



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

(Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma & Texas)

The Communicator

2024 VOL. 16— June, 2024

Sarah McReynolds, Director 2023-2025





SCR Director Sarah McReynolds and NGC President Brenda Moore at The Edgemont



Message from Our SCR Director...

Plant America – Pollinate South Central™



I am very happy to write this message at the end of my first year as your SCR Director.

I have had so much joy visiting all four states at their state conventions. Each convention was unique and such a delight. I received many gifts from each state and many gifts from State Presidents and friends. I will cherish each and every gift.

When I went to the Texas State Convention, we were able to come to agreement on trying to save our headquarters building and we had several fun and educational meetings.

When I went to New Mexico, I picked up a woman at the airport in Dallas, we had missed our flight, and convinced her if she rode with me to Santa Fe, I would tell her all about joining a garden club and I did. She probably learned more than she wanted to know on the nine hour drive through the night, then the next day without going to bed, I met with the members at the Governors Mansion and the Governor addressed the group and remembered one of the members when the Governor had been in a garden club in Albuquerque. I met new friends and bought hot sauces mixed with all sorts of things, a cookbook and received many gifts.

Then on to Oklahoma, for their state convention, where I met many old friends and went to a restaurant that a former Oklahoma State President's family had started years ago. We met the grandchildren and they were thrilled we remembered their grandmother and their first meal served was to the Oklahoma Garden Club State Convention. Oklahoma really helped me the most to sell the pollinator merchandise for the SCR Scholarships.

Then I went to the Arkansas Convention and what a fun convention. I received a Travelers Proclamation from the Arkansas governor while visiting. Then last but not least, we had the SCR Convention, and many awards were given, along with many good programs and meals. The best part about the SCR Convention was being arrested with a wanted poster passed around to the members. The talented ladies who arrested me for being dangerous had a very awe-inspiring table decorated, that won the people's choice for the best decorations. We danced and played and had a very good convention. Along with Heather White my super sales friend and with all the members buying the pollinator merchandise, we were able to give four \$1000 scholarships to each state. My first year

Directors Message Continued from Page 2.

was fun, fulfilling and I hope everyone made new friends in our region. Brenda Moore, our National President attended the Arkansas and the SCR Convention and hopefully she went home with many new ideas, and I am sure she appreciated her visit with South Central Region. She will have stories to tell.

A special thank you to Rose Knight and Nancy Rana for the most enjoyable, educational and fun conventions. And I challenge each state to keep up the good work, we may be shrinking in numbers of members in some places, but we are growing in numbers in other places. As long as we stay productive and helping our world to be a better place, we will have many more years to learn and enjoy our region.

Fondly, Sarah McReynolds



Dr. Heather White selling Pollinator Pins n support of SCR Director Sarah McReynolds Scholarships Program.

Four \$1000 Scholarships were given out at the 2024 Convention. One for each state in the region.





Message from Arkansas 2023-2025

President, Pam Ellis

As Emily Bronte once wrote, "May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope." And after our successful AFGC Convention and hosting the South-Central Region Convention, I don't think these words could be more true. Our attendance was up with 74 people registered for the AFGC and 63 registered for the SCR event.

Our awards Chairmen reported there were thirty-four applications submitted resulting in \$1,350 in donations by sponsors being distributed. Twenty applications were sent to the South-Central Region resulting in Arkansas Clubs being presented with three first place, five second place and two third place. Twenty-eight applications were sent directly to National to review our submissions and give recognition to new and continuing projects winners.

Our First Vice-President shared some awesome news. AFGC has grown by 2 clubs, bringing us to forty-seven clubs and 1379 members, up over 90 more members. It is wonderful to see us growing again. Nancy Rana will be announcing some exciting innovative programs to attract new members. We'll let you know if they were effective next year.

AFGC treasurer reported that the finances for the AFGC were stable and neither income nor expenses made any significant changes.

The Scholarship Chairman announced that our scholarship will be awarded to Nathan Judd, sponsored by the Garden Club of Rogers, to be used for his senior year at University of Arkansas. His application has been forwarded to SCR and NGC to be reviewed and hopefully, he will be presented with additional monies to further his education.

As you can see, this was a very productive meeting and still there was time for plenty of fun. The first night, the theme was "On Island Time" with a happy hour in the hotel bar, followed by the Judges Council Dinner and speaker Janice Hamlin. She did an awesome presentation on creative design and donated those design to the silent auction, with the proceeds benefiting Flower Show School. Tuesday was the business meeting with margaritas in The Watering Hole and Denim and Pearls Dinner.

Continued from Previous Page:

Wednesday started the SCR Convention with a tour and lunch with Chris Olsen at Edgemont House, his residence. That afternoon, there was a "Pollinator Punch" Workshop presented by Sarah McReynolds, SCR Director, followed by happy hour at the hotel bar and The Big Easy Dinner with Janice Hamlin again presenting another Design Exhibition. Thursday started with the SCR business meeting with lunch program being Dr. Victor Ford speaking on "Trees in the Landscape". After the meeting adjourned, Sarah again held a workshop to make Fascinators to wear to the reception honoring the NGC President, SCR Director and SCR State Presidents, and the "Under the Eiffel Tower Dinner". Chris Norwood kept everyone mesmerized with his floral designs. I hope we will see all of you and more when Arkansas hosts this event again in four years,

Pam Ellis, Arkansas President

The Flower

*Once in a golden hour
I cast to earth a seed.
Up there came a flower,
The people said, a weed.*

*To and fro they went
Thro' my garden bower,
And muttering discontent
Cursed me and my flower.*

*Then it grew so tall
It wore a crown of light,
But thieves from o'er the wall
Stole the seed by night.*

*Sow'd it far and wide
By every town and tower,
Till all the people cried,
'Splendid is the flower!'*

*Read my little fable:
He that runs may read.
Most can raise the flowers now,
For all have got the seed.*

*And some are pretty enough,
And some are poor indeed;
And now again the people
Call it but a weed.*

-Alfred Lord Tennyson



Message from New Mexico 2023-2025 President, Debra Sorrell

"Grow Through What You Go Through"

It feels like we had a quick spring and now we are settled in to New Mexico summer. The temperatures are well into the 90's across much of the state (the south, of course, is even hotter) and the humidity is often in single digits! The challenges to growing things here are something we're used to and beautiful gardens are flourishing in every district.

