulture procedure, including how to properly write the scientific names as well as how to prepare a specimen to be judged, is now understood. Design types are changing as new categories are added. As an amateur designer who is not a judge, I am now not afraid to try a new design type.

As your state president many other opportunities have been opened for me. It has been a wonderful experience which I will cherish. A new president will soon take the office of president and will need our support. Thank you so much for your support, kindness and friendship.

LINDA SADLER
MFGC PRESIDENT

MFGC 2015-17 OFFICERS & DISTRICT DIRECTORS

President:

Linda Sadler
lindahillsadler@gmail.com

1st Vice President:

Joyce Hendricks
rjmhend@charter.net

2nd Vice President:

Sherry Corneliusen
sher@middrivers.com

Treasurer:

Jane Ereaux
jane@mtintouch.net

Recording Secretary:

Diane Ward
mydoubleheartranch@gmail.com

Parliamentarian:

Phyllis White
gardens@bresnan.net

Corresponding Secretary:

Pat Biggs
notrees1004@charter.net

MFGC District Directors:

Western District #2

Cheryl Carroll

Southwestern District #3

Diane Ward

Lewis & Clark District #4

Betsy Heckel

Central District #5

Carol Brady

Northern District #6

Donna Arvidson

Hi-Line District #7

Gloria Tilleman

Yellowstone District #10

Rosemary Power

East Gateway District #12

Sherry Corneliusen

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Phyllis White, Chairman;
Norman DeNeal, Darlene Skari,
Ruth Layton, Mary McLane,
Mary Olsen, Jean Thomas,
and Marie Jones



MONTANA Gardens

Official Publication of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Member of the Rocky Mountain Region and National Garden Clubs, Inc. All rights reserved. Full color issue available at www.MTFGC.org

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.

SEND ARTICLES TO:

Patricia Schlaeger, MT Gardens Editor
Suite 531 The Columbus Center
1601 Second Avenue North
Great Falls, MT 59401
406-727-7633

tamarackgroup@yahoo.com

Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for content and length.

Deadline / Issue

July 1, 2017 / Fall 2017
November 1, 2017 / Winter 2017-18
March 1, 2018 / Spring-Summer 2018

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. (MFGC) is a non-profit organization with a Federal 501(c)(3) status. All monetary contributions are tax deductible.

Printed by Allegra Printing—Great Falls, MT.

REPORT OF THE MFGC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

First Vice President: Sherry Corneliusen, Glendive Garden Club
Second Vice President: Connie Leatherman, Townsend Garden Club
Secretary: Lynne Weischedel, Miles City Garden Club
Treasurer: Vicky Barbieri, Hoe and Hope Garden Club, Big Timber,
Gallatin Empire Garden Club, Thumb-R-Green

MEMBERS OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Kathy Waters, Malta; Cheryl Carroll, Missoula; Paula Childers, Chester; Luana Maxwell, Great Falls;
Lynne Weischedel, Miles City; Rosemary Power, Billings; Judy Rente, Bozeman
Darlene Skari, Nominating Committee Chairman, 2017

AWARDS DUE APRIL 15TH

Hear ye, hear ye! All state awards are due to Sherry Corneliusen, 1014 Road 248, Glendive, MT 59330 by April 15. That is tax deadline and award application deadline. I encourage all of you to apply for the awards that are listed on the web at www.mtfgc.org. You can also find the awards in the state directory that all Presidents and District Directors should have in their possession. An award application is on page 32 in the directory. If you go to the website you can fill in the application and apply on line. The awards are a lot simpler now and you only have to fill out 3 pages instead of a whole book of evidence. Just paper clip the 3 pages together and send to me. The awards vary in the amount offered from \$10 all the way to \$25 for most and the Gardener of the Year gets \$100. If you have any questions, email me at sher@middrivers.com or call 406 486-5787.

B-8 is the Circle of Green Thumbs award. Nominate one person from each club.

B-9 is Gardener of the Year and worth \$100.

C-4 is Garden Club Member of the year and they get the tiara for a year.

B-11 is the Esther Hamel Butterfly Garden award and following are some modifications made this year: In memory of her entomologist son, Dennis Hamel. Before and after pictures are required. A certificate and \$50 awarded to the club who has the most comprehensive and effective project in each of the categories below:

A. Club which creates a Butterfly Habitat Garden. Include choosing a sunny location; shelter the garden from wind; add rocks; a damp sand, gravel or mud puddle; a diversity of plants and flowers; and other butterfly essentials.

