



MONTANA *Gardens*



Sharon Doll, Glendive Garden Club, demonstrated making this beautiful Fairy Garden at the MFGC Fall Board

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**The Official Publication of the Montana Federation of Garden Club, Inc.
Winter 2017 – Volume 63 – Issue 3**

President's Message

What an honor it has been to represent our Montana Federation of Garden Clubs this fall. The NGC Fall Board meeting held in St. Louis, September 15 and 16 was very informative. There was much emphasis on the "Plant America" theme of our President Nancy Hargroves and the desire of NGC to support local clubs with the Plant America Grants. This is a great opportunity for you to obtain funds for your projects. Although the 2017 deadline has passed, be thinking of what you could apply for in the future as the plan is to continue these grants in the years to come. Please check out the information in *The National Gardener* and the website for more information.

NGC is partnering with several groups to provide items for our clubs. Espoma is one partner and they are offering free organic gardening products. Another partner is Ames Tools. They have grants for gardening tools. Please check their website and *The National Gardener* for more information.

The Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs met for Fall Board in Jamestown, ND. In August. Montana was well represented with seven members attending. A petite flower show, chaired by Jim Sadler of Missoula, was held in conjunction with the meeting. It was a huge success. We toured some very nice gardens, learned that other states in the region face the same challenges as we do, and enjoyed programs on: "Bees at Work" and "Container Gardening", a program by our NGC President Nancy Hargroves. It was so fun to receive our members and clubs many RMRGC awards. You are all to be commended for the work you do to make Montana a better place to live. MFGC also won second place for the RMRGC 2015-2017 Award of Excellence for Large State Clubs which included \$50.

Congratulations to all of you!

The MFGC Fall Board was held in Glendive this October. A BIG thank you to the Glendive Garden Club for all of their work hosting this event. Fall was in the air with colorful leaves, decorated pumpkins and clear crisp air. Several items were brought for discussion and vote from the Finance Committee, and a procedure was approved for applying for funds from the Endowment Fund. (See these on the website) We enjoyed an educational program on Fairy Gardens with a great demonstration by Sharon Doll. Makoshika State Park Ranger Chris Dantic shared pictures and information about the park, which is Montana's largest state park. Leafy spurge has become a big problem as it grows and forces out native plants. We wish him luck with his plans to eradicate this problem.

Most of our gardens are put to bed and we are preparing for the holidays ahead. I encourage you to be thinking about which awards you might apply for to gain recognition of the work you do and also benefit from the funds that go along with many of our awards. Put the MFGC State Convention to be held in Helena on June 15-16, 2018 on your calendar. The Helena Garden Club is busy planning a wonderful time for us. Let others know what you are doing by updating information on our WEB site.

Thank you for all you do.
I look forward to seeing you all in the spring. Have a wonderful Holiday Season.



Joyce Hendricks
MFGC President
2017-2019



MFGC 2017-2019 OFFICERS & DISTRICT DIRECTORS

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Lewis and Clark District #4

Connie Leatherman

Central District #5

Ivy Jackson

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Gloria Tilleman

Yellowstone #10

Rosemary Power

Eastern Gateway District #12

Lynne Weischedel

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Denise Fink

Phyllis White

Norman DeNeal

Darlene Skari

Ruth Layton

Mary Davis

Mary Olsen

Marie Jones



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

DEADLINE / ISSUE

March 1, 2018 – Spring/Summer 2018

July 1, 2018 – Fall 2018

November 1, 2018 – Winter 2018-2019

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.

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Montana Heritage Orchard Program

Growing Fruit in Montana

When we talk about community gardens, we visualize raised beds of vegetables in public spaces. However, community gardens can also focus on fruits. Growing fruit in Montana can be a challenge, especially for those of us in zone three areas. Montana State University (MSU) extension office is working to overcome these challenges by finding fruit trees and shrubs that adapt to our harsh climates. Apples, Pears, Apricots, Plums, Cherries, Aronia Berries, Haskap Berries, Saskatoon Berries and Currants do well. There are two exciting projects happening. The first is the Montana Heritage Orchard program. Back in the pioneer days, homesteaders brought fruit trees from their native lands to help them survive the harsh winters. As towns and cities dotted the landscape, the need for these orchards decreased. Over time many were abandoned or ignored. MSU has begun a program to revitalize and study these historic orchards across the state. Extension agents visit the orchards to assess the condition and identify these hardy trees in hopes of rebuilding fruit production in Montana. If you know of an orchard containing at least six trees over 50 years old, report it on the web site at <http://www.mtorchards.org>.

