

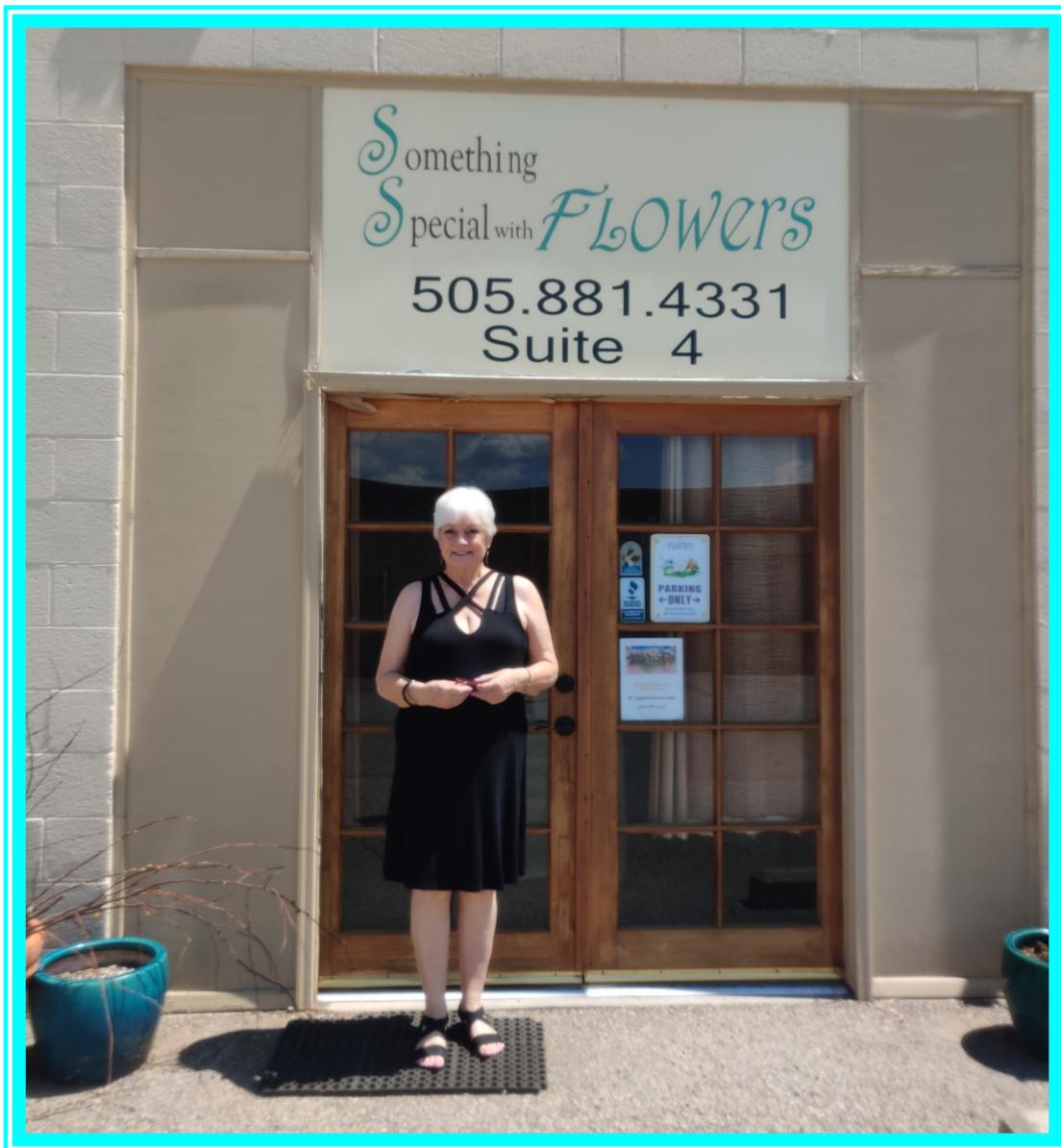


*New Mexico Gardener*  
Quarterly Newsletter of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.

Volume 50 No. 5

September/October/November 2022

## ***Fall 2022 Issue***





*Growing in Harmony in the  
Land of Enchantment—  
Christine Longthorp*

## *President's Message*

**Greetings New Mexico Garden Club members,**

The Monsoons are upon us relieving our parched land and making a forest of weeds grow in our yards and highways. I am certainly not complaining after the fires and drought that have also plagued our beautiful State. My hope is that you have all had a huge success in growing flowers and food for our tables and to enter in all of the County and State Fair Flower shows. Our Flower Show Judges have travelled around the State to judge these shows and you will see some photos in this edition. Also remember to wear your t-shirts and aprons and/ or badges to promote your clubs and increase our membership.

At the end of July a Judges Symposium was hosted at the Albuquerque Garden Center-the first since before the pandemic and about 50 people attended. Many came from other states including Virginia, Arizona, Oklahoma and Texas. Those of you who are not Flower Show Judges were very welcome and I hope you learned a lot from the expert Instructors on horticulture and design. Thank you for supporting this wonderful learning opportunity, and thank you to all who organized and worked on this event.

Now that the NGC Convention is in our rear view mirror I remembered a product that we received a sample of that I have used and can vouch for. It is called PittMoss. It was featured and funded by Shark Tank and is a recycled paper replacement for sphagnum moss. Look for it online and try out a bag on your pots, as I did and note the difference in water retention and it also feels good to know we are recycling paper.

