

MONTANA *Gardens*



Fall Board Highlights (clockwise from top left – RMR Prize winning photo by Ron Hendricks; one of the “Incredible Edible” turkeys; an “Incredible Edible” table decoration with grapes, pineapple and melon flowers and parsley; and, a west side view of the beautiful Spanish Peaks from Ennis, Montana.

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message – -2019 Officers, District Directors . Publication Data . New Webmaster
There's A New Nest In Town . Do You Know Your Vegetables? . 20th Blue Star Dedication
Membership . Host Club Needed for Fall Board 2019 . Fall Board Reports . This and That
Fall Moons Flower Show . 2019 MFGC Convention Dates . RMR 2018 Awards
MFGC Awards Committee Named . Around Montana's Big Sky . From the Treasurers Pen
Wrapping it Up . Winter Bird Report . District Meeting and Up-coming Dates

**The Official Publication of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Winter 2018/2019 – Volume 64 – Issue 3**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer went by too quickly! It was a joy to tour gardens, attend the farmers market, and watch the flowers bloom and enjoy the vegetables.

The Rocky Mountain Region Fall Board was held in Fort Robinson, Nebraska on August 24-25. The Fort was established in the late 1800's as a Calvary Post and served as a training site for military dogs during World War II. The meetings were informative with reports of activities of their clubs from the eight state presidents. The Region has a disaster fund and clubs from any of the eight states can apply for up to \$200 to restore a project that has been damaged by a natural disaster. The RMR Life Members also has a \$200 scholarship they would like to award to a deserving student. The applications for these monies are available on the RMR Web Site. The clubs in Montana were well represented in the RMR awards received. The listing of these awards can be found on our Web Site.

Next year the RMR Fall Board will be held in Missoula August 23-24. Jim Sadler is chairing the planning committee for this event. The theme will be: "*Rondeveu in Missoula*". Jim may be asking for help so please be ready to say, "*Yes!*"

Sherry and I attended the National Garden Club Fall Board from September 28-29 in Orlando, Florida. There were many workshops as well as the business meetings and programs with each meal. Phyllis White presented an excellent workshop on Social Media for Garden Clubs, which I attended. I also attended a workshop on the Flower Show Achievement Awards

Dr. Rick Shoellhorn presented information on his experience working with the Proven Winners Program. His talk included information on the changes in the plant production industry from being a local business to being led by the big box stores such as Home Depot and how this impacts what is available to gardeners to plant.

Dennis Cathcart, our speaker at lunch on Friday has spent much of his career collecting, studying and photographing exotic plants with the main focus being bromeliads. He shared pictures of these plants growing in many different environments from deserts to the tropics. They are a very beautiful plant that doesn't survive outdoors in Montana but can be a house plant.

Janice Hamlin, a nationally recognized floral designer, presented a program using a number of new techniques such as braiding leaves and incorporating rolls of cardboard. Very interesting!!

We were able to tour the green houses at the Epcot Center/Disney World. My favorite part was seeing how they made all of the topiaries and built watering systems into the forms to keep the plants alive and growing. We also visited the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs building and grounds which were very lovely. Our final tour was at Leu Gardens which contained many beautiful plants including some very old trees that had survived hurricanes in the past. The Director of the Gardens explained that replanting, after a hurricane has taken out large trees and in general made a mess, is a major task.

MFGC 2017-2019 OFFICERS & DISTRICT DIRECTORS

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Western District #2

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

Linda Sadler, Chairman

Denise Fink

Phyllis White

Norman DeNeal

Darlene Skari

Ruth Layton

Mary Davis

Mary Olsen

Marie Jones

MONTANA Gardens

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www.MTFGC.org

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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

DEADLINE / ISSUE

March 1, 2019 – Spring 2019

July 1, 2019 – Summer/Fall 2019

November 1, 2019 – Winter 2019-2020

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am very proud to represent Montana at these events. Thank you for this opportunity.

Our own Fall Board held in Ennis October 5-6 was a great event. The host clubs were Whitehall Garden Club and The Belgrade Bloomers Garden Club. Our theme was "*The Incredible Vegetables*" with fun decorations made out of vegetables and fruits. Forty four members attended. On Friday evening, Pat Biggs (aka: Alexis Trebek) led us in a laughter filled game of **Jeopardy** with questions about gardening, the different clubs activities and our organization. Who knew it would be so difficult to make noise with a kazoo!! Saturday's meeting included reports from the officers and committee chairs. *We are a busy organization!* Glenna Waltee presented a very interesting program in the afternoon titled "5000 Years of Vegetables". Thank you to the many members who contributed to help make this a very successful event. Various committees will be working over the next months to evaluate our awards and make recommendations at our June convention. A committee was also appointed to review the Foundation Grant program and to make recommendations at convention.

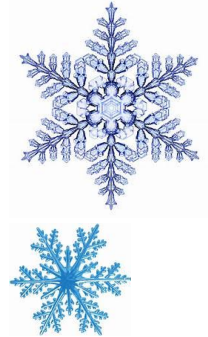
It is with regret that we accepted the resignation of Connie Leatherman as 2nd Vice President. She plans to continue to work with the Townsend Garden Club and serve as the District Director for Lewis and Clark District #4.