The second program is a study of ten test orchards across the state (Bozeman, Colstrip, Columbia Falls, Helena,

Hinsdale, Power, Whitehall, Broadwater, Shelby and Lodge Pole). Thanks to a grant specific varieties of Apple, Plum and Pear trees were planted on all test sites in 2013. Each year the trees and their fruit are evaluated to determine the hardiest, most disease resistant and tasty varieties. In some cases the most successful trees depended on location, and in other instances, the same variety succeeded in many locations. The Goodland apple, Parker pear and Mount Royal plum came out the winners. To learn more about growing fruit in Montana check out MSU publication EB0222

<http://msuextension.org/publications/AgandNaturalResources/EB0222.pdf>. The next area of research has begun expanding these test sites to include fruiting shrubs. It will be exciting to see these results.

When you think of growing food in a public space, consider expanding to perennial fruits that need little care and produce consistent crops. It is a great way to make use of pockets of spaces in your community gardens, plus it provides a bit of shade on a hot day in the garden.

Sue Leferink,
*Community Gardens &
Growing Edibles Chairman*



SOCIAL MEDIA

Creating new social media communication methods connects clubs with potential and current members, drives people to the MFGC website, and quickly allows information dissemination and interactions within our gardening network. See our Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/MontanaGardens/>. Several of our clubs have their own Facebook page, too. Please **like** and **follow** the MFGC Facebook page and NGC media below and recommend that your gardening friends do, too!

Facebook is a popular, free social networking website that allows registered users to create profiles, upload photos and video, send messages, and keep in touch with friends, family and colleagues. Facebook features:

- Pages - allows members to create and promote a public page built around a specific topic.
- Groups - allows members who have common interests to find each other and interact.
- Events - allows members to publicize an event, invite guests and track who plans to attend.

Pinterest is a free online pinboard with visual images to share ideas. NGC has "boards" of images showing items from Member Services, floral design, project ideas, horticulture, etc. (search National Garden Clubs)

Instagram is a free social networking application made for sharing photos and videos from a smartphone. (search nationalgarden)

An introductory PowerPoint presentation in the members' section of the National Garden Clubs' website explains how to create or add "spark" to a club's Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest and website. I encourage all members to connect to social media venues.

Phyllis White, MFGC Webmaster and NGC Social Media Chairman

National Life Membership

Are you a NGC National Life Member? Did you know your gift of \$200 to join is shared by the Permanent Home Endowment Fund and the Scholarship Fund? This fund awards up to forty one, \$4000 scholarships each year, and you will receive the National Gardener Magazine for free. A portion is tax deductible, and you may attend the National Life Members banquet at all conventions.

Now is a great time to join, as we are well on our way for Montana to win another National award based on per capita increase of National Life Members based from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018. Most important of all, is knowing you have helped to educate our youth.

Join now with the three that joined at Fall Board in Glendive. ***Congratulations Gloria Tilleman, Havre; Marilyn Lane, Toston; and Mary Ann Byerly, Bozeman.*** Download an application (*or I will mail you one*) fill it out, enclose your check and mail to me. I will sign it and send it to National.

Carol Works, Chairman National Life Member

15920 Kenilworth Rd. Big Sandy, MT 59520, ph 406-378-3163. (AZ info in Directory)



Rocky Mountain Region Fall Board Meeting



Eight MFGC members attended the recent Rocky Mountain Region fall board in Jamestown, ND. It was amazing to see green grass and clear skies. A petite design only flower show was held with Jim Sadler from Missoula as the Chair. Montana had wonderful participation with Jim Sadler and Cheryl Carroll from Missoula, Sue Burrows from Stevensville, Sherry Corneliusen from Glendive and Denise Fink and Joyce Hendricks from Billings entering designs. Sherry Corneliusen won Designers Choice Award and the Award of Design Excellence. Cheryl Carroll won Designers Choice Award. ***Awesome!!*** Many individual members and clubs won awards and we presented those at Fall Board. ***I am so proud of all of those who made the effort to apply for awards.***

MFGC won the Rocky Mountain Regions Award of Excellence Second Place for Large State Clubs. The focus of this award was the Rocky Mountain Region Director's (*Darlene Skari's*) theme of "Advancing our Horizons-New Thoughts, Ways and Ideas." All of the MFGC clubs contributed to our winning this award through educational and community projects so **congratulations**. Fifty dollars came with this award!

Joyce Hendricks, MFGC President

Montana Symposium

The Montana Symposium was held in Missoula, Montana on July 21st and 22nd at the First Christian Church. A symposium is held every three years so judges can renew their certificate to be a judge. The local chairmen were Gary Clark, Jim Sadler and registrar Ellen Darling of Sand Point, Idaho. We spent one day studying the horticulture specimens of Hostas and Zinnias and going through the point scoring criteria. Our instructor for the day was Billie Fitch from Washington. Many specimens of hostas and zinnias were present for us to practice our judging skills. Several hostas were available for sale at the Ways and Means table. We also spent some time going through changes in the New Handbook that came out in 2017.