The NM State Fair is almost here and we are back in the Flower building which is more convenient so I am looking forward to seeing everyone enter and help serve the public by exhibiting.

On October 18th we will hold a one day NMGC Fall board meeting at the Marriott Courtyard. This year it will be attended by members of the Executive board, Past Presidents and District Directors only for all the reasons we have shared in the Summer edition of the Gardener and at the State Convention.

**Continued on next page**

## President's Message continued .....

Next year, 2023, our Annual NMGC Convention will be held at the same location on April 11th and 12th. As usual the first day will be the Executive board and NM Judges meetings followed by a design program and dinner. The NMGC general meeting will be on April 12th. This is an extra special convention because our National President Mary Warshauer will be attending and our incoming NMGC President Debra Sorrell will be installed. Please plan to attend and support our hard working members. The more the merrier...

I will close with gratitude for all the hospitality I have received over this past year. It has been the best to be out travelling the State and seeing you all again.

*Christine Lenthorp, President*



Gladiolus blooming in Darice Ambrose's garden. They were a gift to all convention attendee for the NM Judges Council program from NMJC President, Suzy Andrego, because "she was glad we came" to the NMJC program and dinner .



## Message from Our First Vice President, *Debra Sorrell*

I love this time of year for Garden Club! There is always a lot of planning, learning, work and anticipation for each area's local fair. Some county fairs have happen already and many are coming up. It's so much fun to travel around and see everyone's flower shows! I can tell that your local garden clubs have been encouraging members, old and new, to participate in their fair. The variety of things being grown around our state is amazing!

I have recently taken a couple of trips with Past President Suzy Andrego and President Christine Longthorp to Grants. The combined Cibola/McKinley County fair has not had a flower show of any kind for quite some time and they wanted some help with how to add one. We agreed to teach them a couple of design types that could be entered in the fair. The first time we went, we had 22 people attend. Everyone made a small design to take and appeared to have a terrific time. The next time we went, they had 45 people (including 2 men) sign up!! They told us they had to turn others down. On Friday, September 2, three of us will go and judge their flower show. I'm very excited to see how many entries there will be. All of this has generated a good deal of excitement about a possible garden club in Grants! And, maybe one in Gallup! Obviously, there is still much interest in what we do. That has been so encouraging to me!

I am honored to be attending the 75th anniversary of Los Alamos Garden Club in early September. Clubs that have such a long history are the foundations of our state's participation in National Garden Club. Congratulations to them for this achievement!

Remember to come to Albuquerque to enter the State fair. This is an opportunity for ALL the counties around our state to show their stuff in the Flower Building. Together, we can make it great!



## Message from District I Director, Sonia James

Hello all, Don't you love this rain? We are getting ready for our Fall Board Meeting and Brunch to be held on October 10th. The program and menu should be interesting and we'll have lots of door prizes as usual. I will send out all the information in a couple of weeks. The State Fair starts next week. Be sure and stop by the flower building to see the beautiful floral designs, flowers, fruit, vegetables and horticulture. The 50th Anniversary of the International Balloon Fiesta Is being held the first week in October and will be celebrating it's 50th year. We are beginning to plan the details of the Annual NM Garden Clubs Convention which District I is hosting in Albuquerque,

April 11 & 12, 2023. We are off to a busy fall season! Hope to see all of you very soon.



## Message from Our Second Vice President,

### *Joyce Zaugg*

#### The Three R's of Membership

The National Garden Club Membership committee has been offering online Zoom Programs about healthy membership. The program series is called the 3 Rs of membership. I shared with you in the Summer 2022 edition of the New Mexico Gardener the first of these three Rs— Recruitment. Now I would like to tell you about the second R which is Retain.

You have advertised, promoted your club by passing out flyers, and been an ambassador to the general public about how fun and exciting your club is. As a result you have new members who want to lead, members who want to create, members who will make your district, state, and region better. How do you now retain them and make them glad they joined.

The first step is to know your members. Are they working, retired, parents, seniors, youth? This is important in planning programs and setting meeting times.

Second, we must not overwhelm new members too quickly. Members must learn first how our organization works. A great way to do this is through mentorship. Assign a member in good standing to be a mentor to the new member. The mentor and new member sit together during the meetings. The mentor is available between meetings to answer any questions. It might be a good idea if the mentor contacts the new member before the next meeting to see if she/he needs a ride.

Third, we must be good leaders. We must invest in our members with workshops, interesting programs, and community service projects. We need to engage our members in areas that are of interest to them. Many clubs give new members an interest form to fill out. Our objective of retaining members is achieved by our commitment to educate, learn, serve the community, and have fun. Members who are asked to become involved on committees and in club programs tend to stay.

Here are some concrete things you can do in your club.

1. Hands on workshops are always popular.
2. Promote National Garden Club Schools. They are offered in almost every state by experts in the fields of landscape design, flower shows, environment, and gardening.
3. Have fun by planning social get togethers during holidays and special occasions.
4. Eat!! Offer refreshments at your club meetings
5. Name tags that members can pick up as they enter the meeting. You might all know each other but the new member doesn't. Name tags help make them feel more comfortable.

