

# Keeping In Touch



**National Garden Clubs, Inc. 4401 Magnolia Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63110 314-776-7574 [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org)**

## President's Postcard

### **GAY AUSTIN**

As I continue to travel across America, I am impressed by our members' commitment to NGC. Since this responsibility began, I've visited 18 states with each meeting showing me how truly dedicated NGC garden club members are to their clubs, communities and states. I've also traveled on two international tours, the Canadian Rocky Mountain region in August plus my most recent trip to Chili, where I attended two flower shows and presented several programs to International Affiliate organizations. Special thanks to Idalia Aguilar, NGC President's IA Liaison and Marie Regina Viau, (Guatemala) NGC Awards Committee, IA, Mexico & Central America for traveling with me to help promote NGC objectives. Dr. Gloria Remedi, (Uruguay), Website Committee and Ceclia Farish, (Chili) NGC – IA Plant America Chairman also traveled with us to provide needed information to members.

Membership continues to be one of the top emphasis for all. To help meet challenges, our NGC Membership Committee is sharing innovative ideas to help our organization grow. Throughout our states, there are unique ways that clubs are trying to increase awareness to benefits of belonging to a garden club. While in Nebraska, their state convention committee organized two events that challenged their club members. First, they planned their state meeting in a city that did NOT have a garden club; secondly, they sponsored a NGC flower show, opening it to the public. These combined efforts, provided positive public exposure, with potential new garden clubs.

The theme of Plant America has been embraced by all, with new and innovative ideas of projects to promote this broad theme. Our world is reaping the benefits of our efforts as we help beautify and protect through enthusiastic, positive programs. NGC has a long-standing successful program, Penny Pines, where our members contribute funds to the US Forest Service to help with reforestation of National Forests. In addition, our garden clubs consistently plant trees on Arbor Day.

*(Continued on page 5)*



### **NGC Headquarters! Inside This Issue**

- Headquarters' History 2
- Staff Interviews 3 - 5
- PLANT AMERICA 6
- Schools' Database Update 8
- Nominating Committee 9 - 13
- Perfect Vision 2020 14 - 15
- Calendars 16
- Acknowledgments 18



# NGC Headquarters

NANCY HARGROVES

Established in 1929, the National Garden Clubs, Inc (NGC) leased its first office space in Rockefeller Center in New York City. At the time, there were 84,661 members. In 1941, with 160,000 members, the headquarters moved to the Roosevelt Hotel – also in NYC. Following WWII, membership bloomed to over 300,000 members and the husband of President Lorena Spillers suggested building a permanent headquarters. At the 1953 Fall Board Meeting, the Directors voted to make the new headquarters a goal for the NGC Headquarters’ Silver Anniversary. Members present at the 1954 annual convention voted on location options with St. Louis winning due to it being in the center of the country.

John and Anne Lehman donated \$55,000 to purchase 6.2 acres adjacent to the Missouri Botanical Garden. Fundraising for the building began in earnest with \$290,000 being donated, thus allowing for headquarters to be debt-free. Frederic R Dunn designed the classic mid-century modern building with granite from Georgia symbolizing the first garden club founded in 1891. He also used brick from New York to honor the first headquarters site. Groundbreaking began on May 12, 1957 with construction by the Gamble Construction Company. Dedication was right on schedule – May 10, 1959.

Fast forward to 1997 when the NGC and staff had grown beyond its space and expansion was needed. The Kellogg Hall, lower level and supporting areas were enlarged with a generous donation by the Cecil B Day family, husband of President Deen Day Sanders. Architect Markham Smith and designer Jenny White seamlessly continued the 1950’s style of the building with BSI Contractors doing the construction. The building was rededicated in 1999, 40 years after the first dedication. In 2019, at the Fall Board Meeting, NGC again dedicated headquarters with a new welcoming garden, more environmentally conscious plantings and better accessibility. All NGC members are welcome to visit OUR headquarters at 4401 Magnolia Avenue in St. Louis.

