

MONTANA Gardens



Introducing our "Royal" ladies....Gardener of the Year, Creuza Squires (left), Glendive Garden Club and (right) Gail Zarr, Garden Club Member of the Year, Great Falls Flower Growers. Story on Page 3.

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**The Official Publication of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Summer / Fall 2018 – Volume 64 – Issue 2**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a great convention in Helena. Thank you to all who made this a fun and educational experience, especially Sue Leferink and the Helena Garden Club members. I don't know if I have ever tasted such delicious jams and jellies or seen such beautiful quilted items. Thank you to all who participated. It was so nice to see and visit with many of you. The number of awards given was so amazing, congratulations to all. Special congratulations to Gail Zarr who was honored with the Garden Club Member of the year award and to Creuza Squires who was honored with the Norm DeNeal Gardener of the Year Award.

We received word just before convention that our candidate, Bailey Christoffersen, won a National Garden Club scholarship of \$4000.00 Congratulations! Bailey couldn't attend as he was busy helping his father on the farm with seeding. He is from Froid and is studying at MSU-Bozeman.

We were able to present our MFGC Life Members scholarship of \$1000.00 and the Murphy scholarship of \$500 to Ashley Wolfe who hails from Big Timber. She told me how much she appreciated these as they would help her continue her education at MSU-Bozeman.

Many members and guests attended the Dedication of the Helena Blue Star Memorial at Fort Harrison on Thursday evening. What a beautiful setting for the marker. Thank you to Christi Mock and the Helena Garden Club for your work to make this happen. It was a lovely event, very much appreciated

Joyce Hendricks MFGC President 2017-2019



by our veterans and military personnel, and will be a continued reminder that we remember their service to our country.

Summer has arrived after a very rainy, cool spring. It is great to see flowers in bloom and the vegetables growing in the garden but there is news of some wicked storms with hail and high winds, plus flooding due to the high water in the creeks and rivers. I hope you all are doing OK. If you do have problems please remember there are disaster funds available to help restore damaged club projects.

Please make plans to attend the Fall Board Meeting October 5-6 in Ennis, hosted by the Whitehall and Belgrade garden clubs.

*I wish you all a great summer of gardening
and enjoying the outdoors.*

Joyce Hendricks

MFGC 2017-2019 OFFICERS & DISTRICT DIRECTORS

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Donna Dowell

Southwestern District #3

Cathy Speich-Ferguson

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

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

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Denise Fink

Phyllis White

Norman DeNeal

Darlene Skari

Ruth Layton

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

DEADLINE / ISSUE

November 1, 2018 – Winter 2018-2019
March 1, 2019 – Spring 2019
July 1, 2019 – Summer/Fall 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.

Printed by Allegra Printing, Great Falls, MT

TWO OUTSTANDING MFGC MEMBERS AWARDED TOP STATE HONORS

GARDEN CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR – GAIL ZARR

Twenty-eight years as a member of the Great Falls Flower Growers and twenty-one years as a Life Member gives you some idea of the number of activities in which this deserving woman has been involved. Gail's dedication and loyalty to her club is remarkable and she never says "No" when asked to take part in any facet. She has served three times as GFFG president and has held every other office at least once.

During her first term as president her club was awarded the 1998 Shell Oil Petal Grant. This money helped to establish the Butterfly Garden at Paris Gibson Museum of Art and the 1999 grant helped to establish the bulb and iris garden around Paris Gibson's statue in Gibson Park.

Gail is an inspiration to all of us when we look at the list of many things she has done during her years as a club member. She is currently the scholarship chairman and chair of the silent auction for the GFFG annual Christmas Tea fundraiser. She has served on numerous committees such as Blue Star Memorial, Yearbook, Penny Pines, Gift of Life Arrangements, Horticulture, Veteran's Memorial plantings and flower shows. Gail has made garden club her selfless mission in life.

In 2003 she was elected to serve as MFGC Treasurer and served on this state office for eight years. During this time, she did extensive research into past records to establish a more accurate accounting of funds in the Judges council, Awards, Life Members and general bank accounts. She helped MFGC, Inc. obtain their permanent 501c3 status.

Looking at numbers and names of activities does not describe the work ethic, determination, tireless efforts, volunteer hours or passion with which Gail goes about her days. ***Congratulations to Gail Zarr for receiving this well-deserved award for all her hard work!***

GARDENER OF THE YEAR - CREUZA SQUIRES



Norm DeNeal, left sponsor of the Gardener of the Year Award and MFGC President Joyce Hendricks, right, present Creuza with her award.

This enthusiastic garden club member who has been in garden club since 1994, almost 25 years, and has served as president and vice president of her club as well as countless committee chairmanships. She was a transplant from another country and learned how to garden in Montana by trial and error. Her early gardening efforts were very discouraging, but she did not give up. She educated herself by reading lots of gardening books and magazines, hauled countless loads of manure, compost and rocks down a steep backyard to turn it into a lush paradise. Although not a master gardener in the official sense, she is truly a master of gardening.

Her main interest is horticulture which is evident in her gorgeous, well maintained yard. Her love of gardening is evident and she invites everyone to view her yard anytime. This dedicated lady assists fellow gardeners and helps the elderly with their yard work when they are unable to do so. If someone is recovering from surgery, she is always willing and able to help with whatever is needed. Creuza shares her love of gardening by offering lessons at club meetings or offering suggestions on how to improve gardening efforts. She came up with the idea of building a retaining wall on a neglected hillside where we struggled with plants, water and weeds. Many Glendive community beautification projects have benefited from her untiring enthusiasm and willingness to work.

HELENA BLUE STAR MEMORIAL

The Helena Garden Club's Blue Star Memorial Chairman, Christi Mock has led the fundraising efforts for more than five years to reach their ultimate goal: *a Blue Star Memorial Ceremony during the MFGC Convention!*

Once they had raised the necessary funds, the club worked with the Montana POW/MIA Awareness Association and their local VFW Auxiliary to select the site and conduct the ceremony. The site was selected at the Fort Harrison Cemetery. The ceremony was filled with all the pomp and circumstance befitting the occasion, including: *The Black Devils Pipes and Drums, Girl Scout Color Guard, Fort Harrison Director, the MFGC Blue Star Memorial Chairman, Kathy Austin, and the Montana POW/MIA Awareness Association and VFW.* It was a beautiful ceremony well attended by MFGC members the evening before the conference in Helena.

Sue Leferink (left) and Christi Mock (right) unveil the Helena Garden Club's Blue Star Memorial at Fort Harrison.