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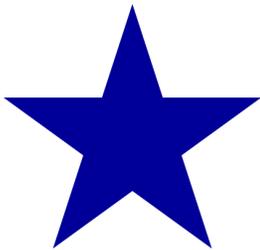


## Message from District II Director, Kersti Rock

District II met on June 9 for the first time in approximately 2 years to begin its return to regular meetings and functions. The current DII executive board is in acting status until the DII's Spring meeting at which time an official slate of officers will be voted on. Acting officers are: Kersti Rock: Director, Ann Cooke: Treasurer, and Joyce Zaugg: Recording Secretary. Doris Jackson is DII Parliamentarian. The District's Fall meeting is being planned for the end of September and long term planning for DII's hosting of the 2024 State Convention is in progress.

DII's three clubs have been busy over the summer. The Los Alamos Garden Club has enjoyed two summer field trips so far - a tour of the La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe and a garden club tour of two club members' gardens. LAGC is also preparing for a celebration of the club's 75th anniversary on September 9. The Floral Designers Club continues to meet monthly and discuss a different floral design type at each meeting. Each member is expected to bring a representative design to the meeting. The goal is to learn and grow as designers. Floral Designers recently welcomed four new members, as mentioned in their club article in this newsletter. The Summit Garden Club achieved a long term goal this June when they dedicated a beautiful, modern, sculpture-like fountain for the White Rock Community Garden. The WRCG is Summit's primary community project. More information from each club is included in their respective articles in this newsletter.

## Blue Star Chairman, Shirley Tetreault, Chairman



# BREAKING NEWS



**Our lost Blue Star is about to have a new home of its own!**

**Las Sembradoras Garden Club members would be VERY PROUD!**

The Blue Star Marker will be placed at the entrance of the Santa Fe National Cemetery, in Santa Fe, NM. The New Mexico Air National Guard will be helping by constructing the pole for installation. It will be seen by everyone that passes through the area. I am excited beyond belief and dedication will be later in the year! WATCH for more information coming your way!

## Message from Our Second Vice President, *continued*

6. Give each new member a New Member Packet. This can include your yearbook, sample of you latest newsletter, a welcome message from your president, an organizational chart, a list of your committees and programs, etc. Our Los Alamos club also includes a gift of a packet of seeds.
7. Have an official “Greeter” at the door of your meeting space to welcome new members and visitors.

The most important thing to remember is that new members are a gift and they are way too important!

**Club rosters and dues are trickling in. There are just six clubs who have not sent in their rosters and dues. Please make this a priority.**

## YOUH ACTIVITIES, *Lynnette Walker, Chairman*



Photo: google.com

**It's New Mexico State Fair time!** This is the hectic time of the year for youth as they return to school and start all of their other activities outside of school like dance, music, and sports. I understand that they may be too busy to keep up with the garden chores, but let's keep encouraging them to get their hands dirty for the ultimate goal of entering their bounty at the “Future Fair Fanatics” Youth Shows this year. There will be a show on Saturday, September 10, 2022 and Saturday, September 17, 2022. The Youth Flower Show Schedule is available at the Albuquerque Garden Center on Lomas. There is even a design in the Youth Show called “Mascot Mania” where youth bring in a design of their favorite team's mascot made out of fruit, vegetables, flower, or seeds. They can use any of them in combination or alone to create their mascot. I am looking forward to seeing all the fun designs. What about you?

## Archives Chairman, *Becky Fuller Chairman*

Club Presidents, please get any materials you may want archived at the NMSU Library to your District Director at your Fall District Board meeting.

*District Directors, please bring any materials to be archived to the NMGC Fall Board meeting in Albuquerque on October 18<sup>th</sup>.*

*I will be attending.*



## Life Membership & Scholarship *Sue Ferguson, Chairman,*

### **LIFE MEMBERSHIPS MAKE GREAT GIFTS**

### **or HONORS for ANYONE!**

THE NMGC Annual Scholarship is funded by the sale of NMGC Life Memberships, NMGC Membership pins, and Book of Memory donations. A NMGC Life Membership comes with a Commemorative Life Membership pin and costs \$40. They make great gifts for anyone! The NMGC Membership pin costs \$20 and again makes a great gift for yourself or a friend. More details about the Scholarship Program can be found on our website. Please visit and see the different ways you could help support this most worthwhile project.

#### Order From

Sue Ferguson

5065 Bright Sky Road

Roswell, NM 88201

[sjferguson@plateau.email](mailto:sjferguson@plateau.email)



## Horticulture Chairman, Ellen Reed - Fall Planted Spring Bulbs

Bulb catalogs are out now with their tantalizing pictures and it is the time to order for the best selection. Conditions around most of New Mexico are well suited to the growth of spring flowering bulbs. Narcissus (daffodils and jonquils) are very happy in our sunny, cool spring weather. They usually persist and multiply for many years if they are fertilized regularly and divided when too crowded. Groups of three's to groups of hundred's make the best display. The many varieties will provide blooms from February through late April.

Certain tulips are successful here in New Mexico, especially those derived from *T. greigii*, *T. fosterana* and *T. kaufmanniana*. Many of the tall Darwin hybrids will rebloom for several years and the species *T. batalinii* may even multiply. In the garden tulips may be scattered among perennials or clustered in clumps of at least three. The species may be used in rock gardens, at the front of beds or among low growing ground covers such as thyme or buffalo grass. *T. clusiana* "candy stick tulip" and *T. saxatilis* tend to spread widely by underground stolens and become ground covers of leaves. Keep them out of rock gardens and perennial beds. Tulips can be grown at the base of deciduous trees and shrubs where they are kept dry when dormant since the tree roots use any excess water. Snow drops (*Galanthus* sp.) thrive in cooler shadier positions. *G. elweisii* tolerates our heat and dryness better than *G. nivalis*.