The NMGC 74th annual convention was held in Santa Fe in April. We were thrilled to be invited to hold our General meeting at the Governor's residence! It really added an extra sense of "special" to the meeting. Our governor, Michelle Lujan-Grisham, was presented with a certificate for a Penny Pines plantation planted in her name. She was surprised and delighted! Next year we will celebrate our 75th year as New Mexico Garden Clubs. Plans are already in the works for a blow out birthday party so, be sure to join us for the fun! Plus, it is our turn to host the South Central Region convention which will immediately follow our convention I am hopeful that we will have a LOT of visitors from the other states in our region. It will be a great opportunity for you to see the Land of Enchantment and enjoy some amazing New Mexican food! Plus, we are excited that New Mexico's own Suzy Andrego will follow in Sarah McReynolds's footsteps and be installed as the next SCR Director.

I got to attend the Arkansas convention and the SCR convention in Little Rock at the end of April. It was so enjoyable to see everyone from the other states. Arkansas outdid themselves, too, with a FUN theme, fun activities, great speakers and incredible floral demonstrations! And, the tours!! It was one of my favorite events in garden club. If you did not attend, you missed a good one! I even got Suzy Andrego to line dance with me and a big group on country night. There IS video evidence, I'm sure.

Denver was beautiful for the National Convention held the first week in June. New Mexico had 8 attendees. The state presidents were given certificates and were able to pick up the awards for their state's winners. Congratulations to all for the National recognition.

Many of the clubs here in New Mexico have community events coming up during the summer. One of the clubs in Roswell, NM will be hosting their 2nd annual Pollinator Party. It was so well attended last year that it has moved from a city park to the zoo this time. The Council of Albuquerque Garden Clubs will be holding its annual flower show in June with "The Golden Age of Jazz" and a jazzy tea to go with it. County and state fairs
CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.



**Congratulations to Jennifer Moreno The Award of Design Excellence
winner at the Council of Albuquerque Flower Show**

“ The Golden Age of Jazz”

Way to Go Jennifer Moreno!!!

NM Garden Club Member





Message from Oklahoma 2023-2025 President, Carolyn McCabe

“Green Grows the Garden— Plant OK”

My President's Project goal is for our club members to teach as many children as possible how to grow their own food while having fun doing so by having the children make a container edible flower garden for the classroom or scout troop or have a “Plant a Seed” program for the children to take home, including a garden marker craft to mark their potted seeds. The Project focuses on learning the importance of planting a culinary garden. The award to clubs that participate is \$100. So far two clubs have taken the challenge, Lakeside GC and Tulsa GC.

All five of the Oklahoma State GC Districts have held spring conventions. The conventions were chocked full of innovative gardening ideas, award/scholarship ceremonies, and tours. I was fortunate to be able to attend all five. In addition, the annual OGC State convention was held in far northwest Oklahoma, Guymon. A reception was held for SCR Director, Sarah McReynolds on Friday evening, with the business meeting and tour on Saturday. A drawing for the President's Project Commemorative Throw saw Judy Weaver from the Tulsa Garden Club as the winner.

In July we will be holding an Oklahoma Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges Symposium in Stroud, Oklahoma. The council consists of 11 Master judges, eight recently accredited judges, two student judges and one associate member.

There has been a minimum of 5 shows this spring with several more scheduled during the summer as well as a Wildflower Workshop hosted, once more, by the Northeast District. The National Daylily Convention will be held in OKC in June. The OKC Council of Garden Clubs hosted the 34th annual Festival in the Park with 40 vendors, a Master Gardeners table, therapy goats and Alpacas. Spring weather in Oklahoma is hit and miss, even though there was a spate of tornados and lots of rain the weeks leading up to the Festival, there was sun and fun the day of.

Plans are in the works for a Blue Star Dedication on Flag Day, June 14th, and we have a new garden club forming in Ardmore, OK.

The SCR Convention in Little Rock was fantastic. I am looking forward to representing Oklahoma at the NGC convention in Westminster, Colorado next month and after that some much needed repose time in my garden before meetings gen up again in the fall.

Carolyn McCabe



Message from Texas
2023-2025 President,
Lee Taylor

“Choose your path and make a difference “

What a whirlwind it has been since we met in Oklahoma City last April. Everyone has been so busy. Last September I attended a Blue Star Marker Flower Bed Dedication in Mason, Texas, at Fort Mason. Landscaping was done completely with native plants in full bloom. The ceremony was inspiring, making all participants so very proud of our heritage and our armed forces protecting us daily.

We had our Texas Garden Clubs Fall Board Meeting in Fort Worth, TX October 17-18, 2023. We had a committee established to research new and innovative ways to increase revenues at our Headquarters. Texas Garden Clubs regrettably has had to engage a less expensive CPA firm and manage our staff positions with volunteers. This committee has come up with a wonderful plan to rent our facility for different type of “Garden-Related Gatherings”... we are presently refurbishing the grounds and adding some beauty to the landscape.

The rental of our Headquarters will provide a means to improve our cash flow as well as open up our beautiful facility to many garden-related activities for the community to enjoy as we plan to have our first wedding around June-July.

The TGC Spring Convention was hosted by District VIII in Abilene, Texas. The clubs went all out. You would never guess there were only four (4) clubs handling the entire event. One of my favorite workshops was “flower pounding.” You cover the flowers, leaves and get your trusty hammer going and start pounding the color onto watercolor paper, or some other type of paper. When you are finished, you can outline and create your own design with the help of an ink pen. You also find that you have relieved a great deal of stress!!

TGC Life Members were honored with a reception which was well attended. TGC Awards were numerous and well received by membership. Lots of new clubs stepped up to receive their Awards. Two Scholarship recipients were honored, and due to the increased membership in Texas, both these recipients went forward to receive National

Garden Clubs Scholarships. All Districts in Texas Garden Clubs Inc's and several individual clubs sponsor scholarships to deserving students. They are our future.

South Central Region's Spring Fling was a remarkable success. Arkansas did a wonderful job with so much attention to detail. We attended a group Tour of the complete revival of the Edgemont House in Little Rock. Our Host was spectacular with such a wonderful eye for detail. We were treated to lunch after the Tour. A Program was presented by wonderful talented floral Arrangers. So many tips for the perfect arrangements were given. Texas won 38 Awards and took the Sweepstakes Awards for Large club (Mesquite Garden Club), Medium club (Hearthstone Garden Club), and Small club (Comal Garden Club).