Glenna Waltee of the Whitehall Garden Club

has been elected to fill the position of 2nd Vice President until a regular election is held in June 2019.

On November 11 the Hoe and Hope Garden Club in Big Timber held the dedication of their Blue Star Memorial Marker. Congratulations! This will be the 20th marker in our state. These markers are such a great reminder to all of us of the sacrifices that our military members have made to help keep our country free.

I wish all of you a very wonderful holiday season from Thanksgiving and Christmas and on through the New Year's celebrations!



Joyce Hendricks
MFGC President
2017-2019

MFGC has a new Webmaster!

Elaine Wood is our new MFGC webmaster. Elaine N. Wood (pictured at her computer below) has been a member of the Great Falls Flower Growers for 11 years and has served as the club's president. She is a Cascade County Level III Master Gardener, Cascade County Extension Office Food Preservation Specialist, Current President of the Smith River Homemaker's Club and she has just started a new honey bee hive (*her first one*) and is hoping for a successful year.

Please send your information for the MFGC Web site to Elaine at mfgweb@gtfalls.com. **Thank you, Elaine, for volunteering to take on this important job.**

A special thank you goes out to Phyllis White for her years spent managing the Montana Federation of Garden Club's website and as **Montana Gardens** editor. Phyllis is now the Website Chairman for the RMR, she serves on the NGC Communications Committee, is the NGC Social Media Chairman and editor of the NGC newsletter, "**Keeping In Touch.**" *Thanks for leading MFGC into the electronic communication age!*

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There's a New Nest in Town!

By Sue Leferink, Bees Chairman

A simple way to increase pollination in your garden is to put up a native bee house. Many native bees have no stinger or if they do, it is not any worse than a mosquito bite!



The partnership with National Garden Clubs and Crown Bees for discounted nesting materials has come to an end, but there is another environmentally friendly company in Canada that wants to promote healthy native bee colonies and is willing to support garden clubs by supplying discounts. Armstrong & Blackbury's Pollen Bee Nests are available for \$20 each. They are constructed from 100% recycled styrene Material components. These nests provide nesting protection and improve health. Nesting hole sizes vary to attract a variety of native bees in each nest. Proprietary granular rock filler prevents mites from traveling between tubes and moisture from destroying developing bees. It also insulates nest during winter. The waterproof baffles protect the tubes from attack by birds and rodents. Nests includes self-adhesive discs to cover the nest tube ends as they become filled for an extra layer of protection from predators and weather. These discs can be removed in the spring but if forgotten, the bees will safely chew through the disc when ready to emerge.

To keep nests sanitary, it is recommended that they be cleaned each spring. An optional emergence chamber will fit over the top of the nests to allow bees to emerge but prevents them from returning to dirty tubes.

Z



The chamber and cleaning kit are available for an additional \$15. Cleaning the nest requires reaming out each tube with an appropriate sized drill bit or the reamer set in the cleaning kit. Debris can be cleaned with canned air or a gravity baster. To sanitize tubes, use a pipe cleaner dipped in a bleach solution of one teaspoon of bleach to 8 oz of water, lightly dampen the inside of each tube, being careful not to get them too wet. Allow at least two hours drying time or longer. Once dry, use a pipe cleaner dipped in miticide powder to apply a light coating to the inside of each tube. Remove any loose powder by giving a final blast from the gravity baster and the nest is ready for reuse.

To learn more about these nests visit <http://pollenbeenest.com>. If you are interested in purchasing one of these scientifically designed nests, email helenagardenclub@gmail.com or contact Sue Leferink, 406-439-5206 before May 15th, 2019.

Ordered items will be delivered at the MFGC 2019 Convention. Amount will be due upon delivery.



DO YOU KNOW YOUR VEGETABLES?

(A fun quiz based on Glenna Waltee's presentation at Fall Board – answers on back page)

1. What are the three oldest vegetables known to man?
2. Where did cucumbers originate?
3. What salad plant has narcotic qualities and is good for tired nerves?
4. What major historical event caused vegetables to be introduced to Europe?
5. How many years have turnips been cultivated?



Dedication of the 20th Blue Star Memorial Marker In Montana!



Hoe and Hope Garden Club in Big Timber, MT held a dedication program for the Blue Star Memorial installed in the Lion's Club Park on November 11, 2018 at 11:00am. The program was well attended by about 50 people including:

State president, Joyce Hendricks, President-elect, Sherry Corneleisen, Second Vice President, Glenna Waltee and District 10 Director, Rosemary Power.

The keynote speaker was John Ronnenburg, a veteran residing in Big Timber, who spoke about all the lives just in Sweet Grass County that have been sacrificed in battle during wars to hold on to our freedom. The color guard was from American Legion Post 19. "Taps" was played by Nick Stenberg and the national anthem was sung by students from Sweet Grass High School.

Our garden club is so proud to be able to have this beautiful marker in our community and it is only possible though NGC, they make it affordable through generous donors. Many thanks to everyone that made this a reality!



100 Years Ago

Over 100 years ago, wealthy women had household helpers and even a Nannie, so they had free time for philanthropic and social organizations. During the World War II era most young men were at war and their wives, who were not pregnant, helped the cause becoming "Rosie the Riveters." Following the War, women were not content to be just homemakers. Many auxiliaries, garden clubs and women's organizations flourished.