**From the 1959 dedication: “In the beginning, it was a dream. A dream of a place of our own, a place to house our national offices, a place with adequate assembly rooms, a place of beauty. A memorial – that too. A symbol of horticultural stewardship. A gift to that long procession of gardeners who will follow.”**

New Butterfly Garden-NGC Headquarters



Butterfly Sculpture



Welcome to NGC





# NGC Staff

## STAFF INTERVIEWS

NGC Staff: L-R: Chris Schmidt, Michelle Smith, Katie Roth, Rebecka Flowers Hollingsworth, Bill Trapp, Patricia Binder (TNG Editor), Emily Kiske

**Michelle Smith, Executive Director**, I carry out the business of the National Headquarters as directed by the National President and Executive Committee with consultation from the PH&E Director. I provide oversight for all aspects of the building, grounds, and staff at headquarters. I attend all annual National meetings and participate in and administratively support the Finance, Organization Study, PH&E Trustees and Executive committees. As directed by the NGC leadership, I lead miscellaneous projects.

- 🌿 **Hobbies:** Listening to music, attending sporting events, going to movies and the theater and scrapbooking.
- 🌿 **Length of service with NGC:** I have been with NGC for 10 years. It's a great organization with so many wonderful people!
- 🌿 **What is the most daring thing you have ever done?** I climbed a 52 foot outdoor tower even though my fear of heights was attempting to win the argument.
- 🌿 **Anything else?** I have one daughter, Madison, who is a sophomore in college, and two dogs, Zeke and Puffin.

**Katie Roth, Administrative Assistant**, I prepare and send email blasts to the Board of Directors (BOD), blast *Keeping In Touch* to the BOD and club presidents with email addresses, prepare packets for the Fall Board Meetings (FBM) and Conventions, attend the FBM and Conventions to support the meetings, categorize and file all meeting minutes and act as registrar for the St. Louis FBM. I prepare citations and certificates (Scholarship, Presidential Citations, State Presidents' Certificates, Awards, International, Anniversary, Blue and Gold Star, 4 & 5 Star Members, Golden Circle) and maintain the NGC directory and State publications file. I also inventory and purchase office supplies and stationery, answer and distribute online membership inquiries, administer scholarship applications, answer general correspondence and questions per-taining to individual chairmanships.

- 🌿 **Hobbies:** I like to read, listen to music, go to sporting events (Blues and Cardinals games). I also enjoy going to the movies/theater and playing cards/games. I have also recently started making my own birthday/greeting cards .
- 🌿 **Length of service with NGC:** 16 years. I have enjoyed my many years working for NGC. It is a great place to work & you can't beat the view!
- 🌿 **What is the most daring thing you have ever done?** I like going to amusement parks with my family and riding roller coasters.
- 🌿 **Anything else?** My husband Mike and I have been married for 12 years and have 2 children, Bridget, 11 and Garret, 9 plus 3 dogs and 1 cat.



Custom Carpet Graces NGC Headquarters



Peaceful Center Courtyard



# NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

4401 MAGNOLIA AVENUE

## NGC Staff

### STAFF INTERVIEWS

**Bill Trapp, Accountant**, I maintain financial records, support information technology and design databases.

- 🌱 **Hobbies:** My hobbies have changed a lot over the years. Only a couple years ago, I would say that most of my free time was designated to spending time with my boys. Now that they are grown, I spend more time training for marathons and triathlons. Plus, I still like to spend my Saturday afternoons grilling in my outdoor kitchen.
- 🌱 **Length of service with NGC:** I've been working at NGC for 28 years.
- 🌱 **What is the most daring thing you have ever done?** My most daring event was swimming 2.4 miles in Lake Erie for the 2012 Rev 3 Ironman Distance Triathlon. I was so happy after it was done, that I raised my head and gave thanks to God that I was still alive; he responded by saying "get on your bike, you have another 138 miles to go."
- 🌱 **Anything else?** I'm the third oldest of eight kids.