PLANT AMERICA COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANTS FOR 2019

Through the generous giving of many organizations and individuals, NGC President Nancy Hargroves is again able to offer **PLANT AMERICA** Community Project Grants to individual garden clubs across the United States for 2018-2019. *If you have not applied or were not funded in the previous year, consider applying.*

“Due to the tremendous response from individual garden clubs, it is obvious that garden clubs appreciate the opportunity to apply for funding to further their projects. It is a pleasure to read the applications and confirm what an impact garden club activities have in communities across America,” said Hargroves. *“Last year 418 clubs applied and 28 clubs received grants,”* she added.

The application deadline is October 15, 2018, money will be awarded on January 31, 2019 and projects must be completed by February 28, 2020 with the final report due April 1, 2020. Application forms, guidelines and final report forms are on the NGC website, www.gardenclub.org.

The PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants has a simple application process. The purpose of the grant program is to provide financial support for new or existing club projects in their respective communities all across the United States.

Individual garden clubs that are members of National Garden Clubs, Inc. may apply for funds up to \$1,000 for the direct expenses of projects. Clubs that received a PLANT AMERICA grant for 2017-2018 are not eligible to apply.

Projects submitted for receiving a grant may be a joint venture with another organization's. The scope of these projects in communities may include:

Beautification and/or restoration, Community gardens, School gardens/classrooms, Landscaping for Habitat for Humanity Homes, Landscaping of Blue Star Memorial Markers, Implementation of environmental practices, A horticulture or environmental educational event for the public.

Grant Amount: Up to \$1,000.00 is available to be used for direct expenses of projects

Who May Apply: Individual garden clubs that are members of National Garden Clubs, Inc., and did not receive a grant in 2017-2018.

Application Deadline: October 15, 2018.

Application Information:

Send the completed application form and budget to: plantamericagrants@gmail.com.

Program Criteria: In evaluating grant applications, priority will be given to projects that emphasize one or more of these elements: *Benefits to the community, Involvement and participation by club members, Project visibility or location of the project, Clearly stated plan for future maintenance and/or monitoring of the project.*

Judging is difficult because the projects are so very worthy and heartfelt. To ensure that projects are judged equally, all applicants are expected to follow the Guidelines listed. It is obvious that garden clubs take pride in the communities in which they live and that communities, in turn, respect garden club objectives and appreciate their involvement. *Perhaps your garden club can be rewarded with funds to support new or ongoing projects. Best of luck to all who apply!*

- Betsy Steele, **PLANT AMERICA**
Community Project Grants Committee

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION NEWS

*Rocky Mountain Region Director,
Jackie Watts*



Speaking at the Helena Annual session, Rocky Mountain Region Director, Jackie Watts, extended a welcome to all MFGC, Inc. members to attend the 83rd Annual Regional Meeting, “The Wild West” at Ft. Robinson on August 24-25, 2018. The meetings will be held at the Fort Robinson State Park, Crawford, Nebraska. She added late registration is available on forms at rnr.ngc.org.

Jackie stated the Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs cover a very large area with almost 750,000 square miles. She said our eight states are among the top 19 states with the most square miles. However, 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” Jackie said. “These topics and activities are of great concern to our national president Nancy Hargroves, and her concerns are found in her program “Plant America”. Addressing our low membership in a number of our clubs Jackie added that we really need to think about ‘out-of-the-box’ ideas for growing our memberships.

Award of Excellence Project for Regions NGC Award #25

Sandra Dennis, Project Chairman

The 2017-2019 Rocky Mountain Region Garden Club Project will be for people (individual or entire clubs) to plant pollinator friendly landscapes using native plants, take pictures, and write an article giving the name of the plants, their origins, what pollinators they will attract and why they selected it. Please send a brief report to your state Award of Excellence for Regions # 25 Chairman, who will then compile the state report to be sent on to me by November 1st, 2018.

RMR AWARD APPLICATIONS DEADLINE IS AUGUST 15, 2018

Please inform your garden club members to send their RMR Award Applications to this new address:

Donna Rouch, RMR Awards Chair

1672 152nd Street

Omaha, NE 68144-4698

donna@rouchpartners.com 402-676-0906

This and That

I had the honor of representing Montana at our National Garden Club Convention in Philadelphia, PA. The theme this year was “*Love Blooms in Philadelphia*”. I had a wonderful time and thank MFGC for giving me this opportunity. The first day I took a tour to Longwood Gardens. Longwood is considered one of the world’s great gardens with natural woodlands, beautifully manicured gardens and dancing fountains. Another highlight of my trip was Chanticleer Garden. It is a 35 acre pleasure garden which the *London Financial Times* describes as “*planted to perfection....in the same high class as the famous gardens in England*”. Both of the gardens were spectacular. The flowers were all glorious, colorful and breathtaking. I took lots of pictures and plan to share them with my club as a program this winter. Philadelphia is rich in history and we also took tours of Independence Hall and the Constitution Center, along with visiting the Liberty Bell.

The business meeting was shortened with only half the states reporting. The other half will report next year, but they are publishing all the reports on the web. The extra time was filled with some great speakers. One speaker talked on the Philadelphia Flower Show which will be March 2-10, 2019 with the theme of “*Flower Power*”. It is to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Woodstock. One of our speakers at the convention talked on peonies, another talked about gardening and the food banks program, Ample Harvest. A luncheon program was entitled “*Candy in the Garden*” and Kent Russell, known as the “*Garden Guru*” brought half his greenhouse and showed us lots of plants and suggestions on how to use them. We also enjoyed two great designers who produced lovely arrangements right before our eyes and they were all done with such ease and grace showcasing some of the new designs in our handbook. Our own Phyllis White presented a workshop on social media that I attended and each state shared ideas and problems. Vanette Nagamori also attended the NGC convention from Montana. Thank you again for allowing me to represent Montana at NGC. I had a delightful time.

Sherry Corneliusen

First Vice President MFGC



MONTANA WILD FLOWERS

*At right is a photo of Rocky Mountain
Blazing Star.....*Liatrus ligulistylis*.*

This perennial wildflower grows in sandy or wooded sites from the plains to the foothills. It has many thin alternate leaves which are minutely barbed on a thin stem which grows to about ten inches tall. The flowers are alternately located on the stem and are made up of tightly packed blooms which give it a feathery appearance. It is sometimes called “*gay feather*” but that is the name of a different species *Liatrus Punctuata* which is a much taller plant.