B. Club which creates a Container Butterfly Garden at a school, adult living center, hospital or other facility. Use a sturdy container and plant butterfly attracting plants and flowers including larval and nectar types.

C. Club member or club who develops a Certified Monarch Waystation. Garden may be any size but optimum is 100 sq. ft. Plant 10 or more milkweed plants and four or more nectar plants. Maintain the garden and complete the certification process. Include copy of certificate. (www.monarchwatch.org and www.gardenclub.org)

D. Club member or club who conducts a public educational presentation on butterflies.

E. Club which supervises a junior club in creating a butterfly habitat garden using criteria identified in category A.

B-12 is the Mary Lee Award and can go to an individual for an artistic expression of flowers, such as a painting, quilt, hand-made flower craft, excluding photography. Entries must be submitted in digital format.

Check out the awards on the web or in the directory and submit some so we can present a certificate and money to you and your club at the convention in June. Remember you can bring your scrapbooks and larger award booklets to the District meetings.

Sherry Corneliusen Awards Chairman 406 486-5787 sher@middrivers.com

Designing Your Butterfly Garden

If we lived in a perfect “butterfly habitat” the world would be full of undisturbed landscapes rife with wildflowers and nesting places. Unfortunately progress has precluded that for much of the United States. Wildlife is being squeezed out of populated areas to smaller and smaller natural places. So, is there anything we can do? Absolutely there is!

National Garden Clubs has an excellent resource called “*Inviting Butterflies Into Your Garden*”. Everything you need to know to start your own butterfly garden is included and it is available to download from their website. It outlines eight simple steps to follow to create your own butterfly habitat.

1. Choose a sunny location. Butterflies need sun for orientation and to warm their wings for flight.
2. Shelter the garden from wind with a screen of shrubs, hedgerow, or a fence. Flowering shrubs that also provide nectar make ideal windbreaks. The plants growing in the hedgerows provide sources of nectar and pollen, as well as egg laying and nesting sites for many insects.
3. Add rocks or flat stones to absorb the sun's heat. These serve as a perch for butterflies to warm their wings. A creek bed, created with a variety of different sized rocks, is a popular spot for butterflies to bask in the sun when dry and sunny.
4. Include damp sand, gravel or mud puddle as a source of mineral nutrients. Butterflies gather on wet sand and mud to “puddle”, drinking water and extracting salt minerals.
5. Choose a diversity of native plants that will create a long series of bloom as a food source and plant in large clumps.
6. Include plants that provide both nectar for the adult butterfly and leaves, flowers and seeds for the larvae to feed. Butterfly larvae stay on their host plants, pruning as they eat and grow, giving back frass (caterpillar droppings) as fertilizer.
7. **DO NOT SPRAY ANY PESTICIDES** in your garden. If it kills an insect of any kind, it kills butterflies and other beneficial insects in both their adult and larval phases.
8. Allow at least a small part of it to go wild with minimal disturbance. Leave a corner in your garden untended for additional habitat.

If you don't have room for a butterfly garden, consider planting a container with appropriate plants to attract them. “*Inviting Butterflies Into Your Garden*” has an excellent section on how to do this.

Have you already planted your yard to nectar plants and milkweed? Do you feel as if you are the only one in the neighborhood who has planted for pollinators? Imagine if you talked to your neighbors, and all agreed to plant their yards to pollinator friendly plants. If your yards are all connected, think of the large swath of butterfly and pollinator habitat you would create. It has been proven that butterflies are attracted to large areas of color, more than to small individual blooming plants. A friend from Nebraska saved zinnia seeds and planted all of them in one long, wide bed. When they bloomed that summer they were a magnet for Monarch butterflies.

Mature trees are important habitat for butterflies. So often when a new housing tract is started, all of the existing trees are destroyed. After the new houses are built, small trees are planted to replace the mature trees. But what if the developers left the existing trees, in favor of pollinators and birds. They say we plant trees for the next generation and that is certainly true in Montana. It can take many decades for a tree to reach its full size.