**Chris Schmidt, Accounting Assistant**, I process the checks to pay NGC bills, send acknowledgements and certificates for donations and process dues payments from clubs.

- 🌱 **Hobbies:** I like traveling and shopping. I love spending my time with all of my grandchildren
- 🌱 **Length of service with NGC:** 4 years
- 🌱 **What is the most daring thing you have ever done?** Taking on the responsibility of raising my 3-year-old grandson
- 🌱 **Anything else?** It is nice to come to work every day and enjoy the beautiful grounds at NGC Headquarters.

**Emily Kiske, Member Services Coordinator**, I am responsible for taking and shipping member services orders, and maintaining the NGC online shopping cart.

- 🌱 **Hobbies:** In my free time I enjoy Pilates, trap and skeet shooting, and needlepoint. On weekends when the weather is nice, I like to spend time outdoors exploring local farmers markets, parks and some of the historic neighborhoods around the city with my husband.
- 🌱 **Length of service with NGC:** 3 years
- 🌱 **What is the most daring thing you have ever done?** Growing up I loved to take the horses swimming through the creeks at camp. It was a fun way to deal with the summer heat.
- 🌱 **Anything else?** Let's go Blues!!!



Welcome Wall - NGC Headquarters



Headquarters Artwork & Memorial





Wall Sculpture of Columbine Species From Every State

## NGC Staff

### STAFF INTERVIEWS

**Rebecka Flowers Hollingsworth,**

**Receptionist & School Secretary,** I maintain all of the school records and handle daily office tasks such as phone calls, mail, and tours.

- 🌸 **Hobbies:** I am a full-time student, so what little free time I have is spent with friends and family.
- 🌸 **Length of service with NGC:** 1.5 years
- 🌸 **What is the most daring thing you have ever done?** A few weeks ago, here at Headquarters, I saved a bat.
- 🌸 **Anything else?** I am currently getting my Bachelors Degree in Business Administration with an Emphasis in Finance.

*Editor's Note:* Thank you to all of our dedicated NGC staff for taking time out of their very busy days to share a bit of themselves with all of you. They are a great source of help and information and we are so very lucky to have their support.



State Clubs' Logos on Headquarters Carpet

## President's Postcard, cont.

*(Continued from page 1)*

A new initiative has been proposed for the 2019-2021 administration by the NGC Climate Control Chairman, Victoria Bergeron, using PAT - Plant America with Trees – Each ONE (member) Plant ONE (native tree). She is working with committee members from the Environmental Concerns and Conservation, Gardening, Horticulture as well as Landscape Design, Environmental and Gardening Schools to offer assistance in obtaining, planting and maintaining future tree plantings. We encourage plantings by EACH garden club member during this administration. Imagine the impact of 165,000 tree plantings across America! It is our hope to help offset the loss caused by our many natural disasters that have destroyed areas and create a strong impact of our commitment to preserve natural areas in our communities and world.

At the 2019 NGC Fall Board meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, the Board of Directors approved the creation of a Blue Star Memorial Marker Ornament to sell through our Member Services. Once headquarters has received them, we will notify you through our website and offer them for sale.

NGC is learning and growing together, as we embrace the many opportunities offered to us. Let us continue our dedication to plant seeds of service to our world. "Reconnecting with Nature" through conservation, membership and youth involvement will strengthen us not only as individuals, but also as a national organization. Thank you for ALL that you share with NGC, Inc.

**"Diversity is having a seat at the table, inclusion is having a voice and belonging is having that voice heard."** Liz Fosslien & Mollie West Duffy



# PLANT AMERICA

**VICTORIA BERGESEN**

Early Snow in Wisconsin

As the premier volunteer gardening organization in the world, we are uniquely positioned to fight climate change. We will plant at least 165,000 trees each year—one for every member.

Worldwide tree-planting initiatives (millions of trees) for carbon sequestration by governments and non-profit organizations help offset loss of flora due to natural disasters and intentional deforestation. NGC’s longstanding, successful programs have contributed to reforestation of National Forests. Local members plant trees on Arbor Day and for other occasions. The new NGC project, PAT (Plant America with Trees), will fill a need that these efforts do not.