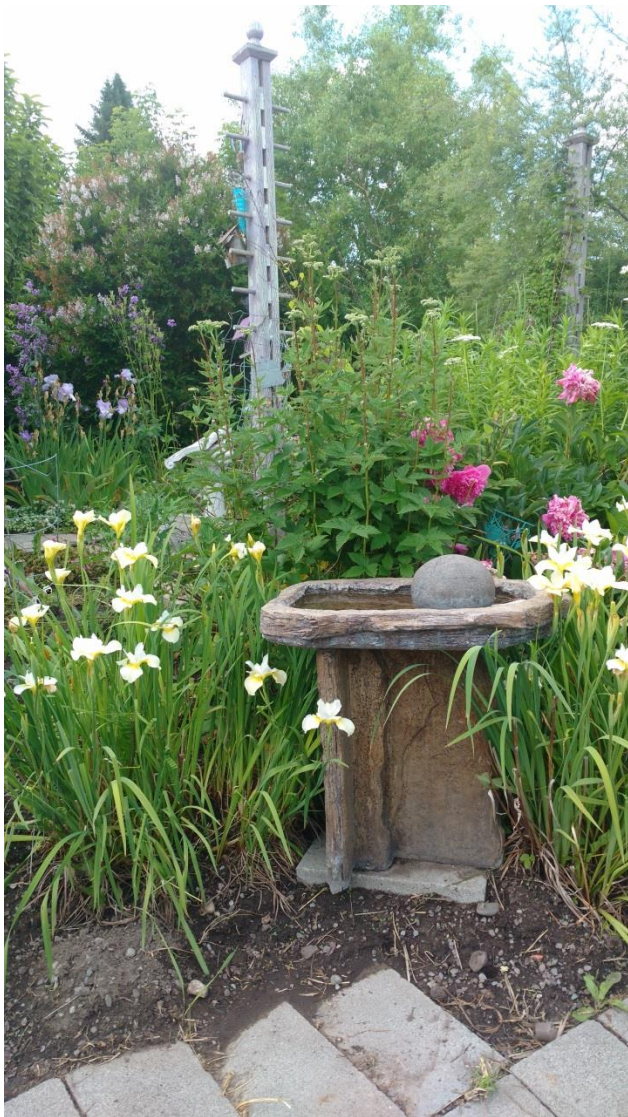
Saturday was spent studying the New Designs for 2017 presented by instructor Gina Jogan of Florida. We were very fortunate to have this experienced instructor come for our symposium. She presented eight designs for instruction purposes which included Low Profile, Featured Plant Material, Grouped Mass Design and Cascade Design. Criteria for each design was presented and practice point scoring followed in the afternoon on Cascade designs and Featured Plant Material designs. We also spent some time on Writing and Evaluating Flower Show Schedules. Twenty-one judges took the Symposium for credit, nine accredited judges and twelve Master Judges. Fourteen people audited the symposium for personal knowledge. We look forward to our next symposium in 2020.

Submitted by Susan J. Billmayer

(right) Jim Sadler's symposium design for the Featured Plant Material



Back Yard Habitat



Jim Sadler
Habitat Chairman

Welcome birds to your back yard. One way to welcome is to provide a place for them to rest, drink and bathe. Birds must bathe to maintain their ability to fly. Some birds like to dust themselves in very dry soil. You will see their little indentions in dry areas in your garden. Many birds like to bathe in shallow water areas where they can land and stand while fluffing their feathers. Watching robins taking a bath early in the morning is one of the summer pleasures. Nesting mother robins leave their offspring only to feed and bathe. Providing a place to bathe encourages robins to return to your garden.

Birds are not unlike humans when they bathe. Birds like places that are safe, private and clean. I have solved these issues in my garden by using bird baths. I always place a flat rock in the feature for small birds, butterflies and bees. Place your bird bath near small trees or brushes as birds like to perch there first to observe the area. It also provides a place of refuge from garden cats and birds of prey. Birds will feel more comfortable if they can first find a safe place to land and observe the area before they will use the bath. The reason is understandable, as the bird is very vulnerable during bathing. The bird is busy bathing and is not as aware of the dangers around it. With this in mind, try to keep the neighborhood cat away. If a place is constantly under stress from predators, your bird bath will not be used.

In my garden I have placed bird baths in flower beds as features. Each bath is situated to provide privacy. I have placed each feature as to not be observable by birds using other baths. I make sure they are regularly cleaned. I have a collection of tiny bird feathers that were collected over the years. Someday I want to include some of them in a miniature design. One of my favorite bird baths is one that I purchased from a Canadian company. Cement garden ornaments from the West coast tend to not hold up in our climate. Evidently the Canadians have figured out that they need to include plastic fibers in their mixture to keep the feature from cracking.