Today, women's lives have again changed. So what does this have to do with garden club membership? **Everything!** Today most women have a job, a home computer and an I-Phone, but very little free TIME.

Enter the concept of "internet club members."

Instead of attending our general monthly meetings, they might only be able to come to part of a meeting. They can receive minutes via the internet and sign up for projects online. If you have a luncheon meeting, consider putting your program first so working or young members with families can enjoy lunch and the program, but keep in touch via internet minutes. Encourage them to help with special projects. The possibilities are just beginning! Create your own adaptation and share what works for your club's potential new members!

Vanette Nagamori, State Membership Chairman

HELP! We need a Host Club or District for Fall Board, 2019

Will you please discuss with your club or district about hosting MFGC Fall Board, 2019. No one has volunteered to do this yet and we are looking for someone to host this event. We had a wonderful time in Ennis this year with Belgrade and Whitehall hosting. Last year you ventured to Eastern Montana to Glendive and we enjoyed having you come see our part of the state. Now we need someone for this next fall. Can you help please? Missoula is hosting our RMR Fall Board meeting August 23 and 24. MFGC Fall Board is usually held in October. Our National Fall Board Meeting is September 18-20 in Saint Louis.

Other clubs who have hosted in the past are Stevensville, Fort Benton, Malta, Missoula, Anaconda, Glendive, Chinook and Bozeman. If your city is not on this list, can you consider hosting MFGC Fall Board, 2019? There are guidelines on the web to help you with your planning.

Please contact President Joyce Hendricks at rnjhend@charter.net or President-elect, Sherry Corneleisen at sher@midrivers.com or call 406 486-5787. We would love to come to your town next autumn for Fall Board, 2019.

Sherry Corneleisen

MFGC President-elect

MFGC FALL BOARD MEETING REPORT – ENNIS, MONTANA

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs 2018 Fall Board Meeting Minutes

Call to Order - President Joyce Hendricks called the meeting of the 2018 Fall Board to order at 9:12 a.m. on Saturday, October 6th at El Western Cabins in Ennis, MT. Recording Secretary Lynne Weischedel was present.

Opening Exercises - Diane Ward led the Pledge of Allegiance; Joyce Hendricks read the Garden Club Creed; Cheryl Carrol, Chaplain gave the invocation; Joyce Hendricks welcomed everyone to the 2018 Fall Board; Lila Flesjer reported that the 2017 Fall Board Minutes were reviewed and approved by committee

Preliminary Credentials Report

Barbara Willis gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report:

State Officers	5
Club Presidents	10
District Directors	3
State Chairman	11
Advisory Council	6
Garden Club Members	44
First Time attendees	4
Guests	4



Quorum - Phyllis White, Parliamentarian, declared a quorum

Appointment of Committee to Approve the 2018 Fall Board Meeting - The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the MFGC 2018 Fall Board Meeting: Judy Rente, Annie Molluck and Carol Works

Reports of Officers - Joyce Hendricks, President, report on file; Sherry Corneliusen, 1st Vice President, report on file; Sherry Corneliusen, 2019 proposed District Meeting Dates: Eastern Gateway, Miles City – Wednesday, April 10; Hi-Line, Nashua – Thursday, April 11; Yellowstone, Billings (Thumb R Green) – Friday, April 12; Southwestern, Anaconda – Saturday, April 13; Northern, Shelby – Wednesday, April 24; Central, Great Falls – Thursday, April 25; Western, Stevensville – Friday, April 26 and Lewis and Clark, Bozeman – Saturday, April 27. Joyce Hendricks, reported that Connie Leatherman, 2nd Vice President resigned as MFGC 2nd Vice President. The resignation was accepted with regrets; Vicki Barbieri, Treasurer, report on file

Finance Committee - Linda Sadler, Committee Chairman, Annuity Fund needs information about who is on the signature cards and explore what should be done with the Annuity. Motion for a Committee to explore options for the Annuity Fund: Glenna Waltee, Phyllis White and Gail Zarr.

Approved Vicki Barbieri, Treasurer, requested that Clubs pay for their sponsored awards.

Nominating Committee - Linda Sadler, Chairman, reported that the positions of 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, and Recording Secretary will be open and voted on at the 2019 MFGC State Convention. Linda Sadler nominated Sherry Corneliusen as the MFGC President-Elect. Voted - **Passed**. Joyce Hendricks nominated Glenna Waltee as the 2nd Vice President, to serve until the end of this term. Voted - **Passed**

Committee Reports - Vicki Barbieri, Kathy Atkinson Award, on file; Susan Andrews, Flower Show Schedule, awards due by December 1st; Sue Leferink, Bees, Community Gardens, Contender Peach, reports on file; Jim Sadler, RMR Rendezvous in Missoula 2019, on file.