One aspect of butterfly habitat that many gardeners are against is leaving “weeds” in their yard. Of course a weed, by definition, is any plant that is growing in the wrong place. A rose would be a weed if it grew in a wheat field. Every garden has a corner that doesn't often get weeded and cleaned up. You already have butterfly habitat and didn't realize it. And now you have a legitimate reason to let that corner go “wild”. Be vigilant against planting noxious weeds! They are against the law for nurseries to sell but many times a neighbor will “share” a favorite plant. Ask your county extension agent for a list of noxious weeds or go online. Better to be safe than sorry.

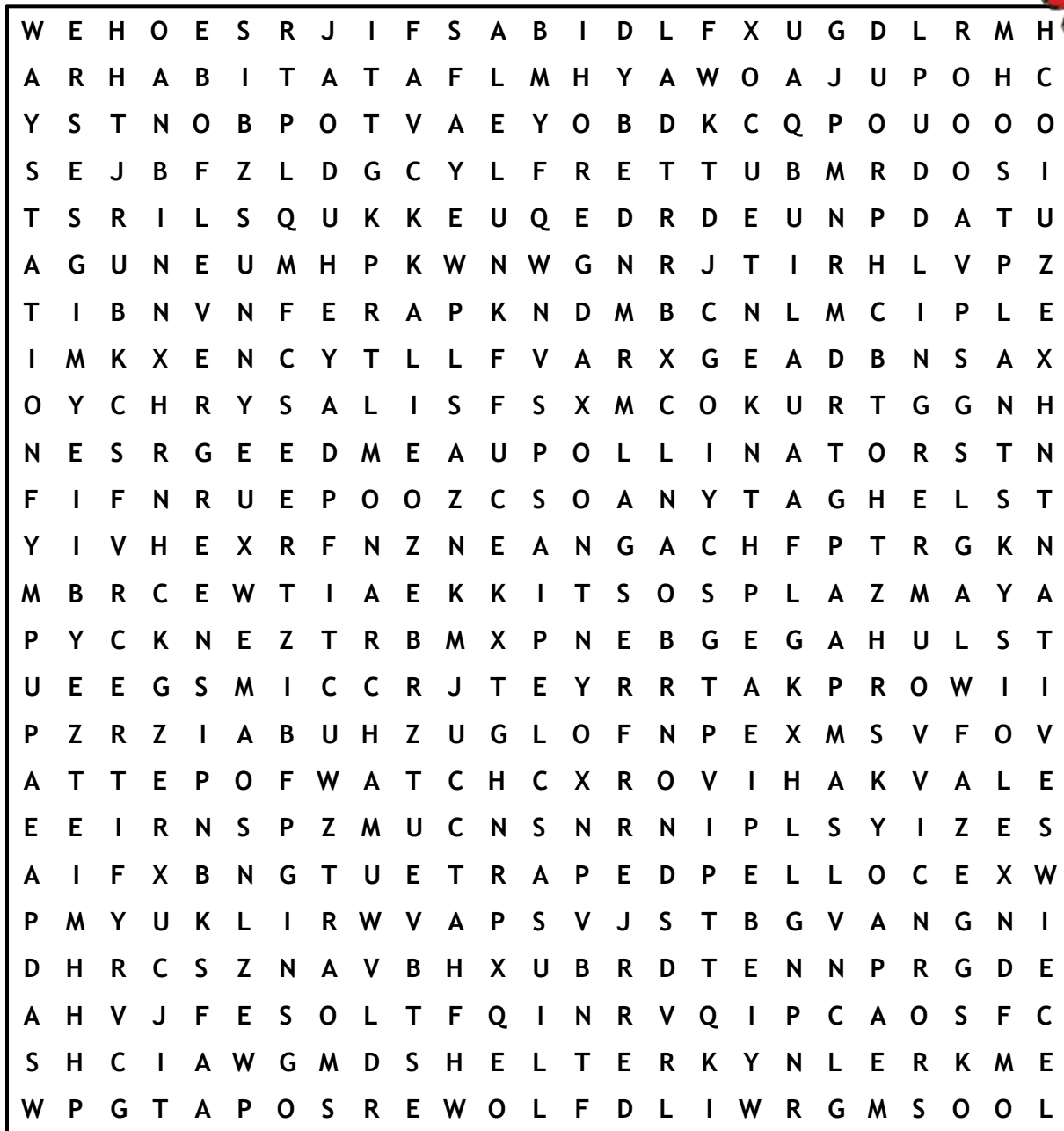
After you garden is established, certify it as a **Monarch Waystation**. Monarch Watch suggests a minimum of 100 square feet. This may be split into several locations. A **Monarch Waystation** requires a minimum of 10 milkweed plants. If possible plant two or more species for longer bloom time. Plant a minimum of four (4) nectar plants. Remember that more plants make a larger area of color, which will draw the Monarchs to your garden. Providing nectar throughout the growing season will increase your chances of attracting monarchs as well as other butterflies and pollinators. Fall-blooming plants, such as asters and sedums, are especially important to Monarchs and other butterflies. Native perennials to your geographic area attract more butterflies in general.