I have placed one bird bath in full view of my backyard elevated deck. Linda and I can observe the goings on with sufficient distance that the bird feels comfortable. I have placed clematis poles near the bath. Birds use the poles as a perch and for safe observation. A garden club member, Ron Dowell built them for me. I painted them purple to blend with the Japanese clematis growing on them. Over the years they have faded a bit, but in my mind they give the garden an established look. The bath is the central feature of the border with iris, peonies, aster and allium offering feeding opportunities for butterflies, humming birds and bees. With water being available, the back yard habitat is almost complete. Feeding and nesting opportunities for birds also need to be available.

Do not be intimidated with the requirements for a back yard habitat. Nothing good happens without a little effort and planning. It is my hope that with a little encouragement you will have the confidence to develop your own back yard habitat. Maintaining a bird bath in your garden is a good beginning.

Member Services

Be sure to check out the NGC website at www.gardenclub.org, click Member Services to see all that is available from National; flower show supplies, books, club programs, study plans, pins, other jewelry and more. It is your garden club store for Christmas! The 100% silk scarf, (available in **blue** or **green**) is beautiful, designed with all state garden club logos represented. Don't forget to order *The Frightened Frog* or *The Saved Seed* for the special children in your life.

Information for NGC Shopping Partners is found under News & Events, click on Shopping Partners. All Partnerships pay a percentage of purchases to NGC. Keep them in mind when you are ready to shop.

Carol Works, Member Services Chairman

Remember from November 2017 to April 2018, you can contact me in Arizona at (480) 354-1956



WAS IN THE AIR!

October 20-21, 2017 Glendive, Montana

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs 2017 Executive Board Meeting – Fall Board Church of Christ, Glendive, Montana Friday, October 20, 2017

Call to Order - Joyce Hendricks, President, called the Executive Board Meeting to order at 3:45 PM on Friday, October 20, 2017

Recording Secretary, Lynne Weischedel, was present.

Minutes - Executive Board meeting minutes from MFGC State Convention 2016 were read and approved.

Website - Phyllis White is in the process of updating the website.

Finance Committee - Recommendations were made for new wording to the budgeted expenses rule, due to scamming incidents.

EIN number - Clubs need their own to open bank accounts.

PR Person – Joyce Hendricks needs input for a PR person to promote garden clubs, there will be a \$400.00 budget. Joyce can appoint the PR person.

Endowment Fund - Joyce Hendricks asked for specific guidelines for clubs to make requests. Linda Sadler moved to have guidelines written. Sherry Corneliusen seconded. APPROVED

RMR MT Facebook - RMR needs a Facebook coordinator from Montana. Linda Sadler volunteered.

2018 Fall Board - Need approval for Belgrade and Whitehall to host in Ennis. Sherry Corneliusen made a motion to allow Belgrade and Whitehall host the Fall Board. Connie Leatherman seconded. APPROVED

District Directors - Sherry Corneliusen has handbooks for all District Directors. The District meeting schedule has been set and a calendar was passed out. Grants through National need to be applied for.

Penny Pines - All clubs are encouraged to donate.

Adjournment - The President adjourned the Executive Board meeting at 4:45 PM on Friday, October 20, 2017.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION MONTANA AWARDS

3B Montana Award - Writing - Scrapbook - 2nd Place
Belgrade Bloomers Garden Club

3D Montana Award - Writing - State publication *Montana Gardens* -
1st Place Patricia Schlaeger, Editor; Linda Sadler, President
2015-2017; Joyce Hendricks, President, 2017-2019

20b Special Achievement Awards-Individual - Award of Merit
Patricia Howse, Great Falls Flower Growers

11C Conservation & Environmental Concerns - Outstanding work by
an individual - 1st Place Kerry Hovland, Great Falls
Flower Growers

10E Civic Development - Project that has been ongoing for a
number of years - 1st Place Galia Fundis, Great Falls
Flower Growers

3E Montana Award - Writing-Articles for publication by a magazine or
newspaper - 1st place, 2nd Place Amy Grisak, Great Falls
Flower Growers

26B Photography - Camera-Wildflowers - 1st place
Susan Andrews, Gallatin Empire Garden Club

26D Photography – Camera - Promoting the Social Bees - 2nd
Place Betsy Heckel, Belgrade Bloomers Garden Club