SUSAN ANDREWS,
CHAIRMAN WILDFLOWERS

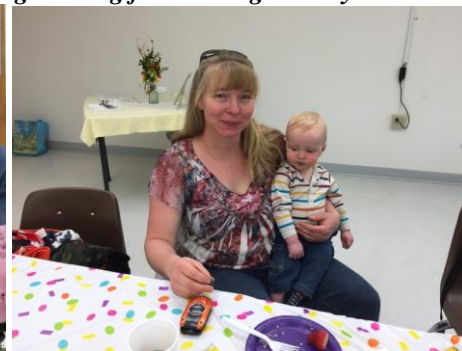


DISTRICT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

District meetings started out in Glendive on April 11 with the theme “*Springtime in the Badlands*”. Bruce Smith, County Extension Agent talked on the fruit and vegetable conference he attended this spring, community gardens and edible landscapes. We then traveled to Malta and enjoyed the meeting at Sleeping Buffalo Resort where their speaker was Patti Ambrista talking on “*Plants Talk, Bugs and Microbes Rule*” and we toured the greenhouse at the resort. That afternoon we had horrible slushy roads to Billings and had our meeting the next day at Gainan’s Greenhouse in the Heights. Clarice Johnson of Gainan’s talked to us about new plant varieties for 2018.

The next week on April 25 found us in Chester at Northern District #6 District meeting. “*Glad it’s Spring*” was their theme and Carol Works gave us a very interesting lesson on glads. Great Falls was our next destination on April 26 with guest speaker Mike Dalton of the Great Falls Community Gardens who gave a fine presentation of his program. Vegetable platters were used for table decorations. Missoula hosted the Western District meeting with a beautiful small Flower Show at the Mall. Joyce and Sherry served on one of the judge’s panels at the show. Butte was our next destination for a combined meeting of Districts #3 and #4, Lewis and Clark and Southwestern. Pat Cunneen was the speaker on reclamation projects in the Butte area. It is always so enjoyable to visit and meet up with all the MFGC members from around the state.

From young to old, garden club members enjoyed the District Meetings held in April throughout the state. Your state officers appreciate all your efforts it takes to host a District Meeting and providing housing for us along the way.



State officers (left) and members (center) at Glendive Eastern Gateway District 12, (right) Amanda Melin and baby, Sawyer. “We start them early in Eastern Montana!”



(left) Malta Dirt Daubers Madeline Anderson, Kathy Waters, Toni Zeigler, (center) Sleeping Buffalo Resort head table at Hi-Line District 7, (right) Spending the night at Jane Eureux’s on the bed with the winning quilt!



Northern District 6 Chester – 90 year-old Margaret Meissner’s birthday (left), Charter members of Chester Garden Club (center) honored at the District Meeting. (right) Carol works presents a program on glads and gives a fun bag of gladiolus bulbs to President Joyce.

DISTRICT MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



(left) Yellowstone District 10 meeting at Gainan's Greenhouse in Billings Heights. (right) The Central District 5 meeting in Great Falls with officers, Mike Dalton of the Great Falls Community Gardens and District 5 Director Ivy Jackson.



(left) Pat Biggs at Great Falls (center and right) The Flower Show at the Western District 2 meeting in Missoula



(left) Whitehall members at the combined Southwestern District 3 and Lewis and Clark District 4, (center) Entertainment at Butte, (right) 90 year old Doris Richard of Dillon with Joyce.



(left) Combined members of Butte and Anaconda (right) District 3 and 4 members during the program presentations.

MFGC 2018 ANNUAL CONVENTION

MONTANA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. EIGHTY FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES Radisson Colonial Hotel Helena, Montana

Friday, June 15, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Joyce Hendricks, MFGC President called the 81st Annual State Convention of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc to order at 9:15 a.m. on Friday, June 15, 2018, at the Colonial Radisson Hotel, Helena, Montana and welcomed those in attendance.

Opening Exercises: Lynne Weischedel, MFGC Recording Secretary, was present.

Presentation of Colors – Pledge of Allegiance – 4-H Ambassadors, Joyce Hendricks

Welcome & Introductions – Joyce Hendricks, President; Sherry Corneliusen, MFGC 1st Vice President; Connie Leatherman, 2nd Vice President; Vicky Barbieri, MFGC Treasurer; Pat Biggs, MFGC Corresponding Secretary and Credential Chairman Pro Tem; Phyllis White, MFGC Parliamentarian; Lynne Weischedel, MFGC Recording Secretary; Sue Leferink, MFGC 2018 Convention Chair, Wilmot J Collins, Helena Mayor.

Inspirational Thought: Cheryl Carroll, MFGC State Chaplain

Registration Report:

Montana State Presidents	1
Past State Presidents	5
District Directors	6
Club Presidents	18
State Chairmen	14
Delegates	44
Regional Director	0
Regional Board Members	5
Regional Officers	1
National Garden Club President	0
National Board Members	2
State Life Members	52
National Life Members	19
Club Members	84
Alternate Delegates	2
Flower Show Judges	21
Student Flower Show Judges	4
Landscape Design Consultants	4
Student Landscape Design Consultants	4
Advisory Council Members	8
First Time Attendees	11
Guests	5
Minus duplications	219

Total MFGC Members Attending 84

Total Guests and Non MFGC Members 5

Credentials Report: Patricia Biggs, gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report as of 6:00 p.m. June 14, 2018 showing a voting strength of 66 (On file):

Past State Presidents	5
District Directors	5
Club Presidents or proxy	14
State Chairmen	16
Appointed Officers	1
Delegates	34
	82
Minus duplications	16
Voting Strength	66

Garden Club Member of the Year: Connie Leatherman, Awards Chairman, presented Gail Zarr with the Garden Club Member of the Year Award, 2018-2019.

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

Reading and Adoption of Convention Rules: Phyllis White, Parliamentarian read the Standing Rules for the 81st Annual Convention for adoption. **ADOPTED**

Convention Program: Sue Leferink, Convention Chairman, moved to approve the Program as printed **ADOPTED**

Appointment of the Committee to Approve the 2018 Convention Minutes: The President appointed the following to approve the minutes of the 2018 Convention Minutes: Sherry Corneliusen, Susan Andrews and Liz Smith

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

Appointment of Timekeepers, Tellers and Page: The President appointed the following to serve as Timekeepers: Cathy Waters and Norm DeNeal. The President appointed the following to serve as page to Jackie Watts: Diane Raymond. The President appointed the following to serve as page to Joyce Hendricks: Betsy Heckel

Continued on Page 9



Convention Pictures (Top to Bottom) Blue Star Memorial Ceremony; Chadwick Nursery Tour, Officers Head Table, Bullhook Blossoms, and the morning exercise option.