Carol Works, National Garden Clubs Life Member Website, skit

MFGC Webmaster, Elaine Wood, mfgweb@gtfalls.com

Annie Mollock, Yearbooks due now; Youth Contest Entries for Smokey Bear Poster Contest due to Jennifer Strezelczyk, information on the Website. This is the 75th anniversary of the Smokey Bear program so all posters are to feature Smokey only. Vannette Nagamori, Membership Committee, put meeting information on the website, list projects and events to get members who want to." Phyllis White, NGC Social Chairman, Communications NGC has platforms to get the word out – Facebook, different topics every day; Pinterest, National boards on floral design; Keeping in Touch, only available electronically and should be forwarded to every member with email; club Presidents receive information on programs. Patty Schlaeger, *Montana Gardens* managing editor, 12-16 pages, next publication November 1st deadline. Joyce Hendricks appointed an Awards Committee: Myrna McCollum, Pat Biggs, JoLee Burman. Sherry Corneliusen volunteered to help. Audit Committee report, Glenna Waltee, Gail Zarr and Lynne Weischedel examined the financial records and found them to be in order.

Old Business - Diane Ward, Belgrade and Whitehall Clubs want to extend a thank you to everyone for their help.



Belgrade and Whitehall members have fun creating the beautiful "Incredible Edible" centerpieces for the Fall Board



Those who attended the Fall Board had a great selection of bargains to take back home at the Ways and Means tables!



The Western Conference Center in Ennis was a beautiful venue for the Fall Board Meeting!

EL WESTERN CONFERENCE CENTER – OCTOBER 5-6, 2018



Carol Works (L) National Life Members Chairman leads a skit with a little help from her friends.

New Business - Patty Schlaeger, Life Members, 2018 MFGC State Convention omitted the B6 award certificate; largest percentage of increase in Life Members per club; \$25 awarded to Bullhook Blossoms at convention, but certificate now presented.
Lunch Program - Glenna Waltee, *Incredible Edibles*, 4,400 years of Vegetables, Program from NFGC

Garden Club Member of the Year - Gail Zarr was introduced

RMR Awards - Joyce Hendricks presented the awards

2019 MFGC State Convention – June 21-22,

Miles City, Montana, Sleep Inn

Theme: - "Blooming On The Prairie"

RMR Fall Board – August 23-24 - Missoula, Montana

Benediction - Cheryl Carroll

Adjournment - The President adjourned the MFGC 2018 Fall Board at 1:42 p.m. on Saturday, October 6, 2018

Lynne Weischedel, Recording Secretary

Joyce Hendricks, President

Approved by: Judy Rente, Annie Molluck and Carol Works



Just what is Norm praying for??



Our MFGC President and President-Elect are all smiles at the end of a very successful Fall Board Meeting

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Operating Budget Report for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

Income

Membership Dues	\$ 4,118.00
MT Gardens Publication	\$ 30.00
Website Support	\$ -0-
Fundraising	\$ 4,426.00
State Meetings	\$ 2,628.00
Designated Funds	\$ 3,463.74
Suspended Funds	\$ 2,088.00
Promotion/Publicity	\$ 87.17
Insurance	\$ 600.00

Total \$17,440.91

Expenses

National Garden Club Dues	\$ 651.00
MT Gardens Publication	\$ 2,764.48
Website Domain Name	\$ 17.49
Fundraising	\$ 240.00
State, Regional, National Meetings	\$ 3,461.01
Designated Funds	\$ 1,083.96
Suspended Funds	\$ 952.00
Promotion/Publicity	\$ -0-
Insurance	\$ 1,773.00
Computer/Program	\$ 629.97
Supplies	\$ 262.51
Administration	\$ 168.95

Total \$12,004.37

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Operating Budget Report for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

Income

Membership Dues	\$ 8,317.00
MT Gardens Publication	\$ 55.00
Website Support	\$ -0-
Fundraising	\$ 1,685.04
State Meetings	\$ 1,789.95
Designated Funds	\$ 3,364.63
Suspended Funds	\$ 612.00
Promotion/Publicity	\$ -0-
Insurance	\$ 300.00

Total \$16,123.62

Expenses

National Garden Club Dues	\$ 693.00
MT Gardens Publication	\$ 2,514.50
Website Domain Name	\$ 17.49
Fundraising	\$ 286.93
State, Regional, National Meetings	\$ 3,807.05
Designated Funds	\$ 9,006.35
Suspended Funds	\$ 1,112.00
Promotion/Publicity	\$ 20.00
Insurance	\$ 295.39
Miscellaneous	\$ 315.00
Administration	\$ 847.39

Total \$18,619.71

Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Annual Operating Budget Report for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Income

Membership Dues	\$ 7,303.00
MT Gardens Publication	\$ 38.00
Website Support	\$ -0-
Fundraising	\$ 8,612.25
State Meetings	\$ 2,575.37
Designated Funds	\$ 7,831.65
Suspended Funds	\$ 908.00
Promotion/Publicity	\$ 15.00
Insurance	\$ 400.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,030.00

Total \$28,713.27

Expenses

National Garden Club Dues	\$ 374.00
MT Gardens Publication	\$ 3,804.62
Website Domain Name	\$ 17.49
Fundraising	\$ 6,644.63
State, Regional, National Meetings	\$ 3,705.53
Designated Funds	\$ 4,854.44
Suspended Funds	\$ 908.00
Promotion/Publicity	\$ 335.00
Insurance	\$ 1,470.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,281.72
Administration	\$ 655.16

Total \$24,050.59

THIS AND THAT - Sherry Corneliusen, President Elect MFGC

Thank you, Belgrade and Whitehall for hosting such a nice Fall Board in Ennis this past month with a beautiful Creekside venue. The Garden Trivia game was lots of fun, even if my team did not win. We did get chocolate as a consolation prize, so that was great.