3A Montana Award-Writing-Yearbook - 1st Dearborn Garden Club

3A Montana Award-Writing-Yearbook - 1st Dirt Daubers Garden Club

3A Montana Award-Writing-Yearbook - 2nd Place
Thumb-R-Green Garden Club

3A Montana Award -Writing-Yearbook - Award of Merit
Great Falls Flower Growers Garden Club

18 Blue Star Highway Memorials - Award of Merit
Bullhook Blossoms Garden Club

10A Civic Development-Project - 2nd Place – Rainbow Garden Club

10D Civic Development - 1st Place - Rainbow Garden Club

7B Wyoming Award-Trees - 1st Place - Rainbow Garden Club

6B South Dakota Award-Birds - 1st Place - Rainbow Garden Club

2E Kansas Award-Conservation - 1st Place - Rainbow Garden Club

1C Colorado Award - Garden Therapy - 2nd Place –



*(pictured left to right)
Sherry Corneliusen
displayed her Design of
Excellence Award
winning petite design
from the RMR Fall
Board meeting. The
beautiful centerpieces
made by the Glendive
Garden Club for the
Glendive Fall Board.*

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs Fall Board Meeting Minutes

Church of Christ, Glendive, Montana Saturday, October 21, 2017

Call to Order - Joyce Hendricks, President, called the meeting to Order at 9:10 AM on Saturday, October 21, 2017.

Recording Secretary, Lynne Weischedel, was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Montana Garden Club Creed

Welcome and Introductions - Joyce Hendricks, President; Sherry Corneliusen, 1st Vice President; Connie Leatherman, 2nd Vice President; Vicky Barbieri, Treasurer; Lynne Weischedel, Recording Secretary; Darlene Skari, Acting Parliamentarian.

Inspirational Thought -- Cheryl Carroll, MFGC Chaplain

Registration Report: Sherry Corneliusen - State Officers – 5; District Directors- 4; Club Presidents – 8; State Chairmen – 9; Members -- 38

Approval of State Convention 2017 minutes

Appointment of the Committee to approve Fall Board minutes: The President appointed Creuza Squires, Rosemary Power and Lilla Fiesjer.

Rocky Mountain Region report: Joyce Hendricks, President - 68 award entries Colorado - Design School in November. 2018 RMR - Nebraska August 24 and 25, 2018 - Linda Sadler Facebook page PR person for MT

National Fall Board 2017 - St Louis last August - Joyce Hendricks and Phyllis White attended. Partnerships with National - Ames Tools; *Garden Design Magazine* and Paul Allen Smith

1st Vice President - Sherry Corneliusen - RMR Director is Jackie Watts – Theme: *Plant your American Dream, Mind Your Footprints and Gather the Friendships*. 2019 RMR is in Missoula

2nd Vice President - Connie Leatherman - Awards Chairman, website not updated yet. Visions calendar is available on the National website

Finance Committee - Linda Sadler - Clubs need their own EIN to open bank accounts – Approved use of MFGC EIN for fund raising - \$5,000.00 or less budgeted for, over \$5000.00 special approval required. Approved. Scams causing some Treasurers to pay for items not approved. Recommend new rule; All budgeted items payable, non-budgeted approval required from President and Finance Chairman. Approved

Chairman Reports:

Long Range Planning - Jim Sadler - Endowment Fund - written application procedures to be developed and published. Approved. Clubs may request up to \$50.00. Approved

Members Services - Carol Works

Membership - Vanette Nagamori - Any new ideas for contests let Vanette know

Horticulture – Sue Leferink - Garden for Bats, Step Gardening, Wildlife Friendly Vegetable Garden, Community Gardens, Rain Barrels, Monarch Pathway (Report on file)

Landscape Design School - Jim Sadler

Life Member - Patty Schlager- Scholarship - Rose pin funds; Suggestion for raffle - Life membership pins

Penny Pines - Sharon Doll - Mail forms to MFGC treasurer

Judges Council - Cheryl Carroll

Speaker – Chris Dantic, Makoshika Park Ranger

Awards

2018 MFGC State Convention - Helena - June 14-16, 2018 – Theme: Bee Fruitful

Club President Reports: Sherry Corneliusen – Glendive; Connie Leatherman – Townsend; Pat Biggs - Great Falls Flower Growers; Linda Sadler - Missoula Garden Club; Patty Schlaeger - Rainbow Garden Club; Darlene Skari – Chester Garden Club

Sherry Corneliusen - Submit awards electronically PDF or Word document, also send a hard copy

Fall Board 2018 - Belgrade and Whitehall host in Ennis. Approved

RMR Fall Board 2019 - Missoula host. Approved

Sherry Corneliusen - Report of tentative timetable for District meetings

Adjournment: - The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM on Saturday, October 21, 2017

Minutes Approved By: Lilla Fiejer, Creuza Squires, Rosemary Power

Pictured below Left to Right: Park Ranger Chris Dantic; President Joyce Hendricks and First Vice President Sherry Corneliusen; Sue Leferink talks about bees; Sharon Doll shows Norm DeNeal how she uses a golf tee to place small items in her fairy garden





MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

MONTANA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS 2018 ANNUAL CONVENTION

**Pre-Convention/
Registration June 14th
Friday & Saturday
June 15-16th, 2018**

Radisson Colonial Hotel, Helena, Montana

Come learn how to successfully grow fruit in Montana. Learn more about our pollinators.