MFGC 2018 ANNUAL CONVENTION

Report of 2017 Minute Approval Committee: Lilla Flesjer reported the minutes from the 2017 State Convention were read and approved.

Reports of Officers: President Joyce Hendricks, 1st Vice President, Sherry Corneliusen (on file), 2nd Vice President, Connie Leatherman (on file), Treasurer, Vicky Barbieri (on file)

Ratification of Appointments: The Presented the following appointments for ratification: Patricia Schlaeger, Public Relations Chairman; Elaine Wood, Webmaster **RATIFIED**

Chairman Reports:

Public Relations: Patricia Schlaeger (on file)

Web Master: President Joyce Hendricks read the webmaster's report.

Treasurer Report: Vicky Barbieri (on file)

Penny Pines: Vicky Barbieri - \$15,640.00 nationally

Resolutions of the Executive Board: Lynne Weischedel, Recording Secretary, read the resolution – Report of the 2017-2018 financial review committee will be given at the 2018 Fall Board meeting **ADOPTED**

Lynne Weischedel, Recording Secretary, read the resolution - \$485.00 be moved from the general fund to cover the A, B and D awards given in 2017 **ADOPTED**

Finance Committee Reviewers: The President appointed the following to review the finance report, Glenna Waltee, Lynne Weischedel and Gail Zarr.

Nominating Committee Members Elected: Nina Eide, Susan Andrews, Gloria Tillman, Mary Davis, Carol Graves, Carol Works, and Patty Schlaeger. Former MFGC President Linda Sadler is the Committee Chairman.

Report of District Director & Club President Reports:

Western District #2: Donna Dowell, Director, Presidents report (in book)

Southwestern District #3: Cathy Speich-Ferguson, Director, Presidents report (in book)

Lewis & Clark #4: Connie Leatherman, Director, Presidents report (in book)

Central #5: Kathy Austin read the Director's Report, Presidents report (in book)

Northern #6: Carol Works, Director, Presidents report (in book)

Hi-Line #7: Gloria Tillman, Director, Presidents report (in book)

Lunch: Sponsored by Life Members, Sherry Corneliusen, MFGC 1st Vice President and Patty Schlaeger, Life Members Chair, presiding

Blessing: Cheryl Carroll, MFGC Chaplain

Life Members: Ashley Wolfe was presented the Honoring State Life Member and Murphy Scholarship

Circle of Green Thumb Awards, Joyce Hendricks, MFGC President awarded

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

Saturday, June 16, 2018 Helena, Montana

Call to Order: Joyce Hendricks, MFGC President called the 81st Annual State Convention of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc to order at 9:10 a.m. on Saturday, June 16, 2018, at the Colonial Radisson Hotel, Helena, Montana and welcomed those in attendance.

Interim Registration Report given by Lesley Strausbaugh, Registrar:

Montana State Presidents	1
Past State Presidents	8
State Officers	5
District Directors	6
Club Presidents	18
State Chairmen	14
Delegates	44
Regional Director	1
Regional Board Members	5
Regional Officers	1
National Garden Club President	0
National Board Members	2
State Life Members	52
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Advisory Council Members	8
First Time Attendees	11
Guests	5
Minus duplications	219
Total MFGC Members Attending	84
Total Guests and Non MFGC Members	5



Convention Pictures (Top to Bottom) Bee Fruitful Table Decorations at Life Members Luncheon, MFGC President Joyce making presentation to RMR President Jackie Watts, Grand Staircase Photo of convention attendees; Picnic in the rain at Tizer Gardens.

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And the Winners are

MFGC club members and individuals cashed in on the awards they submitted for their project work. The awards are divided into five categories – Commemorative, Individual, State, Youth and Flower Show. *Congratulations to our winners this year:*

A-4 (B) Florence Baker Award for the highest percentage of judges and/or student judges	Great Falls Flower Growers	\$20
A-4 (A) Belgrade Bloomers	\$20
A-5 – Charlotte Straub Award for City Beautification	Glenna Waltee, Whitehall Garden Club	\$20
A-6 Alice Hamilton Award for a published article written by a MFGC, Inc. Member -	Bullhook Blossoms	\$20
A-7 – Esther Hamel and Blanche Burns Garden Therapy Award	Patty Schlaeger, Rainbow Garden Club	\$15
A-9 – Lillian Westin Wildflower Award for Growing Wildflowers	Kerry Hovland, Great Falls Flower Growers	\$25
A-10-Ceri Breen Wildflower Conservation Award for Wildflower Sanctuary -	Susan Andrews, Gallatin Empire	\$20
A-11 – Ruby Benjamin Wildflower Photograph Award for Montana Wildflowers	Nina Eadie, Stevensville Garden Club	\$10
A-13 – Florence Baldwin Environmental Education Award for Best Environmental Education	Glenna Waltee, Whitehall GC	\$10
A-15 – Mae Brennan Habets Publicity Press Book Award	Bullhook Blossoms	\$10
A-17 – Rose Kopp Special Children Award for Garden Therapy	Jane Snowberger, Rainbow Garden Club	\$10
A-18 – Alpha Mitchell Living Legacy Award for Public Tree Planting	Gallia Fundis, Great Falls Flower Growers	\$10
A-19 – Barbara Hanic Beautify with Flowers Award – Flowers where once there were none -	Susan Andrews, Gallatin Empire	\$10
A-20 (A) Marie Jones Container Gardening Award	Pat Biggs, Great Falls Flower Growers	\$15
A-20 (B) Glenna Waltee, Whitehall Garden Club	\$15
A-21 Elizabeth Kehmeier Club Scrapbook Award	Bullhook Blossoms	\$25
A-23 – Mary J. Olsen TREES, A Renewable Resource Award	Rainbow Garden Club	\$10
A-24 – Mary Davis Patriotic Garden Award	Chester Garden Club	\$25