Texas Garden Clubs has 313 clubs, with a total membership of 8,458. We have 14 affiliates, 6 Judges Councils, 6 Councils, 6 Youth Clubs and also have all four (4) NGC schools...Gardening School, Landscape Design School, Environmental School, and Flower Show School operating in the State with courses offered twice a year. The schools are one of my passions and I try to encourage attendance in my travels. I have attended three schools this year and plan to get the fourth one very soon. No matter how many times you attend one of these schools, you always learn something new.

I am so very proud of our garden clubs across the state. Texas is divided into 10 Districts, based on soil type identified by Texas A&M. Each District has so much to give their communities. They share their knowledge and abilities with both youth and the elderly to help them learn all about garden club. There is so much interest an activity regarding pollinators. Butterfly gardens and way stations are being planted for the Monarchs. All clubs have activities for residents of nursing homes from flower designing to repotting plants. Christmas stockings for the residents are a popular item as well as individual Christmas trees for their rooms. Another of my passions is Scholarships...all Districts as well as individual clubs provide scholarship to deserving students. We had our first Blue Star Marker placed by San Augustine Garden Club this year. We even have a District with a club supporting a facility for aging dogs.

May 21, 2024, was the site of the Dedication of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Never Forgt Garden Veteran's Memorial Park in Collee Station, Texas. This was a project from District V that had been two years in the making.

The National Garden Club Convention was held in Denver, Colorado, June 2-5. The weather was perfect. A number of Bylaws were reviewed and updated as well as revisions to the Standing Rules. A hybrid ZOOM meeting will be held this coming Fall Board Meeting on September 19, 2024, in St. Louis. Some personnel changes were announced and the 2025 Spring Convention details are being reviewed. As Co-chair of the Gardening School in Texas, I attended the Gardening School meeting held in Denver.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12.

New Mexico report continued.

are gearing up for flower shows galore. Some of our clubs START meeting in the summer and some STOP for the summer. I love the diversity of that! I am very much enjoying the opportunity to attend many of these events around the state because of it, too.

There have been 2 new Gold Star markers dedicated in New Mexico since April. The very first one ever, in Albuquerque, and a second one in Clovis. We are honored to support the veterans and gold star families in our state through this NGC program. There are plans for another 3 Gold Stars and 1 more Blue Star marker in the very near future, as well!

I hope that you have a fabulous and safe summer, wherever you are. Be kind to one another! The world is a tough place these days. The support of our friends and flowers can make all the difference!

Debra Sorrell, NMGC President

Texas report continued.

Several personnel changes were announced in this meeting and news the GS Form 5 would be converted to a spreadsheet was announced.

Texas really received lots of Awards at the Awards Ceremony. We received the Award for the greatest increase in membership, which allowed us to submit another student name for an NGC Scholarship. The clubs really stepped up making me very proud to be their President.

It has been so rewarding to see old friends again and meet new ones during this year.

Lee Taylor, Texas Garden Clubs President

Schools Report, Judy Grott's Schools Credential Chairman

- THE LIVING EARTH ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES SCHOOL
Series ZOOM-001 COURSE 1 through 4 were completed.
Oklahoma has 6 New Consultants
- THE GARDENING STUDY SCHOOL
We have completed Series ZOOM-001- COURSES 1-4 on May 18th. And Oklahoma will has 9 new consultants.
- THE LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL SERIES will begin later this year. It will be via Zoom and the cost will be \$50.00 per class. All classes will be held on Saturdays.
- National Garden Clubs, Inc. Flower Show Schools that were held during Covid has yielded a total of 8 Accredited judge. Mary Early took and passed her test April 25, 2024. There are two more students that have not complete the required work but are working on taking the exam next year.
- There will be a Flower Show Judges Symposium held in Stroud, OK on July 26 and July 27, 2024. Instructors are Lynn Fronk for Design she will be teaching the Low Profile, and the Cascade Designs and David Robson will be teaching Begonia's and Tomato's. Location is First Baptist Church 302 W. 4th Street, Stroud, Oklahoma.
- There will be a Flower Show School 4 in Albuquerque, NM July 20 for Zoom Procedure and July 27&28, 2024. Design Instructor will be Claudia Bates will teach Abstract and multi Rhythm Designs. Horticulture will be collections, displays and curbits taught by Jan Griffin. Procedure will be taught by Lynn Fronk. Email Suzy Andreago for a brochure. Sandrego@aol.com
- While at the SCR Convention in Little Rock, AR it came to my attention that Oklahoma and Texas are the two states in our region that host all four NGC Schools.

JUDGES SYMPOSIUM August 20-22, 2024—Woodworth LA

Symposium is an in-depth course of design, horticulture and allied subjects pertaining to flower shows that is more advanced than presented in Flower Show Schools. These courses are primarily intended for Flower Show Judges to maintain their credentials, but all garden club members interested in learning more about flower shows, floral design and horticulture are encouraged to attend.

SCR Youth Activities Coordinator, Linda Jean Brown

South Central Region has a very important garden club history which will continue for many, many years to come as long as we continue to get our youth involved. Garden club members in our region have the determination to educate our youth on the importance of keeping our environment safe and clean. We need to stay connected to them so we can show them how to take care of our Earth.

Just by reaching out to these kids they know we care about them. Visiting their schools to teach them gardening is such a rewarding time to spend with this group of eager minds.

By reaching out to our youth one never knows the impact it will have in their young lives or how they will touch our lives.

Some of the ways we can teach them is through Youth Contests such as: The Bird Art Work, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Posters, Poetry, and Recycle/Sculpture.

We as garden club members are encouraged to continue to educate the next generation so they have something to give to generations to come.

So let's do what we do best...play with others and get our hands dirty.

Our Youth...Our Future



SCR 93rd Spring Convention "Spring Fling" - April 25, 2024

Little Rock, Arkansas

SCR 2023 Youth Awards

ARKANSAS

SCR Poetry Contest

\$60.00 to AR

Sponsored by: Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., District III (10) @ \$20. = \$200.00

3rd grade

Lillian Moore	Harrisburg GC	Harrisburg AR 1 st	\$20.
---------------	---------------	-------------------------------	-------

4th grade

Greenly McPherson	Harrisburg GC	Harrisburg AR 1 st	\$20.
-------------------	---------------	-------------------------------	-------

8th grade

Lily Trauth	Petit Jean GC	Morrilton AR 1 st	\$20.
-------------	---------------	------------------------------	-------

SCR Youth Bird Whooping Crane

Sponsored by: Tyler Area Council of Garden Clubs Tyler TX (5) @ \$20. = \$100.00

5th grade

Riley Duncan	Greenbriar GC	Greenbriar AR 1 st	\$20.
--------------	---------------	-------------------------------	-------