Are you ready for a smashing good time? Smash up that Montana grown fruit into jam, jelly, preserves, chutney, compote, conserves or fruit butter and bring with you to the 2018 convention to compete in the Life Members jam tasting competition. The only rule is that at least one fruit grown in Montana must be used.



Are you a quilter, enter our placemat & napkin (2 to 6 settings) or table centerpiece quilting competition? The only rule is that the piece must contain at least one fabric piece displaying fruit that grows in Montana or a Red/White and Blue fabric combination. All entries will be donated to our silent auction. Direct all questions regarding the state convention to:



helenagardenclub@gmail.com.



BLUE STAR MEMORIAL DEDICATION DURING STATE CONVENTION

The Helena Garden Club will hold a Blue Star Memorial Dedication on Thursday, June 14, 2018. Additional information will be in the *Montana Gardens* Spring Issue with time and place driving directions.

THIS AND THAT

Here it is the end of November and I had the lawn mower out today. I have never mowed this late in the season, but I had a few late leaves that were laying on the lawn and figured I better pick them up before they get packed down by the next snow. It was 50 degrees today and quite nice until a little rain shower dampened things, but I was able to finish the mowing job. I also cut down a bit of some tall grass in the pasture next to the driveway that may have helped form a snowdrift during the winter. My neighbor drove by and I bet he thought I was crazy mowing at the end of November, *but you gotta do what you gotta do!*

I have received a few seed catalogs in the mail and I bet some of you also have new catalogs. I will enjoy looking through them during the winter months and make my gardening plans for next year. We used to get these catalogs around Christmas time, but the seed companies must be anxious for us to see what they have to offer and are sending them out earlier.

It was so nice to see many of you in October at Fall Board in Glendive. I hope you learned a bit about Eastern Montana and our beautiful Makoshika State Park. We heard about our National President's project "Plant America" and I trust a few of you were able to meet the November 1, 2017 deadline to apply for a grant for some of your club gardening projects. The 2017-19 RMR Garden Club project is for individuals or clubs to plant pollinator-friendly landscapes using native plants. Keep this in mind when you plant next spring and remember to take pictures and send in a report.

Happy holidays! Enjoy the season with family and friends, and I look forward to seeing you at the District Meetings next April.

Sherry Corneliusen, First Vice President

Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. and Treasure Valley Judges' Council host

NGC Flower Show School Course I April 12-13, 2018

All students MUST take Course I as a prerequisite to the other courses

Instructors: **Dorothy Yard** is past President of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania and is currently serving as Chairman of the NGC Schools Committee. She is an instructor for Flower Show Schools and Symposium. During this course she will teach Flower Show Procedure and Horticulture with an emphasis on Cut Specimen-bulbous (Narcissus) and Arboreal (Flowering Trees and/or Shrubs).

Barbara May is past President of National Garden Clubs, Inc. She now serves as the NGC Flower Show School Instructor's Chairman. Barbara is a Master Judge and a NGC, Inc. Instructor in Design, Flower Show Procedure and Symposium. During this course she will provide instruction on traditional line, traditional line-mass and traditional mass designs.

Required Reading:

The National Gardener Magazine #1344 *Handbook for Flower Shows*, revised 2017 \$25

#1173 *Outlines of Period Flower Arrangement* (Hannay) \$5 #1341 *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging* \$30

All books may be obtained directly through member services by contacting NGC Headquarters

phone (800) 550..6007, email head-quarters@gardenclub.org or online at www.shopgardenclub.org

General Information: Lectures are open to the public for the fee stated on the registration form. Any interested person is welcome and invited to attend. You need not be a member of National Garden Clubs, Inc., but membership is required to take the course for credit.

Location: Best Western Vista Inn at the Airport , 2645 Airport Way, Boise, ID 83705 Phone: 208.336.8100 or 800.727.5006
Room rate \$91 plus tax including breakfast. Mention Garden Clubs of Idaho to obtain group rate.