A-25 – Darlene Skari Public Workshop Award for the Public	Bullhook Blossoms	\$25
A-26 – Norm DeNeal Gardener of the Year Award	Creuza Squires, Glendive Garden Club	\$100
A-27 – Phyllis White Conservation Award for Outstanding Conservation Activities -	Rainbow Garden Club	\$50
A-28 – Denise Fink Past to Future Award for garden with Old Fashioned Theme -	Glenna Waltee, Whitehall Garden Club	\$20
B-1 – Mae Burke Magill Award for Garden Club Tour	Marilyn Lane, Townsend Garden Club	\$20
B-2 – Rainbow Garden Club civic Beautification Award	Bullhook Blossoms	\$50
B-3 – Dearborn Garden Club Award for Scrapbook on Wildflowers	Susan Andrews, Gallatin Empire	\$10
B-4 – Kerin McCarver Membership Award for Most New Members	Gallatin Empire	\$15
B-5 – Kerin McCarver Special Award	Bullhook Blossoms	\$15
B-7 – MFGC State Chairman Leadership Award	Sue Leferink, Helena Garden Club	\$25
B-9 – Cathy Atkinson Creative Design Award	Cheryl Carroll, Missoula Garden Club	\$25
B-11 – Esther Hamel Butterfly Garden Award -	Bullhook Blossoms	\$50
B-12 – Mary Lee Award for Artistic Expression	Sandy Hutchings, Whitehall Garden Club	\$20
C-1 Appreciation for Outstanding work	Galia Fundis, Great Falls Flower Growers	\$50
C-3 Floral Design Award	Nina Eadie, Stevensville Garden Club	\$20
C-9 Multimedia Award	(1) Mary Ann Byerly, Belgrade Bloomers	\$20
	(2) Bullhook Blossoms	\$20
	(3) Glenna Waltee, Whitehall Garden Club	\$20
C-10 Blue and Red Award for Best Yearbook	47 members Great Falls Flower Growers	\$20
	38 members Dearborn Garden Club	\$20
C-11 – Award of Excellence for Non-Member of MFGC	Michael R. Dalton, Westside Orchard Gardens	\$100
C-12 – Photography Contest Award	Patricia Schlaeger, Rainbow Garden Club	\$20
D-1 Youth Club Sponsorship Award	Great Falls Flower Growers	\$20
D-2 Youth Gardening Award	Budding Geniuses, Rainbow GC	\$20

Convention Minutes – Continued from page 9

Final Credentials Report given by Patricia Biggs, Credential Chairman Pro Tem:

Past State Presidents	8
State Officers	5
District Directors	6
Club Presidents or proxy	18
State Chairmen	16
Appointed Officers	1
Delegates	44
	98
Minus duplications	17
Voting Strength	81

Report of District Director & Club President Reports Continued:

Yellowstone #10: Rosemary Power, Director, Presidents report (in book)
Eastern Gateway #12: Lynne Weischedel, Director, Presidents report (in book)

Chairman Reports Continued:

Montana Gardens magazine editor: Patty Schlaeger (on file)
Endowment Committee: Glenna Waltee
Historian Report: Denise Fink
Member Services and MFGC Life Member: Carol Works (on file)
Membership: Vanette Nagamori (on file)
Back Yard Habitat: Jim Sadler (on file)
Bee's: Sue Leferink (on file)
Community Gardens & Growing Edibles: Sue Leferink (on file)
Xeriscape Gardening and Water Conservation: Sue Leferink (on file)
Blue Star Memorial: Kathy Austin (on file)
Floral Show School and Symposium and Credentials
Chairman: Susan Billmeyer (on file)
Landscape Design courses: Jim Sadler and Joyce Hendricks will have information at Fall Board.
Butterfly: Kathy Waters (on file)

Chairman Reports Continued:

Penny Pines: Sherry Corneliusen for Sharon Doll - \$68.00 donation, send to Vicky Barbieri
Native Plants: Susan Andrews (on file)
Flower Show Awards: Susan Andrews (on file)
Poetry, Essay and Sculpture Events: Greg Cooper – mail2moe@yahoo.com
Smokey Bear/Woody Owl: Jennifer Strzelczyk (on file)
Life Member: Patty Schlaeger (on file)
Facebook: Annie Mollock
National Scholarship: Fay Weber, read by Joyce Hendricks (on file)
National Convention report: Vanette Nagamori (on file)

Speaker: Naomi Alhadeff, National Wildlife Federation – “Bee a Wildlife Action Hero!”

MFGC Awards Luncheon, presided by Connie Leatherman, 2nd Vice President

Blessing: Cheryl Carroll, MFGC Chaplain

Remarks by Jackie Watts, Regional Director (on file)

Proposed 2018-2019 Budget: Vicky Barbieri, MFGC Treasurer, presented the proposed 2018-2019 budget.

Announcements:

Belgrade & Whitehall Garden Clubs presented an invitation to attend the MFGC Fall Board on October 5 – 6, 2018
MFGC State Convention 2019 will be in Miles City, MT on June 21-22, 2019

Courtesy Resolution: Mary Davis, MFGC Past-President read the Courtesy Resolution and moved its adoption. **ADOPTED**

Benediction: Cheryl Carroll, MFGC Chaplain

Adjournment Sine Die: The President adjourned the 81st annual meeting of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. at 1:50 P.M. on Saturday, June 16, 2018.

*Lynne K. Weischedel, MFGC Recording Secretary
President Joyce Hendricks*

*The minutes have been approved by
Sherry Corneliusen, Liz Smith and Susan Andrews*

JAM TASTING CONTEST NETS LIP SMACKING, PRIZES AND MONEY FOR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

One of the highlights of the Friday Session at the Helena Convention was the Jam Tasting Contest. Members placed money in a container next to the jam they tasted. The winners were then selected by the total money placed. The sum of \$138 was raised for the Life Members Scholarship! First place was Patty Schlaeger with Black Cherry Rhubarb. Second place was Lesley Strausbaugh with Earl Grey Blueberry. Third place was Joyce Hendricks with Strawberry Rhubarb Jam. *Here are their prize winning recipes!*

PATTY SCHLAEGER'S BLACK CHERRY RHUBARB JAM

6 cups rhubarb cut fine
(I like to remove strings)
4 cups sugar
1 6 oz. package black cherry JELLO
1 package black cherry KOOL-AID

Put chopped rhubarb into large sauce pan and pour sugar over rhubarb. Let sit overnight (sugar will liquefy). In morning cook on high for about 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Reduce heat to medium and cook uncovered for an additional 15 minutes. Remove from heat. Add JELLO and KOOL-AID, stir until dissolved. Ladle into prepared sterile jars. Cool and store in refrigerator.

Makes 4-5 half pints.

LESLEY STRAUSBAUGH'S Earl Grey Blueberry Jam

6 c. Blueberries
3 c. Sugar
2 T Sure gel
5 Earl Grey Tea Bags with strings and tags removed
2 T Lemon Juice
1 tsp Lemon Zest

Combine 1/4 c sugar and sure gel in bowl. Bring blueberries, tea bags, lemon juice and zest to simmer in large pot. Simmer on low for about five minutes until blueberries release their juices. Stir in sure gel mixture and bring to a rolling boil. Add remaining sugar and bring to a boil and boil for one minute stirring constantly. Remove the tea bags. Pour jam into hot sterile jars. Process 10 minutes in water bath canner. Makes 4-5 cups.