Many of the smaller bulbs i.e.: crocus, muscari, (grape hyacinths), scilla, pushkinia and reticulata iris may be naturalized in low ground covers. Many will self sow, some viciously (muscari, scilla and species crocus).

Most bulbs thrive in well drained soil containing humus. Dig a high phosphate fertilizer into the bottom of a planting hole to encourage strong roots and blooms. Start planting daffodils in September. Tulips prefer cooler soil and may be planted in October and until ground freezes. Set bulbs at a dept about two times their largest dimension. Basal plate goes down. Water after planting, during the fall and during the winter when soil is thawed. Scatter a balanced fertilizer around the clumps as leaves emerge in the spring. Keep leaves healthy and watered until they mature naturally.

Continued on Page ..... 14





*Do you like shooting pictures of plants, birds, wildlife, insects, butterflies, or landscapes?*

*Are you a member of New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.?*

If so, then you qualify to submit your photos for the annual  
**New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., Photographic Print of the Year Photography Contest!**

For more information go to the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., website

[\(http://www.newmexicogardenclubs.org/\)](http://www.newmexicogardenclubs.org/)

and under the Awards tab, peruse the NMGC Awards Handbook (2021 Revision)

[http://www.newmexicogardenclubs.org/awards2021/2021 Awards Handbook Revised October 2021.pdf](http://www.newmexicogardenclubs.org/awards2021/2021%20Awards%20Handbook%20Revised%20October%202021.pdf) ).

**DEADLINE IS JANUARY 31, 2023,**

**BUT GET OUT THERE AND SHOOT PHOTOS NOW!!**

***Remember, you must be an NMGC, Inc., member to enter!***

for more information, contact 2022 NMGC, Inc., Photography Awards Chairman

Page Steed at [page@psventuresinc.com](mailto:page@psventuresinc.com)



**2021 PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT OF THE YEAR**

Sandhill Crane Flying Past the Moon

**Beverly Cooper**

Summit Garden Club,

Los Alamos, New Mexico

## How Dahlias are Classified for a Flower Show, by Dorothy Duff



Imagine that we are at the NM State Fair and you are looking at a row of dahlias and wonder how the classes are determined. Beyond the specialty form types, dahlias are classified based on their size and form type (structure of the flower) The largest dahlias are either over 10 inches or 8 - 10 inches. Medium dahlias 6-8 " and small dahlias are 4-6" inches. Miniatures are less than 4 inches. Ball shaped dahlias come in two sizes over 3.5 inches and miniatures are 2-3.5 inches. There can be significant variation in size within a class but in New Mexico our harsher climate makes it difficult to grow dahlias larger than 10 inches.

Formal and Informal Decorative dahlias are described by the American Dahlia Society (ADS) as follows:

*Formal Decorative Petals generally flat, broad & smooth in a regular arrangement that gradually recurve toward the stem*

*Informal Decorative Petals generally twisted, curled or wavy, of uniform size in irregular arrangement. May be involute or revolute.*

I like to think of the formal as "tidy" and very uniform while the informal are more free flowing. I find that the large formal dahlias appear more relaxed than the formal medium sized dahlias but you continue to see the organized, flat petal arrangement

Here are examples. See if you can tell the Formal from the Informal Decorative forms:

Decorative dahlias can be large, medium or miniature.

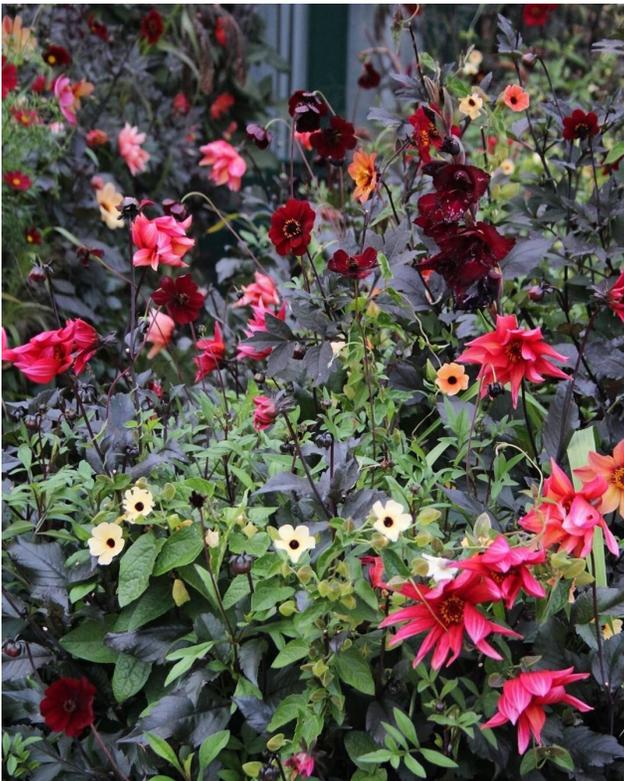
## **BOOK REVIEW by Steven Hong-Elder**

One of my favorite books has been Arthur Parkinson's '[The Pottery Gardener](#)'. If you're not aware of Arthur Parkinson, he is a young British gardener whose love of gardening, fancy chickens, use of dust bins as planters, cut flowers, adorable sketches and constant references to 'Absolutely Fabulous' make him quite endearing and interesting.

