Petals newsletter

February, 2021



Hello Presidents, District Directors, Executive Officers, and Chairmen of MFGC,

Happy Valentine’s Day to each of you. The MFGC Executive Committee has been meeting via Zoom trying to plan District meetings and our Annual Meeting. We have placed phone calls to all the District Directors and some of our club presidents and asked if we should hold in person meetings, do them with Zoom and we also visited about their thoughts and feelings about their clubs and COVID in general.

After feedback from each of the Districts we decided to move our District meetings to June this year. We will be contacting each District Director and ask if they will host and if they would offer an invitation to the President, First Vice President and Second Vice President to attend.

We know this past year has been very trying due to COVID. We have heard of a lot of clubs not meeting at all because of the pandemic. However, by June we hope most of us have received our vaccines and we are back to doing in person meetings and can carry out our mission of networking with our members and clubs to promote the love of gardening, floral design, civic and environmental responsibility.

To help us become more educated with floral design, we would like to introduce you to a program called “The Traveling Flower Show.”

    My idea is to create a program for the Districts that want to participate.  The officers would bring along with them, the entry tags, ribbons, and signage. The locals may have to be relied upon for containers for the hort or in the alternative exhibitors will just have to furnish their own clear container.     Before the meetings, the District would be sent a schedule for a miniature design show with regular horticulture.  All of the district shows would have the same theme.   At the time of the meeting folks would enter their designs and hort.   Judging would occur and ribbons placed.  It may be a little ad hoc in the judging, but because it is just for fun, the rules will have to be a bit forgiving.

   The purpose is to expose clubs to flower shows.  It is my belief that an aura of difficulty and expense has crept into flower shows.  I would like to demonstrate the original reason for having them and the reason is to have fun.  Contact Jim Sadler, 406-728-4743,[***jimsadler1220@gmail.com***](mailto:jimsadler1220@gmail.com)*with questions.*

The Executive Committee will be contacting each District Director again in the upcoming month to visit with you about all of this and asking what date in June may work for you.

I would like to thank Patty Howse and Central District for volunteering to host our Annual Meeting which we have moved to September 10-11 in Great Falls. More details will follow in the next Montana Gardens.

I offer encouragement for each of your clubs to keep up the good fight and continue to hold your meetings one way or the other. Warmer weather should be coming and we can do more socializing outside, if necessary. Take care; stay healthy and looking forward to our upcoming meetings.

Sherry Corneliusen, MFGC President