JOYCE HENDRICKS' STRAWBERRY RHUBARB JAM

10 cups rhubarb cut fine
8 cups sugar
6 oz. box strawberry JELLO

Combine rhubarb and sugar in large heavy pan, stir often; start on low, bring to boil. Boil 11 minutes, remove from heat and stir in dry JELLO. Put in jars. May be placed in hot water bath for 10 minutes. Makes about 4 pints.

BECOME A LIFE MEMBER....IN MFGC, THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION AND THE NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB!

MFGC, Inc. LIFE MEMBER

A Life Member is a club member interested in helping a worthy Montana student further their college education while having a good time at monthly meetings and at the state convention. All the membership fees are placed in trust to endow an annual \$1000 scholarship to a Montana student. Any member of a Montana federated garden club may join Life Members by sending a one-time, tax-deductible \$25 to:

Vicky Barbieri, Treasurer,
504 Howie Road,
Big Timber, MT 59011.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION LIFE MEMBER

Life Membership is an **HONORARY** membership in the Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs. Life membership funds are used for education and communication within-in the region. There are currently 52 life members in the RMR. Please consider making a \$75 donation to the fund to help enhance our communication/education within the RMR. You can join yourself or honor another member of garden club with a Life Membership.

Contact: Lynette Jeffres
lynjeffres@gmail.com
307-856-4399

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS LIFE MEMBER

Your choice of becoming a National Life Member demonstrates your commitment to the youth of our nation and so the world. Your gift of \$200 to become a life member is shared equally by the Scholarship Fund and the Permanent Home Endowment Fund. The recipient receives a lifetime subscription to The National Gardener magazine, may attend the National Life Member Banquet at all conventions, and a portion of the contribution is tax deductible. A form is downloadable on the National Garden Club website.

Contact: Bobbie Verser
NGC Life Member Chairman

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BULLHOOK BLOSSOMS FOR WINNING THE 2017-18 TRAVELING TROPHY FOR THE MOST NEW LIFE MEMBERS!

2018 MFGC FALL BOARD

October 5-6, 2018

**El Western Resort – 4787 US Highway 487
Ennis, Montana 59729**



“THE INCREDIBLE EDIBLES”

Friday, October 5

(All events take place in the Trout Lodge)

2:00 - 5:00 pm Registration
2:30 pm Finance Committee
3:30 pm Nominating Committee
4:00 pm Executive Committee
(MFGC Elected/Appointed Officers)
Advisory Committee
(Former State Presidents)
5:00 pm Judges Council
6:00 - 7:00 pm Dinner on your own in town

Saturday, October 6

(All events take place in the Convention Center)

8:30 - 9:00 am Registration and Morning Refreshments
9:00 am Fall Board Meeting
12:00 LUNCH
12:30 pm Speaker
After program - Business Resumes
3:00 pm Adjourn

REGISTRATION FORM

(Reservation deadline is September 20. A late registration fee will apply after the deadline)

NAME _____

PHONE _____ Email _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

CLUB _____

Circle all that apply: State Officer Club President District Director State Chairman

Advisory Council

Garden Club Member

Registration \$25 (by 9/20/18)

\$ _____

Late Registration \$30 (postmarked after 9/20)

\$ _____

Saturday Lunch \$15 (let us know if you have any food allergies)

\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Whitehall Garden Club, PO Box 109, Whitehall, MT 59759

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING ITEMS FOR THE WAYS & MEANS TABLE

El Western Rate and Reservation Information - Montana Federation of Garden Clubs

(Due to the tourist & hunting season, reservations must be made by September 1st)

Single	\$102 - 169	(Creekside only)
Double	\$56 - 79	(Creekside only)
Triple	\$76 - 95	(Mountainside I or II)
Quad (4)	\$57	(Mountainside 1 only)

Tax is additional 7%



Rates based on one person to a bed; (if you share a bed it cuts the cost). One night deposit required at time of reservation. Refund up to 7 days prior to arrival date. Availability is limited - first come, first served for lowest rate cabins. To book a shared cabin, please provide one contact person for responsibility. For questions or quotes on shared bed options, please call 800-831-2773 or 406-682-4217 and talk with Kris.

El Western Cabins & Lodges . PO Box 487 . 4787 US Hwy 287 N. Ennis, MT 59729

Web: ElWestern.com E-mail: info@elwestern.com (406-682-4217)

12 Ennis Restaurants:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 Bear Trap Grille \$ - American
129 E Main St. 406-682-3323 | 2 The Alley Bistro \$ - American, Burgers, Greek
59 Mt. Hwy 287 406-682-5695 | 5 Nacho Mama's Burritos \$ - Mexican
111 W Main St 406-682-4006 |
| 3 Escondidos - \$\$ - Mexican
50 Mt Hwy 287 406-682-5444 | 4 Longbranch Saloon/20 Below - Bars, Casinos,
Steakhouses - 125 Main St 406-682-7020 | |
| 6 Gravel Bar - \$\$ - Bars, Burgers, Sandwiches
305 E Main St 406-682-5553 | 7 Silver Dollar Grill - \$\$ - Bars, American
131 E Main St 406-682-7320 | |
| 8 Yesterday's Soda Fountain - \$ - Breakfast,
Brunch, Sandwiches - 124 Main St Pharmacy Bldg. 406-682-4246 | 9 Ennis Sugar High - \$ - Burgers, Ice
Cream & Frozen Yogurt - 170 Mt Hwy 287 406-682-7113 | |
| 10 Bynee's - \$ - American
214 Main St 406-682-3256 | 11 The Pic A Nic Basket - \$\$ - Cafes
97 North 1 st 406-682-7900 | 12 Ennis Café - \$ - American
108 E Main 406-682-4442 |

PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW

The annual Philadelphia Flower Show took place the first week of April this year. The theme “Wonders of Water” provided the visitors beauty and education. Four Montana flower show judges were invited to judge the artistic entries. What an honor!

Accredited judges Phyllis White and Jeanne Bennett judged on March 2, and student judges Annie Mollock and Mary Ann Byerly judged on March 5. There are three days of judging as the exhibits are rotated during the 11-day show. The judges arrived and departed via plane and automobile during rough Nor’easter weather that week. The student judges are invited as part of the educational component of the show. What an opportunity to expand knowledge and network with people from all over the world – one judge was from Russia!