Certain management practices will help your butterfly garden thrive. Never use insecticides and herbicides. Manage the density of plants, relatively close together but not crowded, in order to provide shelter for caterpillars and chrysalises from predators and weather elements. Remove old growth before the growing season, preferably in spring. Caution: Some butterflies overwinter in the garden as eggs, caterpillars or chrysalises. Fall clean-up may destroy next year's butterflies. Complete the certification application.

Register your garden as a Certified Monarch Waystation by completing the form at: <http://www.monarchwatch.org/waystations/certify.html>. **NOTE:** You don't have to start from scratch. If you have an existing habitat that meets the requirements, or which can be modified to qualify, you can (and should) apply for certification.

Kathleen Waters. Butterfly Chairman

MONARCH BUTTERFLY WORD SEARCH



Asclepias
Black
Butterfly
Caterpillar
Certify
Chrysalis
Eggs
Evergreens
Habitat
Host Plants

Larvae
Milkweed
Monarch
Mourning Cloak
Natives
Nectar
Nesting
Orange
Perennials
Pollinators

Propagate
Puddling
Pupae
Shelter
Shrubs
Sunny
Trees
Watch
Waystation
Wildflowers



“Everything’s Coming Up Roses” 80TH ANNUAL STATE MEMBERSHIP CONVENTION

This year’s Montana Convention is a bargain in registration, meals and room costs. Plus you will be in Butte, the most historic city in the American West! Additionally, with us will be our National Garden Clubs President-Elect Nancy L. Hargroves. Butte’s story is one of having the most diverse ethnic population in human history per capita; its Mining Hill had more huge machines working on it than any other place on earth at the height of the Industrial Revolution; and the town of Butte along with Michigan and New York City led this nation’s labor movement.



Restored Butte Landscape

CONVENTION HEADLINERS



NANCY HARGROVES



DICK GIBSON



DR. ROBERT PAL

You will come to know Nancy Hargroves as one National Garden Clubs most progressive and dynamic leaders. Dick Gibson, a geologist and Butte’s most notable historian will address our convention and lead a trolley tour of the city. Dr. Robert Pal, originally from Hungary and easily considered one of the world’s foremost ecological restoration specialists, will present how Butte is moving from being the most environmen-tally ravaged cities in the world where not even a weed could grow to seeing a vibrant restoration of its native landscape. ***So experience great speakers, in a remarkable place at a most reasonable cost.***

LIFE MEMBERS LUNCHEON

The Life Members Chairman Pat Biggs and her Committee have a special luncheon and program planned on vFriday noon during the convention. They are suggesting a “dress code” for everyone to either wear a garment with roses on it, a rose in their hair, rose jewelry, a tie with roses or anything else creative you would like to do. ***We want a room full of roses for the luncheon!***



CONVENTION FUND-RAISING FEATURES SPECIAL QUILT RAFFLE

Award-winning quilter, Creuza Squires, a member of the Glendive Garden Club has made this beautiful quilt for the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs as the convention fund-raiser. The MFGC officers will be taking this quilt around to all the District Meetings before the convention. Tickets will be available during the District Meetings and at the convention in Butte.