Named one of the most influential young UK gardeners by Architectural Digest, Arthur trained at the Royal Botanical Gardens before working for Sarah Raven at Perch Hill, and then became the head gardener at Emma Bridgewater Factory gardens. His ability to grow gorgeous, deeply colored gardens in raised beds and planters is unrivaled in their charm and beauty, and the casual ease by which he talks about his method of gardener is sure to charm you.

This book is about Arthur's childhood growing up and being drawn towards gardening and chickens from a very early age, including the influential women in his life (including his grandmother and the Duchess of Devonshire and expert gardener Sarah Raven) and his journey to the Emma Bridgewater Factory where he now gardens alongside his beautiful chickens in gardens packed full of blooms for bees and butterflies that an absolute riot of color (I like the term he uses to describe his color scheme as 'Venetian' - how perfectly does that summarize the spectrum of colors?)

One of the things that I love about Arthur's planting style is the profusion of jewel-toned flowers - rarely seen these days in such concentration and combination. Dustbin planters full of brightly colored tulips, magenta-flowering wallflowers, purple alliums and cranberry colored 'Double Click' cosmos are like bright explosions of colors in what would be an otherwise rather drab and grey surrounding.



Perhaps it's because of our experience with gardening that we've had a preoccupation with the light muted colors so popular with wedding florals (think the blush tones of 'Cafe au Lait' dahlias and phlox 'Cherry Caramel'). Indeed, the growing of bold, saturated colors seems almost sacrilegious to include in the lineup. However, Arthur has convinced us that the addition of bright and bold colors is absolutely necessary for a colorful and beautiful garden, and the punchy deep colors are so beautiful that they scarcely seem to need supporting foliage or secondary flowers when arranging with them or in their plantings.

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## **BOOK REVIEW of the Pottery Gardener (Continued)**

You also can't also talk about Arthur Parkinson without his chickens either. His fluffy, feathery companions are some of the most fabulous birds I have ever seen - many of them the most delightful Cochins, Frizzles and other fancy poultry that appear more in the manner of small toy dogs or fancy cats than mere livestock. One of Arthur's most wonderful traits is his ability to deeply, passionately love living things, both plants and animals, even those that aren't under his care directly.

One of the most important gardening points I took away from *The Pottery Garden* was the idea that you don't need a lot of space in order to have a beautiful, colorful garden. Indeed, you can grow quite a few flowers in a few containers - enough to cut and enjoy inside as well as provide color and interest in your garden and feed the bees and other pollinating wildlife. The flower and plant combinations are absolutely dazzling both in visual appearance as well as plant combinations. For instance, Arthur starts off with mixed planters of violas and scented wallflowers and artichokes in the spring, followed by an explosion of tulips and other brightly colored bulbs that erupt from a "bulb lasagna" (bulbs planted in layers so that they can bloom in succession). After spring is over, the bulbs and spring annuals are replaced with brightly colored cosmos 'Dazzler', purple spray millet, frosted explosion grass, brightly colored dahlias such as 'Totally Tangerine' and black eyed susan vine.

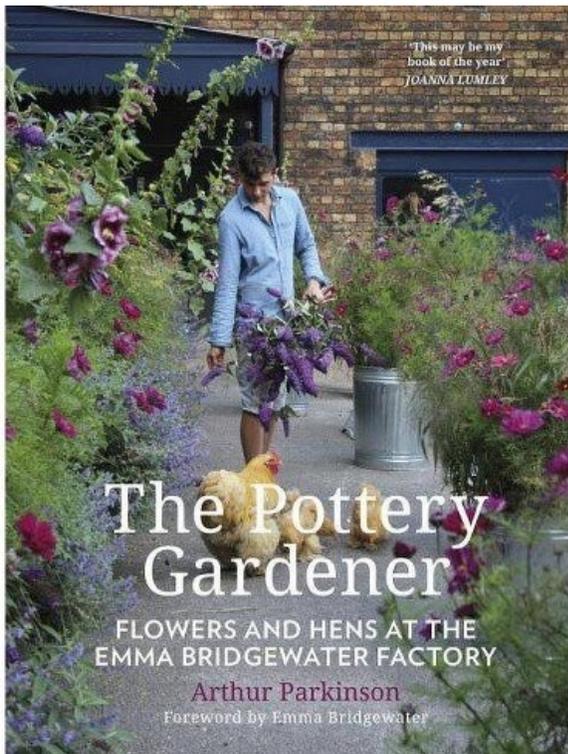


Although our galvanized containers are unfortunately not quite as charming as the dustbins that Arthur grows in, we have adapted to growing in containers for our patio garden. Because we are in such a hot and dry environment, there are a lot of colorful annuals that we love to grow that unfortunately do very poorly when planted in the ground. In our Mediterranean summers, the only way to grow plants like dahlias and cosmos and salvias properly is to grow them in containers where we can water them by hand and keep them well tended. This past year we planted our containers full of dark, bold-colored flowers of *Salvia 'Amistad'*, *Salvia 'Lighthouse Purple'*, *Dahlia 'Bishop's Children'*, and *Ipomea 'Blackie'* to create deeply saturated jewel-toned vignettes that were a delight to behold, and contributed greatly towards making our back patio area into an oasis of color and scent and entertainment (the hummingbirds loved the salvias in particular!).

## **BOOK REVIEW of the Pottery Gardener (Continued)**

Arthur is seemingly a wizard who is able to transform what would be very industrial, urban environments and create romantic, colorful, dreamy gardens even without being able to plant into the ground. The fact that he has chickens and ducks running around, pecking at the gravel walkways and occasionally going after the bit of vegetation that strays too far over the edge of a planter only adds to the magic of the spell he casts.