7th grade

Alexandria Walker	Morrilton GC	Morrilton AR 1 st	\$20.
-------------------	--------------	------------------------------	-------

8th grade

Salacius Taylor	Lone Grove GC	Lone Grove AR 1 st	\$20.
-----------------	---------------	-------------------------------	-------

SCR Youth Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl

Sponsored by: Pionette G.C. – Palestine TX \$125.00

1st grade

Kymber Smart	Iris GC	Clinton 3 rd certificate
--------------	---------	-------------------------------------

2nd grade

Vada English	Verandah GC	Lonoke 3 rd certificate
--------------	-------------	------------------------------------

3rd grade

Owen Cox	Verandah GC	Lonoke 2 nd certificate
----------	-------------	------------------------------------

4th grade

Starla Harding	Verandah GC	Lonoke 2 nd certificate
----------------	-------------	------------------------------------

5th grade

Sadie Jo Childers	Verandah GC	Lonoke 2 nd certificate
-------------------	-------------	------------------------------------

OKLAHOMA

SCR Youth Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl

Sponsored by: Pionette G.C. – Palestine TX \$125.00

1 st grade		
Kinley James	Tulsa GC	Tulsa 2 nd certificate
2 nd grade		
Nathan Buck	Tulsa GC	Tulsa 2 nd certificate
3 rd grade		
Gavin Rasmussen	Tulsa GC	Tulsa 3 rd certificate
4 th grade		
Jolie Kevern	Tulsa GC	Tulsa 3 rd certificate
5 th grade		
Gabriel Brown	Tulsa GC	Tulsa 3 rd certificate

SCR Youth Bird Whooping Crane

Sponsored by: Tyler Area Council of Garden Clubs Tyler TX (5) @ \$20. = \$100.00

6 th grade	
Remington Faustner	Lone Grove

TEXAS

Recycle/Sculpture Contest

\$100. To TX

Sponsored by: Dogwood Garden Club – Palestine TX (5) 1st Place @ \$20.00 = \$100.00

4th grade

Wyatt Ward	Keep San Saba Beautiful GC	San Saba	1 st \$20.
Everleigh Vallenavedo	Keep San Saba Beautiful GC	San Saba	2 nd certificate
Kamila Estrada	Keep San Saba Beautiful GC	San Saba	3 rd certificate

5th grade

Alana Fiocchi	Abilene GC	Abilene	1 st \$20.
---------------	------------	---------	-----------------------

6th grade

Dillan Sinclair	Arp GC	Arp	1 st \$20.
Hayleigh Torbert	A&M GC	College Station	2 nd certificate

7th grade

Mattie Rhine	A&M GC	College Station	1 st \$20.
Miriam Sorg	A&M GC	College Station	2 nd certificate

8th grade

Riley Walters	A&M GC	College Station	1 st \$20.
---------------	--------	-----------------	-----------------------

Poetry Contest "I Spy with my Little Eyes Something Green" \$140. To TX
Sponsored by: Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. District III (10) 1st Place @ \$20.00 = \$200.00

Kindergarten

Turner Hensley	Keep San Saba Beautiful GC	San Saba	1 st	\$20.
----------------	----------------------------	----------	-----------------	-------

1st grade

Ariana Servin	Keep San Saba Beautiful GC	San Saba	1 st	\$20.
---------------	----------------------------	----------	-----------------	-------

2nd grade

Ameer Farraj	A&M GC	College Station	1 st	\$20.
--------------	--------	-----------------	-----------------	-------

5th grade

Bethany Crane	Newton GC	Newton	1 st	\$20.
---------------	-----------	--------	-----------------	-------

6th grade

Fiza Dhosani	A&M GC	College Station	1 st	\$20.
--------------	--------	-----------------	-----------------	-------

7th grade

Drake Kelly	Newton GC	Newton	1 st	\$20.
-------------	-----------	--------	-----------------	-------

8th grade

Callie Brown	Arp GC	Arp	1 st	\$20.
--------------	--------	-----	-----------------	-------

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Contest

Sponsored by: Pionette Garden Club – Palestine TX (5)1st place @ \$25.00 = \$125.00

1st grade

Olivia Hagen	Sunnyvale GC	Sunnyvale	1 st	\$25.
--------------	--------------	-----------	-----------------	-------

2nd grade

Azain Caro	McGregor GC	McGregor	1 st	\$25.
Dale Dean	Newton GC	Newton	HM certificate	

3rd grade

Zoey Miller	Sunnyvale GC	Sunnyvale	1 st	\$25.
Samuel Gibbs	A&M GC	College Station	HM certificate	

4th grade

Nathan Riley	Newton GC	Newton	1 st	\$25.
Addison Coufal	A&M GC	College Station	HM	

5th grade

Junseok Choi	A&M GC	College Station	1 st	\$25.
Olivia Sanchez	McGregor GC	McGregor	HM certificate	



SCR Youth Contest Sponsors 2023-25

SCR Bird Environmental Poster -

hooping crane

Sponsored by: Tyler Area Council of Garden Clubs

(5) 1st place winners @ \$20/ea. \$100.00

Recycle/Sculpture

Sponsored by: Dogwood Garden Club – Palestine TX

(5) 1st place winners @ \$20/ea. \$100.00

Poetry

“I Spy with My Little Eyes Something Green”

Sponsored by: Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., District III

(10) 1st place winners @ \$20/ea. \$200.00

Poster - Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl

Sponsored by: Pionette Garden Club – Palestine TX

(5) 1st place winners @ \$25/ea. \$125.00

Thank you to my Sister Garden Clubs for your generous donations. You are the BEST EVER!!!

Linda Jean Brown,

SCR Youth Activities Coordinator 2023-25



California Garden Clubs, Inc.
Landscape Design School, Series 28
Southern California Garden Club

Valley Park Baptist Church
 16514 Nordhoff Street
 North Hills, CA 91343

Course 1 -- Friday & Saturday, June 21 & 22, 2024
Course 2 -- Friday & Saturday, July 12 & 13, 2024
Course 3 -- Friday & Saturday, July 26 & 27, 2024
Course 4 -- Friday & Saturday, August 9 & 10, 2024

Southern California Garden Club is pleased to announce the upcoming National Garden Clubs, Inc. Landscape Design School (LDS) - a series of four courses designed to:

- Develop a greater appreciation, pride & knowledge about our residential, public & historical gardens.
- Become better informed in order to promote positive changes in our surroundings to encourage beauty, utility, convenience, sound ecological practice and ease of maintenance in our gardens.
- Encourage a better understanding of the landscape design process.
- Stimulate interest in all phases of landscape design.