Since convention I have attended the RMR Fall meeting in Fort Robinson, Neb and it was an excellent trip. Creuza Squires and I stopped to see Mount Rushmore and saw Reptile Gardens where they had a beautiful display of annuals planted around the attraction. The color combinations of coleus, dahlias, cannas and hibiscus were just breathtaking.

Joyce, Phyllis and I attended the National Fall Board in Orlando, FL and we had a great time. It was 94 degrees and hot and humid there and then I flew into Bismarck to 34 degrees and snow. What an adjustment to my body; 60 degree temperature change in a 24 hour period. We enjoyed the tour of Disney behind the scenes where they showed us the topiaries they use. Then it was off to see Leu Gardens with their diverse collection of plants, beautiful. I showed pictures to my garden club of the diverse Florida plants and floral designs for our past monthly program.

Thanks to all of you and especially to the Helena Garden Club for sending me a report for the "RMR award of excellence". I got my report sent off to the Regional chairman before the due date and let's keep our fingers crossed that we win an award on this project.

Mark your calendars for the District meetings coming up in April. The dates are posted on the web under the "news" drop down box and they are also printed in this issue of the Montana Gardens.

I would like to encourage you all to come to Miles City June 21-22, 2019 for Convention. They are busy making tote bags, we are going to tour a winery and they are planning a fun filled time. I really appreciate them putting on this convention for my installation. So please come help me celebrate next year in Miles City where we will be "Blossoming on the Prairie."

I've enjoyed visiting with all of you as first vice president and I will be calling some of you to help me with the various chairmanships for my term of office coming up next year. Please help me out and if you have questions or concerns feel free to contact me.

Hope most of you got your gardens put to bed for the winter as I did a public meeting on that subject this past month at our library. I was outside the next day and my husband asked me what I was doing and I told him I was heeding my own advice as I had not put my peat moss on my bulbs that I had dug up the week before. Now all my fall gardening chores should be done except for the leaves that just keep falling. Happy Holidays!

Enjoy this special time of year with your family and friends.

FALL MOONS

An NGC Design Specialty Show, "Fall Moons", was held in Great Falls, Montana on September 15, 2018. Hosted by the Central District V, this joint venture by Great Falls Flower Growers, the Rainbow Garden Club and the Dearborn Garden Clubs featured a new style flower show. Divisions included Design, Youth, Botanical Arts, Education and Sponsored Groups. While design is always a magical element of a flower show, it was the new Botanical Arts Division that showcased creativity with flowers in different ways such as collages and plaques, plant exploration with unusual treatments, wearable crafts and decorations, as well as photography.

One hundred twenty three entries created a moony floral fantasy at the Do Hall in Great Falls. NGC and Photography Club judges from throughout the state poured over the many exhibits and awarded nearly every award the schedule listed. ***Top Ribbons awarded were: Div 1 Award of Design Excellence to Nina Eadie of Corvallis; Div 2 Youth Top Exhibitors were member granddaughters Jade Doherty and Alexandra Olson; Div 3 Botanical Arts Division Sweepstakes Award to Nina Eadie; and Div 4 Education Division to Sue O'Leary.*** Many more ribbons were awarded at Section levels including Top Exhibitors and Blue, Red, and Yellow and White placements. ***Additionally both the Loretta Day People's Choice Award and the Sweepstakes Award to the exhibitor with the most total points amassed were awarded to Patty Howse.***

A number of people made this show successful, whether their effort was in one category, like contributing to raffle success, staging and placement, refreshments, clerking or judging, or entering exhibits or overall like Treasurer Myrna McCollum, Registrar Gail Zarr, Photographer Gaila Fundis, and the Presidents Pat Biggs, Kathy Austin and Coleen Mason. They all did an amazing job getting this new and complicated show up and running. ***Sue O'Leary, Patty Howse and Jeannie Bennett are deeply thankful for everyone's efforts in making this a beautiful show.***

Pictured at right (top) is a view of the flower show at the Do Hall and (bottom) Jeannie Bennett (left) and Patty Howse (right) welcome visitors to the Do Hall in Great Falls.





SAVE THE DATE

June 21-22, 2019

- * MFGC Convention, Miles City, Montana
- * Sleep Inn and Suites, 1006 S Haynes Ave.
- * Theme - "Blooming on the Prairie"

Our committee is planning tours of a winery and a tree farm, a chuck wagon dinner and a hay ride. Please bring items for the ways and means table and/or silent auction. The Miles City Garden Club is working hard on this convention and we're looking forward to everyone joining us on the Prairie.

"Blooming on the Prairie" **MFGC Convention, Miles City, Montana**

Rocky Mountain Region 2018 Awards:



Dearborn Garden Club:

3A: Garden Club Yearbook

Belgrade Bloomers:

3E: Writing: **Nancy Riebe:** Award for publication by a magazine or newspaper

10 F: Civic Development: Outstanding Community Outreach Program

17: Fundraising

Rainbow Garden Club:

Patricia Schlaeger: Garden Therapy Chair:

1C: Colorado Award: Garden Therapy: Provides a Service to a Group of People

7B: Trees: Educational Program Regarding The Importance of Trees

Patricia Schlaeger: Conservation Chair:

2A Kansas Award: Conservation: Educational Activity or Program

11A: Conservation and Environmental Concerns: Educational or Legislative Activity Program

Patricia Schlaeger: 26C: Photography: Camera: Promoting the Social Bee.