REGISTRATION FORM

"Everything's Coming Up Roses"

80TH ANNUAL STATE MEMBERSHIP CONVENTION

June 22nd, 23rd & 24th 2017

MONTANA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

Quality Inn, 2100 Cornell; Butte, Montana 59701

Phone: (406) 494-7800 Email: butterreservations@kvarmngt.com

When calling for reservations use "Montana Garden Clubs" to get your discounted room rate

Room rates: \$88.00/night +7% tax. All rooms have two queen beds in no-smoking rooms.
Complimentary hot breakfast Rooms held until 4:00 p.m. unless notified

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

Club _____ District _____

Please check all applicable titles *indicates Voting Member __ Club President* __ Garden Club Member __ National President __ Club Delegate* __ State Life Member __ Regional Director __ Alternate Delegate* __ Flower Show Judge __ Regional Board Member __ District Director* __ Student FS Judge __ National Board Member __ State President* __ Landscape Consultant __ Nat'l Life Member __ Elected State Officer* __ Student LS Consultant __ Guest __ Appointed State Officer* __ First Time Attendee __ State Chairman* __ Advisory Council Member* ***name must appear on Delegate Registration Form**

REGISTRATION AND MEALS: Registration deadline is June 1st. Hotel registration deadline is June 1st to get the convention rates. No refunds after June 1st. All MFGC Members must register to attend any function.

Full time Registration June 22, 23, 24 \$30.00 _____

Full time Registration postmarked after June 1st \$40.00 _____

One Day Registration Thursday __ Friday __ Saturday __ \$20.00 _____

One Day Registration postmarked after June 1st \$20.00 _____

Meals: Check all that apply (tips included in price)

Friday lunch \$14.00 _____

Friday Dinner \$16.00 _____

Saturday Awards Luncheon \$14.00 _____

Saturday Banquet, NGC Awards Presentations \$21.00 _____

Historic trolley tour of Butte (first 26 sign-ups only—2 hrs) \$10.00 _____

Walking tour of historic Uptown (10 minimum) \$10.00 _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Checks payable to: Whitehall GC c/o Barbara Willis P.O. Box 109; Whitehall, MT 59759-0109

Penny Pine Information

The mountain pine beetle and forest fires have affected more than six million acres of Montana's national forests. What can one small drop of \$68.00 do to help restore some of these acres of trees? A small drop here, and a small drop there, mount up and does affect things. We can make small drops matter through NGC's Penny Pine program.

The Penny Pine Program is a written agreement between National Garden Clubs and the USDA Forest Service. It is called a "Memorandum of Understanding" and is signed every four years by the NGC president and the Grant Management Director.

The agreement stipulates that for every \$68.00 sent to them by a state's garden club the money will be spent only on reforestation of trees in national forests. The garden club may stipulate which national forest they would like to have their donation to go to. Two national forests, Helena and Great Falls, were named in a recent correspondence as they have been consolidated under one supervisor. Others to be considered by name, not location, are Beaverhead, Bitterroot, Custer, Deer Lodge, Flathead, Gallatin, Helena, Kootenai, Lewis and Clark and Lolo. The donated \$68.00 is sent to the Montana state treasurer by a club. It is then forwarded to NGC who in turn sends it to the designated Montana national forest supervisor. NGC also sends a certificate to the donating club. The whole process takes several months. The \$68 may also be donated in memory of someone or to mark a special occasion of a person.

A Forest Regional Nursery for Region 1 is located in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and is known as the Coeur d'Alene Nursery. It is the largest amongst the six Forest Service nurseries and not only provide native tree seedlings for each region, but other native plants, grasses, forbs, etc. to other state agencies. They welcome visitors. I hope this has answered several questions I have received. Never hesitate to ask any state officer, state treasurer or various chairmen for information about their programs.

P.S. Pinus Ponderosa says: "Hello to all, and thank you for your help. The federal forests are your forests. I would like my children and grandchildren to continue to live there."

Marie Hoyer, Chairman Pennies for Pines

2017 ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL CONTEST WINNERS

Many wonderful posters were entered into the poster contest this year and it is always hard to pick the winners. The 2017 winners selected to enter the national contest were:

1st Grade	Landon Ouellette	Utah	Neighborhood Garden Club
2nd Grade	Alex Linscott	Utah	Neighborhood Garden Club
3rd Grade	Benjamin Fire	Utah	Neighborhood Garden Club
4th Grade	Lena Robinson	Utah	Neighborhood Garden Club
5th Grade	Gabrielle Giblette	Montana	Dirt Daubers Garden Club

I had to great pleasure to have the local forester Jami Seirer and retired forester Jim Strine to help judge all the posters. Some clubs have trouble getting posters from the schools with all the testing and volume of information they are required to do. The children only have to be sponsored by a garden club and what a wonderful idea it would be to spend an afternoon with your grandchildren or great-grandchildren talking about taking care of the earth and what we can do to recycle and make the planet a cleaner and healthier place for them to live. In years to come they will remember the day you spent time with them drawing and coloring posters. How proud you would be if they won an award and a picutre to frame and hang on the wall.