Schedule (times are subject to adjustment):

Thursday, April 12

8:30-9:00 am - Registration

9:00-9:15 am - Welcome and Announcements

9:15-10:15 am - Flower Show Procedure

10:15-10:30 am - Break

10:30-Noon - Horticulture

Noon-1:00 pm - Lunch

1:00-2:30 pm - Horticulture

2:30-2:45 pm - Break

2:45-4:45 pm - Horticulture and Practice Point Scoring

4:45-5:00 pm - Break

5:00-6:00 pm - Point Scoring—Horticulture

Friday, April 13

8:30--9:00 am - Registration

9:00-9:15 am - Welcome and Announcements

9:15-10:15 am - Flower Show Procedure

10:15-10:30 am - Break

10:30-Noon - Design

Noon-1:00 pm - Lunch

1:00-2:30 pm - Design

2:30-2:45 pm - Break

2:45-4:45 pm - Design and Practice Point Scoring

4:45-5:00 pm - Break

5:00-6:00 pm - Point Scoring—Design

Saturday, April 14

9:00-12:00 pm - Optional Written Examination

Please legibly print this section and return with the applicable fee:

I will attend the full course with _____ without _____ exam

I will attend Thursday only _____ Friday only _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Club _____

Make check payable to Treasure Valley Judges' Council (TVJC) and mail with registration to:

Pat Baker, P O Box 140557 , Boise, ID 83714

Phone: 208.870.1299 or email: patbaker@live.com

Registration Deadline: April 2, 2018

No refunds after this date but you may substitute if you are unable to attend.

UNDER MONTANA'S BIG SKY

Dearborn Garden Club

We held our annual picnic in July at the home of Carol and Ken Brady on the banks of the Missouri. In the heat of August, we toured the air-conditioned Cascade County Museum in Great Falls, and on August 6, members rode in a vintage car (1966 Impala convertible) for the Cascade Pro Rodeo. (*pictured below*) During the summer, we held a Barrel competition among the barrels that we had planted earlier around the town of Cascade. The Mop Shop, Kitson's and the Canyon Life Church were winners and received certificates of appreciation.



We have been busy with the following programs: September - Sue Leferink from the Helena Garden Club spoke on seed gathering and storage; October - Farrah McGregor spoke on her recent trip to Columbia sponsored by REALMontana (*Resource Education and Agriculture Leadership*); November - flower arrangements with Patty Howse, Pat Biggs and Carol Brady; December - cookie and gift exchange and Christmas stocking stuffing.

Whitehall Garden Club

The Whitehall Garden Club met at Theri Vasina L'Hirondelle's lovely home and garden just outside of Whitehall. She was the program speaker and discussed Heirloom seeds and how to dry and save them. She stressed the importance of not using genetically altered seeds, but Heirloom seeds. We concluded our meeting with a seed exchange among members.

The *Whitehall Ledger* dedicated a full page to the WGC which included our scholarship award and the Progressive Lunch and garden tour. Diane Ward's home and garden was first with a brunch, then lunch and a garden tour at Kathy Hatch's home, and finally dessert and a tour of Glenna Waltee's half acre fenced garden.

(*Pictured below*) Whitehall Garden Club members learn about preserving Heirloom seeds with Theri Vasina L'Hirondelle.



Stevensville Garden Club



Fall has embraced us and given us clean air to breathe. The smoke for two months made for interesting garden approaches -- harvesting quickly with a mask on, tomatoes that were slow to ripen and who cared if anything got weeded! Summer seemed to be cut short and now it is time to winterize our gardens.

Thanks to Nina Eadie and Pat Miller on the helpful information at our August meeting prepping us for successful fair entries.

In September we had to go inside for our picnic due to awful smoke. It wasn't as fun as being in a HOME's lovely setting, but what wonderful food we make! We also had a presentation on RSVP volunteer program. Packets and applications are available--see Colleen Hoffman.

A workshop lead by Sue Burrows was held to make fall wreaths for downtown beautification. (see photos above) Thanks to Ginny Coleman, JoAnne Gibbons, Leslie Lowney, Janeen Cotton, Bev Calligheris, Linda Clark, Colleen Hoffman, Clara Armstrong and Cheryl Carroll for coming on such short notice! *Lots of laughs and great results.*

Great Falls Flower Growers

"Christmas Around The World"

Annual Holiday Tea sponsored by the
Great Falls Flower Growers



- Enjoy delicious treats and cookies at our tea table.
- Shop for your favorite homemade items, baked goods, and floral arrangements.
- Bid on silent auction one of a kind items.
- Purchase raffle tickets on fabulous gifts.

Central Assembly of God Church

2001 Central Avenue, Great Falls, MT
(Back Entrance)

Thursday, December 7, 2017
11:30 – 2:00

MEMORIALS AND ENDOWMENTS

BLUE STARS

A BIG thanks to Sherry Corneliusen and the Glendive Garden Club for a great venue, great food and friendship at Fall Board. It was a superb Fall Board meeting. Thanks - **Dearborn Garden Club**.