Our membership is distributed all across America, with many in urban/suburban areas. These densely populated areas have claimed natural habitats. They have been built over, paved or planted with turf grass and exotic species. Many exotics are invasive, actively destroying native flora and fauna and isolating native species in ever smaller areas. Native plants do not sequester more carbon than non-natives do, but they give our biomes a better chance of surviving by creating wild-life corridors. Pollution and climate change further deplete resources.

NGC encourages our members to involve their communities with this effort as we hope to plant at least 165,000 trees in each year of this administration. Each ONE (member)—Plant ONE (native tree).



International Affiliates’ Garden - NGC Headquarters



# Out and About

## INFORMATION FROM AROUND NGC, INC.

### CELEBRATING 90 YEARS

#### Mary Jane Peters

Terrebonne Garden Club in Houma, Louisiana is celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2019. The club was founded in 1929 by three ladies whose original mission was to beautify a now historic site that was once a canal. An important event of the Club's history was the planting of 21 Live Oak Trees along Bayou Black by club members and Gold Star Mothers honoring the fallen sons in 1945. The garden club members will measure the trees and register them with the Live Oak Society (Louisiana Garden Club) using the names of the fallen soldiers from Terrebonne Parish after World War II. The club is now making preparations for the dedication of a Gold Star Marker.

The club's annual plant sale in May serves as a fundraiser and the proceeds go to beautification projects in our community. Also, our Garden Therapy project helps residents at a senior care facility make fresh floral arrangements. "Opening Our Garden Gates Since 1929" was the theme for our NGC Spring Standard Flower Show and Luncheon that was held in the Houma Municipal Auditorium where many Flower Shows were held in the past 90 years. "Beyond the Garden Gate", a tour of backyards was held in the fall, and more than 400 visitors attended the event. The gardens club's 85 members promote the love of gardening and civic beautification. They continue to follow in the footsteps of the three founding members.

### THE MEANING OF GARDEN CLUB WORK

#### Author Unknown - from NGC Membership Committee

- ◆ For some it means the actual gardening, hands in the soil, body in the sun and vision of color and fragrance and form.
- ◆ To some it means the use of flowers as a medium of artistic expression.
- ◆ To some it means an opportunity to serve their community by turning the ugly places into beauty spots.
- ◆ To some it is a spiritual experience, whereby they may serve through their gift of flowers to churches and hospitals and the lonely and forlorn.
- ◆ To a few, it means the challenge of leadership and personal ability in group work.
- ◆ To a very few, it is meaningless, a name on the membership list and a sometime attendance.
- ◆ But to the many it means making friends, meeting with the old and mingling with the new.
- ◆ Garden Club work is as complex as the unfolding of a rose and as simple as the face of a daisy. It is social. It is spiritual. It is political. It is educational. It is scientific. It is a way of life.

Welcome to Terrebonne GC's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday



Terrebonne GC Blue Star Marker





ES	FSS	GS	LDS	AccJudge	Acc1stRefresh	Acc2ndRefresh	Acc3rdRefresh	JudgeGoodStanding12/31/YR
	Active			10/24/2017				12/31/2020
	Active			10/23/2003	5/3/2005	11/2/2007	4/1/2009	12/31/2019
	Active			10/27/2017				12/31/2020
	Active			10/23/1997	1/31/2000	3/7/2002	1/11/2004	12/31/2020
			Active					
	Active			10/24/2001	8/17/2004	10/22/2007	4/14/2009	12/31/2020
	Active			10/25/2012	8/2/2014	1/28/2016	10/31/2017	12/31/2021
				1996	8/30/1998	10/2/2000		12/31/2019
<b>JULIE A. WEST</b>								

# Schools' Database

GOOD NEWS! The Schools Database Project from last term is up and running at NGC headquarters. Bill Trapp shared the "work in progress" with me when we met in St. Louis for the Fall Board Meeting. As rosters arrive at headquarters, new data is entered adding students from schools to the Access database as well as updating information gathered last term. Headquarters staff members are still fine-tuning the details for running reports but if you're curious about your status as a flower show judge, environmental, gardening or landscape design consultant, feel free to contact Rebecka Flowers Hollingsworth to confirm the data on file. It is also a great way to confirm you are included in the NGC Schools database records. Please be patient while they continue developing it, eliminating duplicates, adding new individuals, etc. Thank you to everyone who helped with this project.