I am interested to see what Arthur does in the future - he truly has a brilliant mind when it comes to color and texture and his passion for growing and plants and flowers is infectious - and I think that he is going to do great things when it comes to leading and shaping the way gardening looks in the future. In fact, he is going to be publishing his second book [\*The Flower Yard\*](#) in April of 2021 and we can't wait!



You can purchase a copy of [\*The Pottery Gardener\*](#) on Amazon, and you can follow Arthur on his Instagram [@arthurparkinson](#)

### **FALL PLANTED BULBS (continued from Page 9)**

Deer avoid narcissus and alliums. But, they are fond of tulips and lilies. Evergreen or other prickly branches or chicken wire spread over the newly dug beds will discourage digging cats. Mark clumps to prevent their being dug when dormant.

Bulb Companies I have personally ordered from:

[McClure & Zimmerman](#) (800) 883-6998

[Brent & Becky's Bulbs](#) (White Flower Farm)

(877) 661-2852 - [www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com](http://www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com)

[John Scheepers, Inc.](#)

(860) 567-0838 - [www.johnscheepers.com](http://www.johnscheepers.com)



## Garden Club News from Around the State

### **Mesilla Valley Garden Club, District 4, *Becky Fuller, President***

It's official, Desert Daubers has merged with Mesilla Valley Garden Club. We are putting the final touches on, but hopefully it can be concluded on the state level soon.

Our Board and some members have met to brainstorm program and membership ideas. Solidifying them has been taking longer than expected but here are some of our ideas. Blending the new with the old: hopefully beginning by learning about new tools for the garden presented by "Color Your World" garden center and continuing with the new theme learning about cannabis with a presentation in October at "The Cannabis Farm". In November we are planning a community Plant and Seed share. Carrying us to Christmas which you can read about in the Winter edition of "The Gardener". If you or anyone in your club would like to join us, we would love to have you. Call me, 575-571-6281.

### **Valley Gardeners, District 1, *Gigi Zacharias and Dorothy Duff, Co-President's***

We began our summer with an outing to the botanic garden in Albuquerque. Steven Hong Elder volunteers at the garden and he took the group on a tour. We received information that you do not get with a self-guided walk through the garden. It was interesting and fun. After the tour, we enjoyed a picnic lunch in the grass area. It was hot but an informative and enjoyable day.

In July, Kristen Thompson shared her knowledge of pollinators. Kristen is passionate about our pollinators and the important role they play. She gave us plenty of ideas on how to help pollinators of all types.

Our August meeting had changes in sites and presenters and did not seem to work so, unfortunately, we did not meet in August. Members are busy getting ready for the State Fair. We will have entries in horticulture and design and many of our members volunteer. We hope to see you at the fair!!

## Los Alamos Garden Club, District II, by Helen Carpenter & Linda Hoffman

Following our May meeting, we had a rock painting project. We used water worn smooth rocks and craft paints. The group produced many colorful designs.

Our summer meetings are replaced by outings and field trips.

In June, we took a tour of the La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe. Our docent presented the history of the hotel with additional information on the Harvey Girls. The tour was followed by a lovely lunch in the La Plazuela restaurant at the Hotel.



In

Lunch at La Plazuela

*La Fonda Hotel Tour*

*Start of La Fonda Hotel tour*

July, we toured two of our member's gardens. Linda Hoffman's has many native and xeriscape plants, raised garden beds and fruit trees. Kersti Rock's yard has a most beautiful trumpet vine and areas landscaped for quiet, peace and pets.



*Linda Hoffman talks about her lawn & wildflower garden   Kersti Rock's bird garden & Trumpet Vine*

## [Floral Designers, District 2, Anne May, Coordinating Chairman](#)

This spring, Floral Designers Garden Club was delighted to welcome four new members, Suzy Andrego, Lyn Campbell, Debi Harrington, and Christine Longthorp.

The Floral Designers club continues to feature a specific floral design type each month. One of our members acts as the presenter and outlines the criteria for the design and also presents examples. Each of us is responsible for doing our homework and creating that specific design and bringing our creation to the meeting. With loving respect, we then provide each other feedback as to the strength of our compositions; if it meets the design criteria and how well it incorporates the elements and principles of design. There is no better learning experience when it comes to floral design!

**In June, Debi Harrington presented *Group Mass Design*. Below are the photos of our creations.**

Debi Harrington [dry flower arrangement]



Debi Harrington [green and pink in black cylindrical vase]

Anne May [purple and white]



Shelby Green [red, orange and pink]



green, white, red]

Doris Jackson [yellow,



Patricia Copple [maroon, green, purple]



Juanita Ortega [red roses]

## **UPTOWN Garden Club—District I, *Steven Hong-Elder, President***

Dear Fellow Gardeners,

It's been a busy spring and summer for the Uptown Garden Club, with quite a few events and excitement!

We started off in April with a container planting demonstration where we made a splashy full sun annual planter, a perennial shade planter, and a Mediterranean themed planter using pomegranates, ornamental oxalis, and sedums. A discussion of the correct plants and siting of planters was had as well as the recipe for making your own potting mix for beautiful and healthy planters.