National Garden Club President Nancy Hargroves attended and judged the show. She also accepted an award on behalf of NGC from the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society (PHS) President Matt Rader. He stated,

“We would like to recognize Honorary Chair Nancy Hargroves, the president of the National Garden Clubs. With 5,000-member garden clubs and 160,000 members, you promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility, much like we do at PHS. From youth programs to beautifying public spaces, from promoting energy conservation to rain gardens, the National Garden Clubs leads the way bringing your members together to make a positive impact on their environment.”

In addition to the artistic designs of fresh and dried materials, there were many classes of botanic arts – jewelry, hats and shoes made of plant material, pressed flowers, rooms decorated with books covered with dried leaves, and patios staged with container gardens.

There were over 350 horticulture exhibitors, many entering numerous exhibits. Over 3,500 volunteers were needed to ensure the show went off without a hitch. There were 4,000 butterflies in the Butterflies Live Exhibit room. Over \$1 million is raised each year by the Flower Show to support the community greening programs of PHS. To date, 531,000 trees have been planted by PHS and its partners in Pennsylvania, South Jersey and Delaware as part of the Plant One Million initiative. (Pictured below – Exhibits at the Flower Show)



National Scholarship and Murphy Memorial Scholarship Report

It has been my privilege to serve as the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs Chair for the National Garden Club Scholarship for the past six years. The website application process has greatly improved but the application deadline change from March 1 to February 1 has reduced the number of application received the past two years.

A major responsibility of the Montana National Garden Club Scholarship Chair is to notify Montana colleges and universities about the scholarship availability for students planning careers related to gardening, landscape design, environmental issues, floral design and horticulture. Students may apply their sophomore year and are eligible for the scholarship their junior, senior and at the master's degree level. This year all Montana private and state colleges and universities were contacted by email regarding the National Garden Club and the Murphy Memorial Garden Club Scholarships.

Another major responsibility is the selection of the best candidate to send to the National Garden Club Scholarship Chair. This year Bailey Christoffersen's application was submitted and he is one of the 2018 recipients of the \$4,000 scholarship. He is an incoming junior at Montana State University, Bozeman with a major in Crop Science and a minor in Agricultural Business. He grew up in Froid, Montana, located in Northeastern Montana, where his family raises wheat, peas, hay and cattle. Growing up he was always involved in farming, 4-H and community activities. Since starting college, Bailey has worked in the wheat genetic lab where his professor says he has shown himself to be very dependable, smart, capable, hardworking, cheerful and pleasant. He has been involved in a range of activities from analyzing DNA sequence variation among transgenic plants to harvesting wheat plants from the field. His professional goal is get a job in the agricultural community as an Agronomist or Crop Consultant somewhere in Northeast Montana.

Selected for the \$500 Murphy Memorial Scholarship and the \$1,000 MFGC Life Members Scholarship is Ashley Wolfe from Big Timber, Montana, currently a sophomore at Montana State University, Bozeman. She is pursuing a degree in Conservation Biology and Ecology and is part of the honors program at MSU. Besides being active in college life, she volunteers at the MSU Service Saturday Program and at the Son Haven Nursing Home. She has recently been accepted as a mentor to the Child Advancement Project for Thrive. She is still contemplating future careers in her field.

FAY WEBER,
SCHOLARSHIP
CHAIRMAN



(left) Patricia Schlaeger,
MFGC Life Members Chair
presents Ashley Wolfe (right)
The Murphy and Life
Members Scholarships

AROUND MONTANA'S BIG SKY

Dearborn Garden Club

Kudos to Sue Leferink and the Helena Garden Club for hosting so well the recent annual convention. A good time was had by all! The winner of the Dearborn Garden Club of \$1000 scholarship for 2018 was Molly McRorie of Cascade, MT. She plans on attending MSU at Bozeman in the Fall to obtain a degree in Elementary Education. The alternate is Cassy LaFromboise of Craig who plans on attending MSU-Great Falls to earn an associate degree in science before transferring to MSU-Bozeman. Congratulations to both young women.

Our Spring speakers covered "DIY Drip system "for the summer-Pat Parker from Ace Hardware, "Tips on Feeding Hummingbirds"-Jo Lee Burman and viewing of a Monarch Butterfly power point presentation. In May we honored our honorary members-Carolyn Stremcha, Bonnie Andersen, Jo Lee Burman, Kitty Wojtala, Elsie Berger and Barb Rumford. Both Elsie and Barb celebrated birthdays in May, 98 years and 99 years respectfully. Both of these ladies are regular attendees at meetings. We appreciate our honorary members as they continue to be active in the Club. The Club celebrated its 60th birthday of being a member of the Federation of Garden Clubs with a delicious cake.

Other activities the Club has been busy with is the annual Spring cleanup of two miles of Highway 91 in the Hardy Creek area by Jo Pertile, Judy Fettig, Carolyn Stremcha, Wendy Smalley, Trish Vielleux, Bonnie Andersen and Colleen Mason. Following the work, the ladies were given a sumptuous lunch at Trish Vielleux's home. The 14 town barrels were planted by Carol Brady, Kitty Wojtala, Dorothy Gephardt, Trish Vielleux, Colleen Mason, Charlene Moug and Jo Lee Burman. These barrels will be judged by Lois Rumney, Claire Howell and Ginny Jones in July, August and September and certificates awarded to the "Best Barrel" and photos placed in the Cascade Courier. Joe's Trail Head was planted with red, white and blue petunias while the Friendship and 911 gardens both had annuals added. The barrels and new plantings will be complemented by the new sidewalks being added to the town this summer.

The major work for the Dearborn Garden Club has been President's Project of rehabbing of the two gardens in front of the American Legion Memorial Wall where our Blue Star Byway marker is situated. To date 75 woman-hours of sweat and labor have been given to the project and its nearly finished. We also had our annual fund raiser as a participant of the Cascade Courier sponsored 40-mile Garage Sale from Ulm to Wolf Creek on June 23, 2018. Luckily the weather held.



Miles City Garden Club



We started 2018 out by holding our spring Membership Drive Tea two months early, in March. We just were not getting the turn out, competing with too many other events at our regular time in May. Our hope was to get more ladies to come and join. It worked! We had 12 new members join at the tea. This year's theme was "Birding in your backyard". Our Guest speaker Dale Tribby, Retired Wildlife Biologist shared information about area birds, how to identify and encourage them to "roost" in our yards. Great presentation, Great food, Great fun! *(Photo above left)*

We've been working with the Easter Montana Fair Board to increase youth participation in the Floral Department at their fair. Member Joe Meidinger took the "Growing Gardeners" publication she saw at the MFGC Eastern Gateway district meeting and developed a program where elementary school students would be taught what plants need to grow, plant seeds in a mini hot-house and learn about showing their own flowers, veggies & floral designs in the fair. Thus the "Gardening is Elementary" program was born. In April, Garden club members taught over 350 K-2nd grade students at three schools. We followed up by presenting the National Garden Club's "The Saved Seed" book to 5 Elementary schools, Head Start and the City Library in Miles City. *(Photo above right)*

With May came our "Welcome Spring" contest were the first daffodil and tulip to bloom in town, wins. We fuel the contest by giving away bulbs at our fall bake sale. It was good to see younger folks getting involved this year.