Amy Grisak: 3E Montana Award: Writing: Article for publication by a magazine or newspaper.

Kathy Austin: President: 10F: Civic Development: Outstanding Community Outreach Program.

Lynne Mahan: Budding Geniuses Leader: 12F: Butterfly Gardening: Designed by a Garden Club or Group of Garden Clubs.

Lynne Mahan and Jane Snowberger: 16C Youth Awards: Youth Club Project that Promotes Planting and Growing in an outside area.

National Garden Club Awards: 2018

First Place for Yearbooks:

Dearborn Garden Club (30-40 members)

Malta Dirt Daubers (20-29 members)



Congratulations to all these clubs and members who submitted their applications for the Rocky Mountain Region Awards and the National Garden Club Awards!

MFGC AWARDS INFORMATION FOR 2019

MFGC RESOURCE PERSON:

SHERRY CORNELIUSEN –1st VP/President Elect

STATE AWARDS CHAIRPERSON: MYRNA F. McCOLLUM - GFFG

STATE AWARDS COMMITTEE MEMBERS: PAT BIGGS - GFFG

JoLEE BURMAN – **DEARBORN GARDEN CLUB**

State Awards Books of Evidence are due to Myrna F. McCollum, by April 15, 2019. The Awards are divided into five categories:

A: MFGC STATE AWARDS: These awards are given by MFGC, INC, previous presidents

B: Awards: These awards are given by an individual or garden club

C: Awards: These awards follow the same rules and requirements as identified in the NGC Guidelines

D: Youth Awards: All applications to be sent to State Awards Chairman

E: Flower Show Awards: All applications to be sent to: Susan Andrews – 2429 Bridger Hills Drive, Bozeman, MT 59715-7654

NOTE: CATEGORIES A – D are due to MFGC STATE AWARDS

CHAIRMAN, by APRIL 15, 2019: MYRNA F. McCOLLUM - CHAIRMAN

4413 CENTRAL AVENUE, GREAT FALLS, MT 59405-1643

(406)452-1431 mccollum@bresnan.net

FLOWER SHOW CATEGORY E is due to MFGC FLOWER AWARDS

CHAIRMAN STATE AWARDS/SCHEDULE DUE DATE – APRIL 15, 2019

NATIONAL FLOWER SHOW ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS DUE DATE -

DECEMBER 1, 2018 SUSAN ANDREWS – CHAIRMAN

2429 BRIDGER HILLS DR., BOZEMAN, MT 59715-7654

(406)582-4135 sugar30@littleappletech.com

Please make an effort to send in Books of Evidence for the different award categories. **LET OUR COMMUNITIES KNOW WHAT MFGC CLUBS ARE ALL ABOUT!** The Awards Committee will be more than happy to assist you in any way we can.

ONCE AGAIN, THE DUE DATE IS APRIL 15, 2019. If You would like to bring your award application to one of your club meetings, please do so. The applications can be forwarded on to the chairperson.

LET'S HAVE A REMARKABLE YEAR!!!!

AROUND MONTANA'S BIG SKY

Miles City Garden Club

We were the superintendents for the Flora & Youth Barn at the August Custer County Fair. This year's theme was Under the Sea". Up went the fishing nets and an undersea garden of coral. The Club did a wonder job decorating and managing. We purchased a fabric wall hanging from Linda Klamm to raffle off as a fundraiser.



This year's Annual Fall Bake Sale included plants. We sold quite a few plants! We're going to try this again in May at the farmers market.

Every week June-October we select a "Garden of the Week" here in Miles City. In October, we choose a weekly garden to become "Garden of the Year". This year Sue Noble's yard was chosen. She will receive a gift certificate and a free membership to the garden club for 2019.

To keep in step with last year's book donation *The Saved Seed*, this year we donated the *The Frightened Frog*, a NGC book, to the Miles City Library, Head Start and the following elementary schools: Jefferson, Highland Park, Garfield and Sacred Heart.

We are partnering with Gallagher's Family Restaurant to donate Thanksgiving meals again this year. We will purchase 18 gift certificates which will be passed out by a family service agency in town. The certificates will allow the recipients to enjoy a sit down meal in the restaurant Thanksgiving Day.

Our Annual Christmas Party December 13th, will be held at the Tongue River Winery this year. The entertainment will come from Sacred Heart Elementary School's musical department. They will receive a donation for their efforts.

We have been busy all year preparing for the 2019 MFGC Annual Convention in Miles City. Part of that preparation has been cleaning and planting gardens at our Blue Star Memorial in the Pine Hills Park. The staff and residents at the Pine Hills Youth Correctional Facility have been a big help in maintaining the garden.

Dearborn Garden Club

Summer has gone! We celebrated July with our annual picnic and in August we toured the NOAA Weather station in Great Falls which was preceded by lunch at Dante's. September we were back to our usual venue and the program was "All you wanted to know about bats" given by our own Marcie Bateman. October's program was given by Pam McKeever from the Great Falls Flower Growers speaking about the "Devastation of Forest Fires" as she watched forest fires burn around her home in Lincoln in 2017. This program fit so well with our Pennies for Pines program. In attendance at this October potluck meeting, was MFGC's Garden Member of the Year, Gail Zarr. Our November meeting program was a panel of Master Gardeners from Great Falls moderated by our own Carol Brady, answering all our questions about gardening, horticulture, house plants, etc. All District garden club members were invited. December will be our usual Christmas party, stuffing of 50 Christmas stockings and a gift and cookie exchange.