A **Big Sky Star** goes out to Shelly Mills, Valley County Extension Agent *extraordinaire*, from the **Gumbo Gals of Nashua**.

GREETINGS

Good health, joy and peace to all garden club members in this upcoming Holiday Season and New Year - **Dearborn Garden Club**.

Our Christmas Greeting: *"Love, Joy and Peace to our gardening friends from the Gumbo Gals of Nashua."*

MEMORIALS

\$25 – In honor of Rea Englund
Chester Garden Club



DECEASED CLUB MEMBERS

APRIL 21, 2016 – APRIL 26, 2017

Dearborn Garden Club – Mildred Hicks

Rainbow Garden Club – Mae Brenan, Evelyn Cady,
Bev DuBois, Alice Heisel, Norma Johnson,
Evelyn Macabee, Sharon Paul, Yvonne Schroeder

Great Falls Flower Growers – Dorothy McGee,
Judy Waring

Jumping Junipers Garden Club – Bonnie Gallus

Bullhook Blossoms Garden Club – Tonie Hagenor

Anaconda Garden Club – Dorothy Driggs

(Pictured Above) Cheryl Carroll lights a candle in memory of our members at the MFGC meeting in Butte

"GIVING TUESDAY" KICKS OFF NGC'S CHARITABLE FUND DRIVE

"Giving Tuesday" is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration. Celebrated on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving (*in the U.S.*) and the widely recognized shopping events Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving.

NGC's Social Media Committee is spearheading a digital fundraising campaign to benefit the PLANT AMERICA program and grants. The initial fundraiser took place the week after Thanksgiving, with emphasis on Giving Tuesday, November 28 for donations given via Facebook and the NGC website. NGC used both platforms. Please share our Facebook posts to help us promote NGC.

Phyllis C. White, NGC Social Media Chair

AMAZON

Amazon has a program to donate money to nonprofit organizations. MFGC has signed up for the program so whenever you shop on AMAZON SMILE they will donate a percentage of your purchase to Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. There are no extra costs to you. Please choose us when you shop on line. Every little bit helps our programs!

WRAPPING IT UP

I can't believe I have ripped November off the calendar. Where has this year gone? Again my late plantings have produced fresh tomatoes for us to eat. Old sheets topped by a blanket of snow have saved my tomatoes from both deer and frost. I'm just returning from a visit to my granddaughter in Paris. Getting up on the cool mornings I noticed many Parisians also had blankets and sheets covering beautiful flowers and vegetables growing on their balconies. I still have alyssum growing around my tomato plants, but I'm afraid as the days get colder they will have to give up until spring. I keep reminding them I am ready to put up holiday decorations and they will soon be covered with fresh pine boughs and artificial poinsettias.

Now as winter snow is on its way, remember that getting the snow off your sidewalks and driveways is the most important thing you can do for your trees and shrubs. Once snow is cleared there is less chance of standing water to freeze that will require salt or other chemicals to keep walkways safe. Make sure you use products that will not harm your vegetation. Read labels carefully.

And, don't forget our feathered friends. Be sure to provide them with a source for water and a suet feeder. You can make your own with many recipes found on-line.

Patricia Schlaeger, Editor Montana Gardens

MONTANA Gardens

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Officers, District Directors and
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Visit our website at www.MTFGC.org

NGC SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Pictured below is Sherry Corneliusen, First VP of MFGC presenting the \$4000 National Garden Club scholarship certificate to Kaitlyn Goroski of Wibaux, Montana. Kaitlyn is a senior at Montana State University studying to be a County Extension Agent.



AWARD SUBMISSION UPDATE

Please be informed that when you are submitting awards, be aware there are changes. Check the MFGC website which has been updated to correspond with NGC.



DATES TO REMEMBER:

JANUARY 5, 2018

NGC Awards Applications Due

JANUARY 10, 2018

NGC High School Contest Deadline

JANUARY 10, 2018

NGC Youth Sculpture Contest
Entries Deadline

JANUARY 21, 2018

Plant America Grants Awarded

FEBRUARY 23, 2018

Smokey Bear – Woodsy Owl
Posters are due

MFGC DISTRICT MEETINGS:

APRIL 11, 2018 – Glendive

APRIL 12, 2018 – Malta

APRIL 13, 2018 – Billings

APRIL 14, 2018 – Bozeman

APRIL 25, 2018 – Chester

APRIL 26, 2018 – Great Falls

APRIL 27, 2018 – Missoula

APRIL 28, 2018 – Butte

MAY 21-24, 2018

NGC Annual Convention
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

JUNE 15-16, 2018

MFGC Convention, Helena, Montana