Our bi-annual Garden Tour event took place in June. We sold tickets to tour 6 "Imperfect Gardens" (this year's theme). All of the gardens were anything but imperfect. They were very clever and beautiful in fact. We invited a local artist to show their wares in each garden. It was very successful. *(Photo below)*



CENTRAL DISTRICT 5 FALL FLOWER SHOW

MOON FALL

GREAT FALLS FLOWER GROWERS,
RAINBOW AND DEARBORN GARDEN CLUBS

SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2018

DO BAR CONFERENCE ROOM

1800 THIRD STREET NORTHWEST
GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

FLOWER DESIGN SHOW ONLY
THEME REPRESENTS SONGS ABOUT THE MOON

For Schedule Please Contact:
JEANNIE BENNET 406-781-7615
SUE O'LEARY 406-868-2973

FROM THE TREASURER'S PEN

MEMORIALS

\$30 in remembrance of **Gail Williamson, Great Falls Flower Growers** from Marcia Whitelock, her Deadwood, South Dakota high school debate partner and friend throughout the years.

BIG SKY STARS

A Big Sky Star to Sue Leferink and the Helena Garden Club for the outstanding annual conference in Helena
- **Patty Schlaeger, Rainbow Garden Club**

A Big Sky Star to all the MFGC officers for their work in the 2017-18 program year.
- **Patty Schlaeger, Rainbow Garden Club**

A Big Sky Star to Sue Leferink and the Helena Garden Club
- **Joyce Hendricks, Thumb-R-Green**

NEW MEMBERS

Sherry Doty, Sow and Grow Garden Club
sherrylou_bd@yahoo.com

Nancy Welch, Sow and Grow Garden Club
nawelch53@gmail.com

NEW LIFE MEMBER

Cheryl Kuka, Bullhook Blossoms, Havre, Montana

GREAT FALLS FLOWER GROWERS

Annual Holiday Tea

DECEMBER 6, 2018 11 am to 3 pm
Central Assembly of God Church

Join us for tea, special holiday treats, gift basket raffles, silent auction and wonderful holiday arrangements and homemade crafts



In Memorium

Those who have passed away this past year

Rainbow Garden Club: Dorothy Schmidt,
Pat Johnson, Elethea Scow, Fran Kraft,
Diana O'Reilly and Marie Mares;

Conrad Garden Club: Marge Gebhart;

Galatin Empire Garden Club:

Cabi Leo who was 101 years old;

Whitehall Garden Club: Kaye Wanke

WRAPPING IT UP....

It was unusual to see bedding plants and potted vegetables at the feed store after the first of August. I guess with such a cold, late spring they weren't ready to do their usual last ditch sale or free plants in July. However, I lucked out and was able to get some replacement vegetables for 90% off. And, of course I just couldn't turn down such a deal and ended up with two flats of wimpy peppers, cabbage, squash and many unusual assorted herbs that no one cared to buy. Having had two hundred sheep run through the flower beds at the end of July, I just happen to have some space here and there for these 48 extra plants. They just have to share the space with a few Marigolds and Zinnias that the sheep did not care to taste, step or lay on. Some years my late season gardening nets me a bountiful harvest in November or even into December if the weather holds up.

My flower beds everywhere are teeming with bees and butterflies. I was so excited when I was sitting by the creek and looked down to see a Mourning Cloak fluttering by my feet. We have also left many large clumps of Milk Weed standing alongside the road and have asked the county mowers to raise their cycles to save patches of Milk Weed when they were mowing the country roads. *Many have done that for us!*

Don't forget to send in your Regional and National Award applications. We all deserve to be honored and rewarded for our many garden club projects. **See you soon at the Fall Board in Ennis!**

Patty Schlaeger, MT Gardens Editor

LET'S GROW IN MONTANA



Check us out on

Visit our website at
www.MTFGC.org



The theme for President Nancy Hargroves's administration is Plant America, a singularly focused initiative on gardens and gardening.

Both a call to service and a description of what NGC clubs do, Plant America supports the main reason that people say they join a garden club - to learn about gardening!

VISIT gardenclub.org



*"Plant your American Dream,
Mind your Footprints,
and Gather the Friendships"*



Check us out on



2018 Circle of Green Thumb Awardees:

Anaconda:	Elaine Lux-Burt
Belgrade:	Betsy Heckel
Bullhook Blossoms:	Janice Brady Bergren
Butte:	Leo McCracken
Chester:	Carol Works
Dearborn:	Peggy Sloan
Gallatine Empire:	Nancy Rote
Glendive:	Jan Pust
Great Falls Flower Growers:	Patty Howse
Helena:	Joan Abramson
Hoe and Hope:	Betty Parker
Jumping Junipers:	Carol DePriest
Malta Dirt Daubers:	Terry Hotchkiss
Miles City:	Liz Smith
Missoula:	Melanie Mendez
Rainbow Garden Club:	Patricia Schlaeger
Stevensville:	Susan Nelson
Townsend:	Marilyn Lane
Thumb R Green:	Elaine Allard
Whitehall:	Keiko Nabb

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!

DATES TO REMEMBER

- AUGUST 15, 2018 – RMR Awards to Donna Rouch
- SEPTEMBER 13-15 – District 5 Fall Flower Show
Great Falls, Montana
- OCTOBER 1, 2018 – RMR Award of Excellence send
to Connie Leatherman
- OCTOBER 5-6, 2018 – Fall Board Meeting
Ennis, Montana
- OCTOBER 15, 2018 – Plant America Grants
- NOVEMBER 1, 2018 – NGC Award of Excellence
Send to Connie Leatherman
- DECEMBER 1, 2018 – Club Yearbooks send to
Annie Molluck
- DECEMBER 1, 2018 – All National Awards send to
Connie Leatherman

Joyful Gardening

*Rich dark soil in a garden bed
Ready for seeds to be sown and fed.
Windy storms and searing heat
Our hardy plants can't be beat.
Joy in gardening but soon it's clear
What to do with those pesky deer?*

- **Maureen Fiksdal**