For more information contact Alexis Slafer
California Garden Clubs, Inc. LDS & SoCal Garden Club LDS Chairman
aslafer@ca.rr.com or 323.292.6657



Jul 10 - Jul 11, 2024 Westerville, OH (virtual via Zoom)

REGISTRATION

Garden Club of Ohio Inc.
Environmental School
Course 4 - Water
July 10-11, 2024
ZOOM



A note from Linda Jean Brown, SCR Youth Activities Coordinator.

Thank you South Central Region:

Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas, Texas and garden club members for your generous donations supporting the funding for our Youth Contests.

I am proud to report that you did an awesome job, \$325.00 was received from the "Youth Fund" envelopes. We give out a total of \$600.00 each year, if all the contests had their quota of 1st place winners. So, the youth fund is still in need of \$275.00 to payout next years contestants.

If you were unable to attend the great "Spring Fling" Convention this is a perfect opportunity for you to support our youth.

Checks can be made out to SCR and in the memo YOUTH FUND.

Please mail your contributions to

April Pratt SCR Treasurer
1904 S Boulevard
Edmond OK 73013-5148

All the Best

Linda Jean Brown

2023-25 SCR Youth Activities
Coordinator

Ljbrown3264@windstream.net
(903)724-2656 C



SCR Youth Activities Coordinator, Linda Jean Brown

2024 SCR Youth Award Contests & Guidelines

Our purpose: To teach our youth gardeners to use their eyes to see Horticulture and then grow it; to see Conservation and then practice it; to see our Resources and then conserve them; to see Color and then use it; to see Civic Projects and then adopt one so they may act wisely, ever mindful of the fact that horticulture is the strongest argument for our existence. Lead our youth to carry out our NGC Theme "Plant America."

SCR Youth Activities Coordinator

Linda Jean Brown

30 Waco Dr.

Elkhart TX 75839

(903)478-3264 (h)

(903)724-2656 ©

Ljbrown3264@windstream.net



#19 Bird Contest:

2024 Killdeer Charidrius vociferius

All poster entries are to be submitted to

SCR Bird Chairman,

Linda Lawson 409 NW 41st St Ok City OK 73118-8425 LindaLawson@cox.net

All entries must be sponsored by a local garden club.

Posters must feature the "SCR Bird of the Year".

Eligible students are 4th – 9th grades. Home schooled students are eligible.

Materials may include: crayons, markers, poster paints, watercolors, etc.

Paper choice is decided by the student. The size must be submitted on an 8 ½ x 11 inch page.

Print students name and school and garden club name City and State to the back of your page.

Each club should have entries judged to determine a first-place winner for each grade level.

First Place winners from 4th – 8th graders should be mailed to SCR Bird Chairman. **ONLY ONE FIRST PLACE ENTRY PER GRADE ACCEPTED FROM YOUR STATE AWARDS CHAIRMAN.**

Scale of Points:

Originality	25%
Method	25%
Artwork	25%
Overall Effectiveness of the entry	25%
Total	100%

Copy winning entries as they will not be returned unless a club member attends the SCR Spring Convention.

Posters may include artwork pasted upon a 2nd piece of paper. No 3D allowed.

2024 SCR Youth Award Contests & Guidelines—Continued

#20 Poetry Contest:

2024 “My Garden has Vegetables to Spare that I can Share”

All poetry entries are submitted to

SCR Poetry Chairman,

Sheila Thorne, PO Box 2543 League City, TX 77574 gardenkidskemah@yahoo.com

Eligible to Special Education and English as a Second Language Kindergarten – 9th grades.

All entries must be typed and titled.

Print students name and school and garden club City and State to the back of your paper.

Sponsoring garden club may be that of a grandparent.

All entries become the property of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Poems do not have to rhyme. Poems may be traditional verse, acrostics, blank verse, cinquains, diamond poems, limerick, or Haiku

The theme should not be used as the title to any poetry.

Long longer than 24 lines (including title) maximum 42 letters/spaces per line

Include at least one of the following keywords from the theme: Seeds, Trees, Bees, or Nature.

Scale of Points:

Title	10%
Content	40%
Creativity	30%
Style	20%
Total	100%



#21 Recycle/Sculpture Contest:

ENCOURAGING YOUTH TO KEEP OUR PLANET GREEN

All entries are submitted to

SCR Recycle/Sculpture Chairman,

Linda Jean Brown 30 Waco Dr., Elkhart TX 75839 ljbrown3264@windstream.net

The purpose of this contest is to encourage our youth to keep our planet green and to get involved with saving the environment.

All children in 4th – 8th grades are eligible to enter, with a local garden club sponsor.

Sculptures must consist of recycled, reused, and reduced materials.

The sculpture is limited to a size that will fit sitting on an 8 ½” x11” sheet of paper; height should be proportionate.

A list of materials used, and a brief description of the sculpture should be included on the entry form.

Entry form may be found on NGC website at www.gardenclub.org

Entries will include (2) 4”x6” photographs printed on the back of the entry form.

Chairman should make photos of entries to provide as requested from the NGC website.

Club entries must be sent to your State Chairman by your state’s deadline.

SCR winners will be sent to NGC by March 1.

If your state does not participate in this contest, your entry may be sent directly to the SCR Youth Sculpture Chairman.

Scale of Points

Creative use of materials and self-expression	60%
Description of sculpture and materials used	30%
Craftsmanship and Technique	10%
Total	100%

2024 SCR Youth Award Contests & Guidelines—Continued

#22 Smokey Bear /Woodsy Owl “Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!”

Woodsy Owl

“Lend a Hand Care for the Land”

Rules are the same for either contest – only enter one per year.

SCR Chairman: Jennifer Moreno, 305 Fairmont Park Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 87123

Moreno_jen@aps.edu



Students in grades 1st – 5th may enter and must be sponsored by a garden club.

Posters must feature **either** Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl.

Smokey Bear posters must include Smokey’s wildfire prevention message: “Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!”

Woodsy Owl posters must include Woodsy Owl’s message: “Lend a Hand Care for the Land!”

Posters should encourage children to take a personal role in preventing wildfires.

Each entry should be 11”x17” in size.

Materials that can be used include: crayons, markers, poster paints, watercolors, etc.

The child may choose the paper, but it should be 11”x17” in size.

No three-dimensional poster, computer scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted.

Print Students name, school and garden club name, City and State on the back to the bottom left corner.