Think about it and for information please contact me.

Brenda Slaughter, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Chairman
bj7slaughter@hotmail.com

Instructors Symposium

A special thank you to Judges Council for providing funds for three Montana judges to attend the Instructors Symposium held in Atlanta, Georgia, January 26-27, 2017.

Those attending were James Sadler from Missoula, Glenna Waltee from Whitehall and Susan Billmayer from Hogeland; also, Darlene Skari from Chester joined us after her executive board meetings.

The first evening I attended a Palm Manipulation Workshop taught by Janice Hamlin of Florida, who was our Design Instructor from Course III. The two days were filled with new changes in our handbook for Flower Shows Revised Edition 2017. We were exposed to the new designs presented at the Symposium: Cascade Design, Low-Profile Design, Featured Plant Material Design, Grouped Mass Design, and another called Exploration – Freedom to explore the world of creativity with plant material and design. The Challenge Design – Flower Show Committee provides identical components to exhibitors. Not all provided materials must be used.

We had a Horticulture lesson on bromeliads, and planting kokedama balls. Sharon McGukin of Smithers-Oasis did several floral designs and explained her products and how she used them. I was fortunate to meet several instructors and flower show committee chair people from around the United States and we had several people in attendance from our International Affiliates around the world.

Susan Billmayer, Flower Show School and Credentials Chair

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL III BELGRADE



Pictured above are participants at the Flower Show School III held in Belgrade, Montana. The program studied horticulture, designs and flower show procedure. There was a small standard flower show held prior to the classes with a one hour class on flower show procedure.

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL IV BOZEMAN



The Belgrade Bloomers Garden Club hosted Flower School Course IV. The horticulture topic was succulents and African violets. The design topic was tables and they discussed the new Judges Handbook. Pictured above are Flower Show School participants.

BLUE STAR MARKERS

The Havre Garden Club has received their Memorial and By Way Blue Star Markers in perfect shape! They are getting things lined up for the dedication on June 14. We look forward to participating in their dedication ceremony soon.

Kathy Austin, Blue Star Marker Chairman

Under Montana's Big Sky

DEARBORN GARDEN CLUB

The Dearborn Garden Club reports a very busy 2016-17 schedule: July- Annual picnic, Dearborn Garden Club float in Rodeo parade, Cascade; August-TourGreat Falls Community Garden & Rescue Mission; September- Program on Irises, presented quilt to be raffled for Scholarship Fund; October-Show and Tell; November-Committee made 50 Christmas stockings, Dry Flower Arrangements; December-Decorated Quiet Day Manor, cookie & gift exchange and stuffed Christmas stockings for Great Falls Children Home and Rescue Mission; January/February-No Host luncheons on 3rd Wednesday of the month for Dearborn Garden Club members.

ROSES FOR THE PRESIDENT'S LADY

In June, 1923, President Warren Harding sought to revive confidence in his administration by making a speaking tour. With his wife and a large official party, he crossed the country and made the first presidential visit to Canada and Alaska. One of his stops was Clancy, Montana which at that time had a depot and a round house. Clifford Perry was a fireman for the Great Northern Railroad in Clancy. Clifford and Olga Perry's daughter Barbara Lois Perry was 4 years old and she was chosen to present a bouquet of roses to President Harding's wife, Florence at that stop. As the train passed through Seattle, the President fell ill. The trip was halted in San Francisco, where doctors reported pneumonia. After what seemed to be a short rally, the President died on August 2, 1923. (Source: *The World Book Encyclopedia, H, Volume 9, 1974*) Barbara Lois Perry Rumford (above) shared the photo taken in Clancy at the October 19, 2016 Dearborn Garden Club Show and Tell.



WHITEHALL GARDEN CLUB

Easter Egg Hunt eggs and apple bunnies. Egg Prep at Karen Ranta's house, for the Whitehall Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt with 5,000 eggs being prepared by WGC. Yes, our WGC has been busy preparing the plastic Easter eggs for the children's Easter egg hunt, April 15, at 10:00 AM sponsored by the Whitehall Chamber of Commerce! All children under 12 are welcome to participate with roped areas per age group. Karen Ranta, WGC member, has hosted six full days, to stuff the eggs with candy and prizes! This is a good service project for our community.