In May we had a very successful plant sale at Mary Ann Moreno's home. Members contributed a wide variety of plants including perennials, xeric plants, annuals, edibles and houseplants (including some gorgeous hoyas from Ellen Reeds collection). Mary Ann's rose garden was quite spectacular and in full bloom and made for the perfect setting for our sale and the installation of the new garden club officers. I accepted the post as President, Lynette Walker as Vice-President, Suzy Andreggo as treasurer and Sandy Baca as secretary.

In July we had a tour at the ABQ Biopark Botanic Garden by the Curator of Plants Maria Thomas. It was a beautiful day and the garden was a much-needed escape from the heat of the city. In the Japanese Garden we learned about Japanese gardening practices and garden design, while in the High Desert Rose Garden we talked about historical roses and explored their collection of heirloom roses.

In August we had a garden movie night and welcomed new members and watched the Alan Rickman movie 'A Little Chaos'. Refreshments were provided and it was great to have a chance to enjoy the last bit of summer and socialize with club members.

We have many future events planned, look forward to growing the club, offering new activities and enjoying the rest of the gardening season!

## **El Jardin Encanto Garden Club, District 1, *Debby Hasse & Shar Marquez, Co-Presidents***

In May we took a group to the Santa Fe Botanical Garden at Museum Hill. The garden has lots of native plants, an orchard and a yoga area. They had large glass art sculptures that were scattered throughout the gardens made to capture the natural light. They were experimenting at the Botanical Garden by growing vegetables with water bladders to make up for limited waterings. For lunch we went to The Chocolate Maven, we all had yummy sandwiches and there were sweets galore! We spent the summer getting programs ready for the new year and our new meeting location 1020 Huning Ranch Loop SW at the UNM Workforce Center in Los Lunas. We are very excited for the new programs for the upcoming year.

## Morning Garden Club—District 5, Vicki Hobson, *President Elect*



Roswell's Morning Garden Club has been busy tending to our three city gardens this summer. Our members have been weeding and planting, and also feeding hummingbirds in these areas, as well as providing butterflies a habitat for themselves and their caterpillars.

Our club also provided a Red Oak tree to the city of Roswell's Tierra Berrendo Park. This was a joint garden club celebration of National Garden Week with both Morning and Home Garden Clubs visiting while Mayor Tim Jennings helped plant the tree.



Our club has been planning for the coming year with both design and horticulture programs planned. We are also planning an educational program on butterflies and their habitats to be presented to the public during the Eastern New Mexico State Fair in the Arts and Crafts building.

## [Lincoln County Garden Club, District V, by Cynthia Shafer](#)

In June our program was on "Fire Readiness." The Ruidoso Fire Chief, Joe Kasubaski and the assistant chief, Ross Coleman discussed planning, Code Red, Red Flag warnings, and flood information.

At the July meeting, President Debbie Myers presented how to make cactus out of spray foam and coordinate with children's books to teach about desert life. Also in attendance was Andrea Fernandez from the Smokey Bear Ranger Station children's program. She talked about the raised gardens at the Station and asked if we would take one or two over. Debbie told her that it's too late this year, but next year we would love to work a couple of raised beds. She also explained about the children's programs, once/month at the Station. Andrea brought a box of local apricots she had picked, and we used them as one of the many door prizes!

In August the Lincoln County Fair Flower Show was a great success! Cinda Jennings and Gail Crites helped Debbie Myers set up on Monday. Debra Knox, Diane Nunez, Judy Ellis & Debbie Myers accepted entries on Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Julie Foster, Pegi Smith & Colleen Hinker came from out of town to judge. Debbie stated she really learned a lot from them! So glad they came. The Extension Office fed all of the workers a great BBQ brisket luncheon! Brenda Kuehl & Debbie Myers did clean up on Saturday, Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>.

Our August meeting will be Propagating presented by member & 1<sup>st</sup> VP Patty Citrowske.

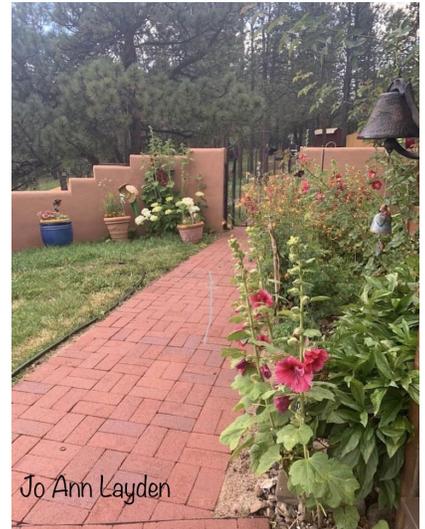


**Angel Fire Garden Club, Johnese Turri, District III Director reporting**

Our summer in Black Lake started off a little shaky with the fires, but it is ending with such beauty. We are so blessed. Enjoy these images from our Black Lake area. Thank you to Jo Ann Layden, Jacqui Binford-Bell & Michael Turri for your photos



Michael Turri



Jo Ann Layden



Michael Turri



Jacqui Binford Bell



Jo Ann Layden



## High Desert Design Club, District I, Shirley Tetreault, President

### **BROWN BAG SPECIAL**



**Picking flowers for their creations and then lining them up.**



June was a grab-bag of fun. Everyone created their own design from what was “In the Bag”! Members get excited with their creations that have no rules at all. Below you will see pictures of that fun event. In July we studied “Spatial Thrust” and celebrated our Independence with beautiful snacks made by Sue Bond, Marcie Kercher, and Trudie Meyer. Their talent shows up on the dining table as well as flower shows. Our last study for the year was Featured Plant Material. So, we are ready for the competition at the New Mexico State Fair and hoping to bring home some blue ribbons. We always welcome new members to come and join in our fun on the second Wednesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. We learn, live, and laugh.