Smokey Bear is an official icon: the color of his clothing needs to be accurate. Check the colors on the website www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids.

Students should be reminded to check spelling. **Posters with spelling errors will be disqualified.**

Any group of children can participate: Scout troops, after school programs, etc. are perfectly appropriate. The child’s grade must be included on the back of the poster so that the participant can compete in the correct age group category.

Scale of Points

Originality	20%
Design	20%
Slogan	20%
Artwork	20%
Overall effectiveness of message	20%
Total	100%

Unveiling Champions: What Makes Winning Books of Evidence for National Garden Clubs, Inc.

By Pam Grotts



The National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) recognizes the dedication and passion of its members through a prestigious awards program. A key element in this program is the Book of Evidence, a detailed document showcasing a club's year-long efforts in promoting the NGC's mission. But what separates a good Book of Evidence from a winning one? Let's delve into the key ingredients that make a Book of Evidence stand out and impress the judges.

Content is King (and Queen):

- **Alignment with NGC Objectives:** At the core lies a clear demonstration of how the club's activities align with the NGC's core objectives. This includes promoting the love of gardening, floral design, environmental awareness, and civic beautification.
- **Comprehensiveness:** A winning Book of Evidence paints a complete picture of the club's year. It should encompass all major projects, events, and initiatives undertaken, showcasing the club's impact on the community.

Detailed Documentation: Don't just tell, show! Include compelling evidence to support your claims. This can involve newspaper clippings, photographs, flyers, awards received, and even program agendas. Ensure all documentation is clear, well-organized, and easy for the judges to navigate.

Presentation Matters:

- **Organization and Clarity:** A well-organized and visually appealing Book of Evidence is a pleasure to read. Utilize clear page layouts, consistent formatting, and a logical flow of information.
- **Visual Appeal:** High-quality photographs and illustrations can breathe life into your Book of Evidence, showcasing the beauty of your gardens, floral arrangements, and community projects.

Professional Touch: Presentation matters. Invest in a clean, professional-looking binder for your Book of Evidence. Ensure all pages are neatly arranged and secured.

Impactful Storytelling:

- **Highlight Success Stories:** Beyond listing activities, showcase the impact of your club's work. Did your community garden provide fresh produce to a local food pantry? Did your youth education program inspire a love of nature in children? Share these success stories with compelling narratives. *(continued on next page)*

Unveiling Champions: What Makes Winning Books of Evidence for National Garden Clubs, Inc. (continued)

- **Quantify Whenever Possible:** Numbers can add weight to your achievements. Quantify the number of people reached through your events, the amount of waste diverted through composting initiatives, or the square footage of public gardens maintained.

Showcase Innovation and Creativity: Did your club come up with a unique fundraising event or educational program? Highlight these innovative approaches that set your club apart.

Remember:

- **Read the Award Guidelines Carefully:** The specific criteria for each award may differ. Ensure your Book of Evidence comprehensively addresses the specific requirements outlined for your chosen award category.
- **Proofread and Edit:** Typos and grammatical errors can leave a negative impression. Proofread your Book of Evidence thoroughly before submitting it.

By incorporating these elements, your Book of Evidence can become a compelling testament to your club's dedication to the National Garden Clubs' mission. So, unleash your creativity, document your achievements diligently, and tell the captivating story of your club's passion for gardening and community betterment. Who knows, your Book of Evidence might just be the one that takes home the top prize!





Dear Designer,

Thank you for your interest in our first **#Designing with M** workshop. The Greater St. Louis Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges is happy to sponsor this workshop. Please come join Made-lyn Hucker, *Design Instructor Emeritus*, as she leads us into a new post-Covid era of design.

If you are new to design, this workshop will lead you to current design trends. You will learn about Design Types and the Principals and Elements of Design.

For those more experienced designers, explore new component options and enhance the skills you have developed in the past.

During the two days you will learn to create: armatures; work with earth friendly, newly introduced oasis and water tubes; a traditional handheld, self-standing bouquet. A total of 4 designs will be created, introducing innovative tips for Advanced and Creative Designs.

Whether you are a novice who just loves to play with flowers, a student in Flower Show School, a Flower Show Judge, or an accomplished designer, this workshop will have something to offer you. Learn that being able to See a concept in Your Mind's Eye before you create it, will guide the execution in reality, with adjustments learned in class.

The only thing you need to bring to the workshop would be your imagination and a few basic tools (scissors, wire cutters, etc.). All mechanics, containers, and plant material will be furnished, and you will leave with items that are Show Quality for future use.

Lunch will be provided on both days. What could be more fun than spending a couple of days learning new design techniques and making new Flower Design Friends!

For those coming from out of town, there is a good selection of hotels with a 15 minute or less drive of the Moolah Shrine Center. Westport Plaza is close, offering hotels, shopping, and restaurants. For those who may fly in with carryon only, tools will be available.

To register for the workshop please complete the Registration Form and mail it along with your check as indicated on the form. Don't wait until the last minute, registration closes June 3, 2024.

Hope to see you on June 24, 2024! Sincerely,

Cindy McAvity, Registrar

Companion Planting Helps All Plants.

By Sherie Clarkson, Herb Chairman

Companion planting, which is the use of herbs to protect or stimulate the growth of other plants, was first introduced by Mother Nature at the beginning of time. However, many people still have not discovered this natural way to increase yields, reduce insect damage, and have healthier plants. Just as herbs are used to help human sickness, they can be used to keep your other plants healthy, also.

There are several theories as to why companion planting works. One is that strongly scented herbs mask the odor of the protected plants so bugs cannot find them. Also, it is thought that bugs ravaging next to a strong-smelling herb find their dinner less appealing. Another theory is that root exudations of companion plants build up in the soil and these “additives” may affect the eggs or larvae of the pests.

There are several ways in which herbs can be planted as companions. One method suggests mixing the herb seeds with the seeds of the companion plants and planting them in the same row. The ratio of herb seed to companion seed depends on the degree of your bug problem. An abundance of both plants will happen and after germination you can thin back to accommodate your needs.

Another way is to create an herbal border around the plants to be protected. Marigolds, sage and basil are good examples. Many people have been doing this because their grandparents and parents did, never knowing the exact reason. Plus, it is very attractive in your landscape border of marigolds.

Planting beneficial herbs in the same vicinity is a third way to companion plant. Borage, coriander and chives are excellent plants for attracting bees to the garden to aid in pollinating. Also, plants such as yarrow are said to enhance the essential-oil production of other plants.