THUMB-R-GREEN GARDEN CLUB

Seven members gathered at the Moss Mansion on November 11 to do the decorating. Linda added a poem she wrote for the occasion and we placed that on a nearby dresser with a miniature wheelbarrow filled with boughs. Here is a copy of Linda's poem:

My Garden Playground

When I was a child,
It was such fun to be wild.
To run free—in Nature—in the Garden,
With the bugs, the butterflies, and the worms.



I puddled in the mud, played in the sand,
Let the grains run through my hands,
Then sat in the grass—in the Garden,
And caught the bugs, the butterflies, and the worms.

Now I play in the dirt,
Digging, raking, and planting til I hurt.
Then sit in the grass—in the Garden,
And watch with wonder, the bugs, the butterflies,
and the worms.

And know, I've grown one with nature—
In my Garden Playground.

Your invitation awaits.

Remember the days—The toys we played with—
in the Garden.

Remember the bugs, the butterflies, and the worms.
The fun we had in nature—in our Garden Playground.

by Linda Walters



Whitehall Garden Club
Apple Bunnies (left)

Workers stuffing eggs (below)



HAPPY 60TH BIRTHDAY TO RAINBOW GARDEN CLUB



Past RGC Presidents honored at 60th Anniversary

MEMORIALS, GIFTS, AND REQUESTS

DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

- \$100 District #5 Life Members
- \$10 District #5 Life Members in memory of Judy Waring
- \$10 District #5 Life members in memory of Alice Heisel
- \$25 Estella Petrini, in memory of her husband Bob Petrini

PENNY PINES

- \$ 68 Saco Garden Club
- \$136 Jumping Junipers Garden Club in memory of Bonnie Gallus

TIDBIT FROM PRESIDENT LINDA SADLER

I was reading an English gardening magazine. I like to do table designs and want to share with you the following guide on the use and size of napkins. I hope you find this information interesting when creating a table design.

- Formal dinner - 20 to 27 inch square
- Buffet - 18 to 27 inch square
- Informal dinner - 18 to 24 inch square
- Luncheon - 14 to 20 inch square
- Hors d'oeuvre - 13 inch square
- Folded cocktail - 6 by 9 inches
- Cocktail - 6 inch square



Rainbow Garden Club celebrated their 60th anniversary in December with a special luncheon at the Rainbow Hotel (now the Rainbow Retirement Center) where the club originally held most of their meetings, flower shows and fund-raisers. The luncheon was held in the beautiful atrium. Club members reminisced about years past as they enjoyed holiday cheer and were entertained by the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind students. Past presidents were honored with a rose and members took home a special program listing the club's achievements. Everyone had a wonderful time!

Wrapping It Up

After several years of putting up with my bad knees, I finally bit the bullet and had my left knee replaced. The new left knee is doing vey well, but my right knee has now decided to give out and hurts much worse than the left knee. The physical therapists are working to get me up and walking without the other knee buckling. I'm walking just great on the new knee replacement. Guess I just have to take it easy for a little while longer. Gardening can wait.

When you are resting from painful exercise it is nice to grab some reading material (*not associated with physical therapy*). I found many interesting gardening tips in old magazines and sales circulars:

- You can start a rose from a cutting by placing the cutting in the slit of an Idaho potato and planting the whole potato in the ground.
- Slugs like beer more than your plants. Bury a plastic butter tub near your plants and fill it about half full with beer. They are attracted by the yeasty smell, then fall in and drown!
- Sprinkle a box of flavored gelatin over your seeds when you plant them. As long as the Jell-O has sugar (not artificial sweetener, you'll encourage helpful bacteria while adding growth-enhancing nitrogen.

PATRICIA SCHLAEGER
EDITOR, MONTANA GARDENS

CORRECTIONS

Email for Greg Cooper, President of the Dillon Garden Club: greengator4@gmail.com



MAKE PLANS TO CELEBRATE National Garden Week June 4-10, 2017

National Garden Week offers many possibilities to promote NGC's objectives of beautification, gardening and environmental efforts. There are many ways to celebrate this week, so make plans now so that your garden club can involve as many of your members as possible. This week will be an excellent opportunity to recruit new members.