DEARBORN GARDEN CLUB received two National Awards: Publicity and Yearbook. Programs this year were: Drip Irrigation, Humming Birds, Monarch Butterflies, National Weather Station, Six Honorary members were recognized for 34 years to 29 years. Projects are HiWay Clean Up (*Spring and Fall*), maintaining 911 Garden and Friendship Garden, donating a Scholarship, preparing a float for the PRCA rodeo parade. We planted 14 barrels in Cascade which the businesses, churches, etc. maintain. The barrels are judged in July, August, and September. We donate to the Rescue Mission, Great Falls Children's Home, Cascade Food Pantry and Pennies for Pines. We continue to have no-host lunches in January and February.

(Right) Dearborn members clear the Joe's Trail head of trash and leaves

Townsend Garden Club

Saturday, October 13, we hosted our "End-of-Season Tea" at the highway 12 Cafe. Missy put on a lovely spread for us and we had guests from Belgrade, Three Forks and Helena. We played Garden Jeopardy and a memory game and everyone had a great time.

Pictured below are: Top (L to R) Carolyn Hudnall, (MG, E. Helena), Betsy Heckel, (Belgrade) Glynis Scott, Christi Mock, (Helena), Lynette Dyk, Darcy Wiedman Bottom (L to R) Kerin McCarver, (Three Forks) Connie Leatherman, President and Marilyn Lane, VP.



SPECIAL HOLIDAY SALES FEATURE GREAT FALLS GARDEN CLUB PROJECTS

* The Great Falls Flower Growers will hold a special fund-raising Tea and Bazaar. "Star Bright" on Thursday, December 6 at the Central Assembly of God Social Hall which will feature floral arrangements, baked goods, homemade crafts and raffle items.

* Rainbow Garden Club will hold a holiday bake and craft sale at the Eagles Lodge on Thursday, December 13. The members have been baking, sewing and making a variety of holiday décor for those with limited space.

BOTH EVENTS ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC!



FROM THE TREASURER'S PEN

BIG SKY STARS

Thank you Belgrade and Whitehall Garden Clubs for hosting our Fall Board meeting in Ennis. It was a beautiful venue with crisp autumn air.

Sherry Corneliusen, President-Elect MFGC

A Big Sky Star to "Stone Tihista, Valley County Weed Control Specialist"

Gumbo Gals of Nashua

Congratulations to the Hoe and Hope Garden Club of Big Timber on the dedication of their Blue Star Memorial Marker. It is situated in a very nice park that can be viewed by all who drive by.

Joyce Hendricks, MFGC President

We had a great Fall Board Meeting in Ennis thanks to Belgrade and Whitehall Garden Clubs. I appreciate all you did to make this meeting a great success and a fun time. **Joyce Hendricks, MFGC President**

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

I wish you all a wonderful and safe holiday season. **Joyce Hendricks, President**

Happy Holidays! May peace, love and joy surround you as you celebrate the holiday season with family and friends.

Sherry Corneliusen - President elect, MFGC

Seasons Greetings to our sister clubs, our MFGC president, Joyce, Sherry, Glenna and Vicki and in particular to our District #5 clubs and District Director Ivy Jackson. Enjoy the time with family and friends. Thanks for what you do. **Dearborn Garden Club**

Love, Joy and Peace to our gardening friends from the **Gumbo Gals of Nashua**

NEW MEMBERS

Saco Garden Club -

Donn Korma

Gallatin Empire Garden Club new members:

Mary Theresa Holmes,

marytyerholmes@earthlink.net

Mary Ann Marchi, marchie@homeinstead.com

Patricia Sava, savadesigns@gmail.com

Rainbow Garden Club

Patricia Kraus and Susan Yurman

Great Falls Flower Growers

Beth Rippee

Gallatin Empire Garden Club

Nancy Rote

Missoula Garden Club

Nyta Ballard, nlblrd1116@gmail.com

Nancy Dold, nancy.dold@umontans.edu

Merrily Dunham, merrilyrider@gmail.com

Trisha Larsen, trish@larsenusa.com

Stevensville Garden Club

Beverly Geary, bevmg@hotmail.com

NEW LIFE MEMBER

Gallatin Empire Garden Club

Nancy Rote

LIFE MEMBER'S ROSE

The \$50 Life Member Rose drawing winner was **Judy Fetting. Dearborn Garden Club**

IN MEMORIUM

Joan Swails of the Gumbo Gals in Glasgow was killed in an accident over Thanksgiving weekend. ***Our prayers go out to her family and friends.***

WRAPPING IT UP

It's that time of year when I am in the middle of my "blanket gardening." I don't miss a single evening weather forecast so I know when I have to cover my few remaining plants and when I can safely leave them uncovered to capture the first heat from the morning sun. *What is the benefit of going to all this trouble?* Well, I just was able to pull my tomato plants last month and put several pounds of green tomatoes in the garage, which ripen and give me nice red tomatoes for salads and soups, and, I have been able to "clip" fresh parsley, rosemary and celery leaves for cooking. My broccoli plants are still producing cuttings (*even those that remained uncovered by the creek*) and it's already December!! Too bad 150 sheep got into the yard and ate all my cabbage plants earlier last month or I would have lots of fresh cabbage heads to brag about.