Many companion plants are also found to go well together in cooking. Basil and tomatoes are one of the best examples. Savory and beans are another. So, common sense sometimes is all you need to make your companion plant choices.

The following is a list of some suggested companion plants. This list does not contain all the possibilities. One of the best ways I have found is by good ole trial and error. Many plants, however, do not like one another, so I have included that information also. So, if your plants appear sick, it may be that they have a companion herb plant that they dislike. It goes both ways.

Companion Planting Helps All Plants. (continued)

Basil – this tender annual is especially liked by tomatoes and asparagus and aids in repelling flies and mosquitoes. Dislikes rue.

Borage – Plant near tomatoes to discourage tomato worms and with strawberries if kept small by pinching back.

Catnip – In addition to pleasing your kitty with its minty smell, it helps repel flea beetles. It is best planted in a border. All the cats in the neighborhood will thank you.

Chamomile - This plant is known as the “plant doctor” as it will give ailing plants a boost when cultivated near them. A strong tea made of the entire plant (stems, leaves and flowers) used as a spray will help a devastating fungus condition known as damping off. Plant this helpful herb all over the garden to improve the general health of all plants.

Chives – Plant a border around your celery or carrot patch. Tomatoes and roses like chives, also. However, chives dislike peas and beans.

Coriander – This herb grows well with anise and will discourage cabbage moths and encourages pollinating insects when planted throughout the garden.

Dill – Plant closely with cabbage, lettuce, onions and cucumbers, but avoid the carrot patch. Dill also attracts many different butterfly caterpillars.

Fennel – Do not plant fennel near your garden as it is known as the “outcast plant”. Monarch and Swallowtail butterfly caterpillars love it.

Garlic – This is called the companion workhorse as it will deter pests of all kinds when planted throughout the garden. Peas and beans, however dislike garlic.

Marigolds and Calendula – Probably the best known companion plant, marigold discourages many garden pests, particularly bean beetles and nematodes.

Mints – Peppermint, spearmint and catnip when used as a border will help repel rodents. Any member of the mint family will keep egg-laying moths out of your cabbage patch.

Onions and leeks – Interplant these in the garden with beets, cabbage, carrots, tomatoes, lettuce, summer savory and strawberries. Do not plant with beans and peas.

Parsley – A beautiful border plant, plant parsley around your tomatoes and asparagus bed. Onions and carrots will thrive when sown near it.

Companion Planting Helps All Plants. (continued)

Rosemary – Use a border around carrots, cabbage, sage and beans. The aromatic scent will help deter moths.

Rue – Plant rue around manure piles and barns for its fly repelling qualities. Raspberries and roses love this herb, but do not plant with basil.

Sage – Helping to deter moths, plant sage with a member of the cabbage family. It also brings vigor to carrots and rosemary but will discourage cucumbers.

Summer Savory – Called the bean herb in cooking, that's exactly where this herb should be planted in the garden, also. It deters the bean beetle and helps onions, also. Plant under fruit trees to repel bores.

Tansy – Tansy will help keep ants and flying insects out and encourages many beneficials to your garden.

Thyme – Plant near cabbage to repel cabbage worms.

Yarrow – this herb is planted next to its more aromatic neighbors to make their scents stronger.



Herbs planted with tomato plants include Lavender, lemongrass, thyme, oregano and bay.

Tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers planted with sage, thyme, rosemary, and basil



DAHLIA GARDEN CLUB FLOWER SHOW

The Dahlia Garden Club of Walters held their annual Standard Flower Show at the Cotton County

Fairgrounds Expo Center on May 18 & 19, 2024.

The show theme was "June is Bustin' Out All Over".

Entries for the show were accepted Friday May 18 beginning at 8 a.m. and closing at 1 p.m.

Members of the Dahlia Garden Club and members of the Patio Garden Club in Marlow had entries for the Horticulture Division, Design Division and Educational Division.

Titles for the **Design Division** were in keeping with the theme. Section A had 3 classes of tables

Class 1. "Picnic in the Park" 1st place – Iris Fraticelli, Dahlia GC

Class 2. "Celebrate Flag Day" 1st place – Melanie Spence, Dahlia GC

Class 3. "I Do" 1st place – Iris Fraticelli, Dahlia GC

Petite Designs had 3 classes, 5 inches, 8 inches and 12 inches in Section B

Class 4 "It's A Small World" 1st place, Bettie Cooper, Patio GC, Marlow

Class 5 "Rodeo Time" 1st place, Bettie Cooper, Patio GC, Marlow

Class 6 "Theme Park" 1st place, Melanie Spence, Dahlia GC

Design Awards:

Design Excellence - "I Do" - Iris Fraticelli

Table Artistry Award - "I Do" Iris Fraticelli

Petite Award - "It's A Small World" Bettie Cooper

Sweepstakes - Melanie Spence (Most Blue Ribbons in Design)

The **Horticulture Division** had 40+ entries from Herbs to cut flowers to potted plants and more. Most beautiful specimen. Entered with common name as well as botanical Latin names.

Horticulture Awards:

Top Award - Horticulture Excellence - Blue Hydrangea - Shirley Johnston

Award of Merit - Blue Hydrangea - Shirley Johnston

Growers Choice - Award - Shirley Johnston

Sweepstakes - Most Blue Ribbons in Horticulture - Shirley Johnston

The **Educational Exhibits** included an OSU exhibit and one on Flower Show Procedure presenting the plan for presenting a Flower Show.

Educational Award:

"Flower Show Procedure" Shirley Johnston

The Judges began judging at 1:30 p.m. Judges were Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges, April Pratt, Edmond, Phyllis Steinhour and Mary Early, OKC

The show opened on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. Workshops went on all day with many Master Gardeners presenting a variety of gardening information from conserving water to Bee Keeping. Lots of information shared with an attentive audience.

The 4-H clubs provided a concession stand that was visited by most in attendance.