Download the the National Garden Week Proclamation from the NGC Website and invite your local mayor to sign it! The more we can become involved in our communities and share information, the more interest we can generate in our garden club projects.

"Leap into Action" and celebrate National Garden Week!



find us on facebook!
facebook.com/MontanaGardens

Visit our website at www.MTFGC.org

SMOKEY BEAR/WOODSY OWL STATE POSTER WINNERS



from left to right: 1st—Kayla Ottinger, Malta; 2nd—Carly Mears, Malta; 3rd—Brooklyn Knowles, Malta



from left to right: 4th—Hailey Judd, Malta; 5th—Gabrielle Giblette, Malta

MFGC DATES TO REMEMBER

April 15 – State Awards are due

DISTRICT MEETINGS:

April 26 – Miles City April 27 – Great Falls
April 28 – Stevensville April 29 – Dillon
May 3 – Chinook May 4 – Conrad
May 5 – Big Timber May 6 – Townsend

STATE MFGC CONVENTION – June 22-24, 2017

MONARCH BUTTERFLY WORD SEARCH SOLUTION

W	E	H	O	E	S	R	J	I	F	S	A	B	I	D	L	F	X	U	G	D	L	R	M	H	
A	R	H	A	B	A	B	I	T	A	T	A	F	L	M	H	Y	A	W	O	A	J	U	P	O	H
Y	S	T	N	O	B	P	O	T	V	A	E	Y	O	B	D	K	C	Q	P	O	U	O	O	O	
S	E	J	B	F	Z	L	D	G	C	Y	L	F	R	E	T	T	U	B	M	R	D	O	S	I	
T	S	R	I	L	S	Q	U	K	K	E	U	Q	E	D	R	D	E	U	N	P	D	A	T	U	
A	G	U	N	E	U	M	H	P	K	W	N	W	G	N	R	J	T	I	R	H	L	V	P	Z	
T	I	B	N	V	N	F	E	R	A	P	K	N	D	M	B	C	N	L	M	C	I	P	L	E	
I	M	K	X	E	N	C	Y	T	L	L	F	V	A	R	X	G	E	A	D	B	N	S	A	X	
O	Y	C	H	R	Y	S	A	L	I	S	F	S	X	M	C	O	K	U	R	T	G	G	N	H	
N	E	S	R	G	E	E	D	M	E	A	U	P	O	L	L	I	N	A	T	O	R	S	T	N	
F	I	F	N	R	U	E	P	O	O	Z	C	S	O	A	N	Y	T	A	G	H	E	L	S	T	
Y	I	V	H	E	X	R	F	N	Z	N	E	A	N	G	A	C	H	F	P	T	R	G	K	N	
M	B	R	C	E	W	T	I	A	E	K	K	I	T	S	O	S	P	L	A	Z	M	A	Y	A	
P	Y	C	K	N	E	Z	T	R	B	M	X	P	N	E	B	G	E	G	A	H	U	L	S	T	
U	E	E	G	S	M	I	C	C	R	J	T	E	Y	R	T	A	K	P	R	O	W	I	I	I	
P	Z	R	Z	I	A	B	U	H	Z	U	G	L	O	F	N	P	E	X	M	S	V	F	O	V	
A	T	T	E	P	O	F	W	A	T	C	H	C	X	R	O	V	I	H	A	K	V	A	L	E	
E	E	I	R	N	S	P	Z	M	U	C	N	S	N	R	N	I	P	L	S	Y	I	Z	E	S	
A	I	F	X	B	N	G	T	U	E	T	R	A	P	E	D	P	E	L	L	O	C	E	X	W	
P	M	Y	U	K	L	I	R	W	V	A	P	S	V	J	S	T	B	G	V	A	O	N	G	N	
D	H	R	C	S	Z	N	A	V	B	H	X	U	B	R	D	T	E	N	N	P	R	G	D	E	
A	H	V	J	F	E	S	O	L	T	F	Q	I	N	R	V	Q	I	P	C	A	O	S	F	C	
S	H	C	I	A	W	G	M	D	S	H	E	L	T	E	R	K	Y	N	L	E	R	K	M	E	
W	P	G	T	A	P	O	S	R	E	W	O	L	F	D	L	I	W	R	G	M	S	O	O	L	