**Marcie Kercher, Trudie Meyer and Sue Bond prepare a beautiful table to celebrate Independence Day for our July meeting.**



**Artesia Garden Club, District V, by Julie Foster**



**EDDY COUNTY FAIR FLOWER SHOW, Artesia, NM**



## [Summit Garden Club, District 2, Betsy Comly, Vice President](#)

Summit members met in May for our business meeting, and to listen to the Los Alamos County temporary extension officer speak about the advantages of gardening. She told us one advantage was that “gardening teaches you that you can’t reach perfection”. We were all in agreement, and laughed. In June, we met at the home of Sig Ludwig, in White Rock, to see his cacti, all grown from seed, and, on June 16, some of us attended the dedication of the fountain “Perspective”, in the White Rock Community Garden. The fountain is modern, sophisticated, just right for the location. For eight years, Summit has requested an art object for this garden, and our goal was finally realized. Mission accomplished! Thank you, Laurie Hixson. In July, we met for a picnic, and made plans for our upcoming plant sale in September. We have experienced big swings in the weather these last three months, and are looking forward to Fall.



Summit members attend the dedication of fountain “Perspective”, at WR Community Garden.

## [Sunshine Valley Garden Club, District IV, Linda Brandis, President](#)

We had a plant sale coinciding with the annual Truth or Consequences Fiesta the first weekend in May. Members donated many different plants to sell. We were fortunate to have it at a perfect location in a member’s downtown building. The plant sale was a success, making \$168 for the Club.



The Club had its annual Summer Kick-off luncheon on June 10th at La Cocina Restaurant in Tor C. A fun time was had by all.

We take off July and August during the hot summer months and will resume meetings again in September.

## **Petal Pushers Garden Club, District 1, Ginny Longbotham, President**

June found the Petal Pushers traveling to Santa Fe for a great tour of the Randall Davey Audubon Center. After an awesome talk by Docent Tom Taylor on Hummingbirds. After that a delicious picnic lunch was provided by Debi Harrington and we ended our day by touring the Davey home. It was a very beautiful day and something none of us had ever done before. We also were visited by three deer who hung around. The Audubon also has a seed sharing shed and a wonderful playground.

July, we had an Ice Cream social, complete with Root Beer Floats, Ice Cream Sundaes, and for heathy purposes, a Mediterranean Salad. Mary Frances Santistevan hosted and it was the best time for a hot summer day in July. We even had a record player with old 50's and 60's records. Viola Johnston would've won the contest for best dressed in her Poodle Skirt and Saddle Oxfords. Tables were set with faux soda fountain drinks made by Mary Frances.

We all look forward to the fall events, Harvest Fair, State Fair, and Dahlia Fair. We'll be there!



## **New Mexico Judges Council, Suzy Andrego, President**

I wanted to give a HUGE thank you to each and every judge and garden club member that came to the NM Judges Council Symposium we held in July. We had 43 attend.

The Design and Horticulture Instructors were fabulous and we learned a lot. Learning about Creative Design versus Traditional design was very interesting. Floor Designs were really fun! The Combination Plantings were fabulous along with all the gorgeous evergreen shrub cuttings for everyone to study.

The food was delicious and the New Mexican dinner in my garden provided everyone with the opportunity to socialize. Meeting all the out of state judges was great! And, catching up with all our friends and judges from around New Mexico was just what we needed.

A very special thank you to each judge who provided a design for practice point scoring or the point scoring exam. Another special thank you to the judges who provided horticulture or combination plantings. And, a BIG special thank you to the judges who participated on the Master Panels.

A Judges Symposium is a lot of work. Thank you to Mary Gilliam for proctoring; Christine Longthorp for taking care of the design instructor and getting all her containers, flower and mechanics; to Debi Harrington for helping with the breakfast and lunches and to Doris Jackson and Laurie Hixson for putting on a FANTASTIC Silent Auctions we have had.

A note to all NM Garden club members, You DO NOT have to be a judge to attend a Judges Symposium. You can come to just learn. It makes everyone a better exhibitor in design and horticulture in a flower show!



Practice Point Score Floor Designs

# Should I Plant a Garden?



# *New Mexico Gardener*

Quarterly Newsletter of the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc. (NMGC)

A Non-profit Organization

[www.newmexicogardenclubs.org](http://www.newmexicogardenclubs.org)

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Incorporated August 5, 1952

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**NMGC, Inc. is a Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

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*Theme: "Growing in Harmony in the Land of Enchantment"*

**National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

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Theme: Plant America—Embrace the Future

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## **Instructions for Publication**

The *New Mexico Gardener* is published quarterly: March, June, September and December. The Editor reserves the right to edit any copy for clarity, accuracy, or space requirements. It is the responsibility of the article writer to ensure that names are spelled correctly. All articles need to be submitted as a Microsoft Word document (unformatted) attached to an e-mail or submitted as email text.

Deadline	Date
Fall	August 1
Winter	November 1
Spring	February 1
Summer	May 1

**Photos must be sent as .jpg files, maximum three per file, as an email attachment. Do not frame or otherwise enhance. Poor quality photos will not be accepted (i.e. out of focus or grainy.) Photos that are submitted with the photographer's name will receive photo credit.**

**Articles/Photos for the next *New Mexico Gardener* must be submitted by November 1, 2022**