Horticulture Awards:

jpg 6647 -Top Award - Horticulture Excellence - Blue Hydrangea - Shirley Johnston

Award of Merit - Blue Hydrangea - Shirley Johnston

Growers Choice - Award - Shirley Johnston

Sweepstakes - Most Blue Ribbons in Horticulture - Shirley Johnston





**All this hard work builds
a big appetite!**



Iris Fraticelli

Horticulture Awards:



Shirley Johnston

**Top Award - Horticulture
Excellence - Blue Hydrangea - Shirley
Johnston**

Design Awards:



Iris Fraticelli

**Design Excellence - "I Do" - Iris
Fraticelli**

**Table Artistry Award - "I Do"
Iris Fraticelli**

Award of Merit - Blue Hydrangea
- Shirley Johnston

Growers Choice - Award -
Shirley Johnston

Sweepstakes - Most Blue Ribbons
in Horticulture - Shirley Johnston

Educational Award:



"Flower Show Procedure"
Shirley Johnston

*"Happiness
held is the seed;
Happiness
shared is the flower."*



Petite Award - "It's A Small World"
Bettie Cooper



**- Sweepstakes (Most Blue Ribbons
in Design)- Melanie Spence**

"PLANT AMERICA- POLLINATING SOUTH CENTRAL REGION"

**SCR theme for 2023-2025
Pollinator state specific seeds
will be available as well as
pollinator pins of all sorts to
fund the scholarships.**

**Four \$1000 scholarships
were given out at the 2024
convention. One to each SCR
State. Congratulations!!**



SCR LIFE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN,

Mary Ann Holman

This Valentines Day Honor that special friend or someone in your club with the gift of a SCR Life Membership! You can remember someone special with a SCR life membership! A very nice way to acknowledge those special Garden Club members. I will mail it or deliver it at the next SCR Convention!!! In Little Rock next spring.....see you there!!!

ONLY \$50 + PIN \$ 5 = \$ 55

(available with a magnet back or standard pin back)

All proceeds from the SCR Life Membership sales now go to the \$1000 SCR Scholarship given in the second year of a term (Which will be 2025).

Order from:

Mary Ann Holman, SCR Life Membership Chairman
505 S. First Street, Walters, OK 73572-2209
580-875-3720 or 580.875.3720
Email: mholmanoklahomagardenclubs@aol.com



On Sunday April 21st, 2024, the Rainbow Garden Club North Texas (RGC) had two booths to sell plants on Oak Cliff Earth Day 2024 which was from 12-5. It was held at Lake Cliff Park in Oak Cliff on the south side of Dallas, Texas. Our club has two booths at this event every year. That gives us space to sell our home-grown plants and have space to visit.

This year I was concerned that we would be washed out due to record breaking rainfall the day before the event. However, the park had absorbed the rain, and the ground was perfect for setting up our tents. It was cool in the morning and beautiful in the afternoon.

This year, Super Seeders Garden Club, a fellow club member of the Oak Cliff Garden Forum joined our booths to sell flowery head bands. We sold \$456 of plants in pots and bare rooted which was a record for us at this event. Super Seeders almost sold out of their head bands.

I have attached some photos from the event as well.

Stan Aten, President—Rainbow Garden Club North Texas



On Saturday, May 18th, 2024, the **OKC Council of Garden Clubs** hosted the 34th annual Festival in the Park at the Will Rogers Gardens in Oklahoma City. There were 40 vendors selling plants and gardening items, an alpaca and a therapy goat exhibit, and five food trucks. With tornadoes, wind, and rain just days away, the weather turned out beautiful. Over 1,000 people enjoyed the day.



Members of the Late Bloomers Club



Members of the OKC Viola Club at their sales table.



The Green Thumb Garden Club of Bartlesville members have picked daffodils, arranged them in vases with a note to have a Great Day for several years. The drivers for Meals on Wheels graciously deliver them to their clients. (I can't think of a good word for those who receive meals from Meals on Wheels.)

The Club members, friends and relatives met to pull weeds and put down mulch before planting the annual flowers at their public garden project this spring. The club will be continuing this project of over forty years after a tough summer last year with water restrictions and will be adding more monarch friendly plants to their display as it is also a recent designated "Monarch Waystation".

Submitted by Kloma Laws, President



Patio Garden Club of Oklahoma, toured The Crossed Arrows Alpaca Farm and fiber Mill near Velma, ok. We saw the fiber process from start to finished products and got up close and personal with the alpacas.



Patio Garden Club toured the Double H. Hidden Hills Hideaway ABNB near Foster ok to check out the many amazing wildflowers, lake and cabins. Hostess Marla Hawkins (pictured on the right) gave each member a box of drying sand, and a card to put our dried wildflowers on.



Patio garden club hosted the SC District spring convention at Marlow's historic opera house. The theme was "There's Something Seedy Going On" and guest were given seeds, chocolates and gift baskets. During the lunch break guests were given the opportunity to shop in the Marlow Mercantile



Blue Star/Gold Star Report, Shirley Tetreault, Chairman

The Blue Star/Gold Star program is off and running in our Region. The first Gold Star in New Mexico was dedicated on April 27, 2024. We were honored to have Brigadier General Jamison Herrera dedicate the marker. There were many local and state dignitaries present for the ceremony. Our second marker was dedicated on June the 8th. With over 60 Veterans, Gold Star families and dignitaries present. Both had our Gold Star Mothers unveil the marker and both are placed with the Blue Star. Our State President, Debra Sorrell gave the Tribute to the families. Our third marker will be dedicated in July 2024. These markers give Honor, Hope and healing to the families that have served and passed while serving our Country.



At our National Convention on June the 3rd I was informed that Oklahoma is working on a Gold Star Marker for their state. This is exciting news and will have more information in our next issue. We also have and Blue and Gold working in Artesia, New Mexico.

Gold Star Installation in Albuquerque, NM



Blue Star Installation in Stroud, Oklahoma



**BLUE STAR MEMORIAL DEDICATION
ED SMALLEY CENTENNIAL PARK
STROUD, OKLAHOMA
JUNE 14, 2024**

National Garden Clubs, Inc
Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc
Cushing Gladiolus Garden Club

Gold Star Installation in Clovis, NM



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE REGION:

July 20, 27-28, 2024	Flower Show School IV, ABQ, NM New Mexico Judge Council Suzy Andrego—Sandrego@aol.com
July 27-28, 2024	Judges Symposium Tulsa, OK Judy Grotts—Judygrotts@cotc.net
September 27-29, 2024	Environmental School 3 Fort Parker State Park, Mexia, TX esarabeth@aol.com

A HUGE THANK YOU to ALL

South Central Region Adult Award Sponsors!

We could not do it without your support!!

Did you know that South Central Region has a website with lots of information, upcoming convention information and archived copies of "The Communicator" (The Official tri-annual publication of South Central Region).

Website address: scrgardenclubs.org

Password: FUTURE

South Central Communicator Editor

Suzy Andrego

Communicator Email address: Sandrego@aol.com

COMMUNICATOR ARTICLE DUE DATE	COMMUNICATOR PUBLISH DATE
February 1	February 15
June 1	June 15
October 1	October 15