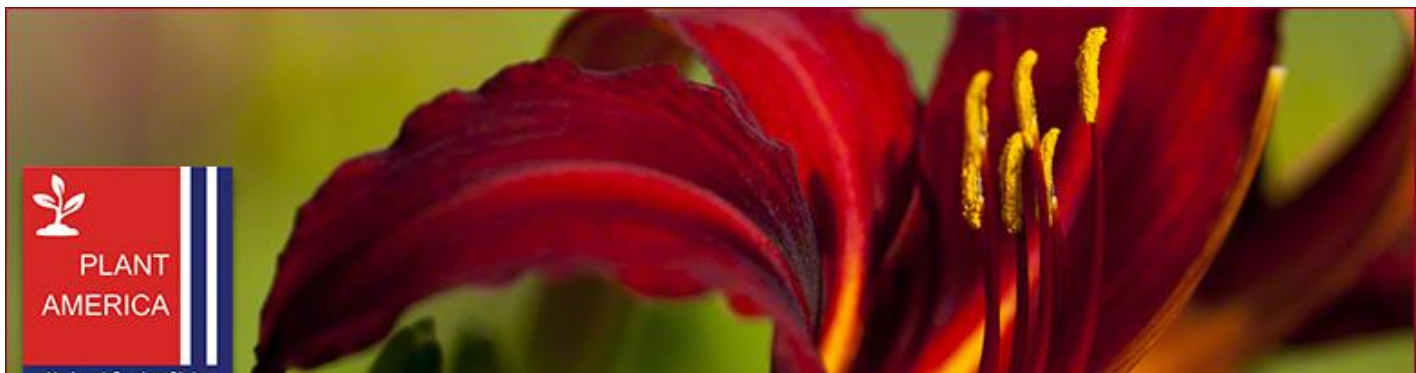


I enjoyed attending the Fall Board Meeting in Ennis and seeing all the large vegetables the sponsoring clubs brought to the event. I took home some of the huge zucchinis to show my little squash what a "real" zucchini looked like. They responded with humiliation and died on the vine. Oh well, those that came home with me from Ennis were eaten with great pleasure.

I hope you have your gardens "put to sleep" for the winter so the anticipation of spring planting can dominate your thoughts. We can now sit back and enjoy the change from the beautiful colors of fall to the magic sparkling of snow in the coming winter months.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy new year!

PATRICIA SCHLAEGER, EDITOR



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facebook.com/MontanaGardens

Visit our website at www.MTFGC.org



The National Garden Clubs, does more than just green your thumb. We connect you with people, plants, and programs that provide inspiration, information, and valuable resources. The Rocky Mountain Region and the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs are all part of NGC with access to all the benefits of this organization.

Help Us Plant America!
Every member can make a difference!



OUR BIRDS CAN USE A LITTLE HELP TO MAKE IT THROUGH THE WINTER MONTHS

Birds are well equipped to survive the coldest of temperatures. They store fat during the short days of winter to keep themselves warm during the long nights. During those freezing nights, they fluff their feathers to trap heat and slow their metabolism to conserve energy. But don't take down your birdhouses in the winter. A birdhouse makes a great roosting house during the winter months.

Add peanut butter to your suet treats. Peanut butter is a very nourishing food for birds, especially in winter when the production of fat is important to their survival. The myth that peanut butter will stick in their throats and choke them simply isn't true.

Birds like to drink from a heated birdbath, if the temperature is well below freezing. Some people worry that the birds will bathe in it and freeze if they get their feathers wet. If you're worried about this, offer warm water to drink, but make it too deep or inaccessible for the birds to bathe in. They will avoid getting their feathers wet.

Our birds will appreciate all you can do to help make it through the up-coming cold winter months!

Nelone Nielson, Birds and Habitats Chairman



*Season's Greetings from your MFGC officers
Advisory Board and District Directors*

DATES TO REMEMBER

2019 Proposed District Meetings for MFGC:

Eastern Gateway, Miles City – Wednesday, April 10
Hi-Line, Nashua – Thursday, April 11
Yellowstone, Billings – Friday, April 12, Thumb R Green
Southwestern, Anaconda – Saturday, April 13
Northern, Shelby – Wednesday, April 24
Central, Great Falls – Thursday, April 25
Western, Stevensville – Friday, April 26
Lewis & Clark, Bozeman – Saturday, April 27

National Convention, Biloxi, Mississippi
April 30 – May 4, 2019

MFGC Convention, Miles City Montana
June 21-22, 2019

"Prairie Blossoms" theme

RMR Fall Board Meeting, Missoula, Montana
August 23-24, 2019

Answers to the quiz on page 4:

1. Turnips, onions and radishes
2. The West Indies
3. Lettuce
4. The Crusades
5. 4,000 years



Here is the link to the presentation Glenna gave at Fall Board -
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1KtCYTDIOJ4lf9wTtUG7TcovlxCDOLhi/view?usp=sharing>