		12/31/2020
08	2/18/2010	12/31/2020
Example of Page from Schools Database		



Gavel Sculpture - Columbus, OH

# 10 Tips for a Great Meeting

## JOAN H. CORBISIERO

1. *Plan the meeting.* What needs to be accomplished? Who is responsible for each item?
2. *Prepare an agenda.* Distribute it before the meeting and have the membership adopt it. This will give the presiding officer a structure to keep the meeting on track.
3. *Prioritize items in the agenda.* Be creative. If a very important item is to be considered at your meeting, do not bury it at the end of your meeting. Put it up front.
4. *Start the meeting ON TIME.* Reward members who arrive when they should, not latecomers.
5. *Time the meeting* so that it will adjourn when it is supposed to. If you are running behind, put the pedal to the metal on items that do not require long deliberation. If necessary, limit debate on a topic to a specified time.
6. *Have minutes of the previous meeting ready for approval in an efficient manner.* Reading lengthy minutes is not the way to go. Distributing them in advance either by e-mail or by having copies available before the start of the meeting can be a real time-saver. Just do not waste time reading them.
7. *Only call on officers or chairmen who need to report.*
8. *Use Unanimous Consent* in approving minutes, adopting routine reports and non-controversial items. Stating, "If there are no objections" can be a presiding officer's best friend. (A motion to approve minutes isn't necessary. Ask if there are any corrections, "If there are no corrections, the minutes stand approved as distributed.")
9. *Manage discussion.* There are debate rules. A favorite is that no one may speak more than twice on a motion in a single day and that no member may speak a second time until everyone has had the chance to speak once. (If you are having trouble with a "long winded" discussion, pass a special rule that debate be limited.
10. *End on time!* A motion to adjourn is not necessary. "If there is no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned." is all that is necessary.



## Nominating

**BARBARA CAMPBELL**

The Nominating Committee consists of 16 members, two from each region, one Chairman and one Vice Chairman with their duties defined in the NGC Bylaws and Standing Rules. Each region selects its two Nominating Committee members on a rotating basis of states within the region. The Executive Committee elects and the NGC Board of Directors ratifies the Chairman and Vice Chairman. All serve for two years. The Nominating Committee Procedure Manual defines the duties of the committee. The nominating committee's role is to select one candidate for each elected office, with the exception of the President.

The committee has met and sent updated officer endorsement and resume forms to all state presidents. March 15, 2020 is the deadline for receipt of nominations, endorsements and résumés for those seeking office. The committee meets in May at the annual convention in Milwaukee and again in September at the FBM in Fargo; where members interview and select candidates for office. See officer endorsement and resume forms on pgs. 10 - 13.

## Scholarships

**LISA ROBINSON**

Forty-One NGC Scholarships are available annually, at \$4,000.00 each! This NGC distinguished program assists deserving students to receive the funding they desperately need to further their education. Only 35 Scholarships were awarded in 2019! Please help us to disperse scholarship information, so that all 41 are awarded in 2020. Please assist your state scholarship chair in identifying applicants in your area. Let us work together to inspire interest from students and schools in your state. A recent survey of our State Garden Clubs showed that, combined with NGC, over \$600,000 in scholarships is being awarded annually! Over the years, the NGC scholarship program has awarded over \$4,000,000. Be proud of these accomplishments and use them to bring awareness to our programs.

All scholarship application forms are on the [NGC website](#). Applicants must be majoring in agriculture education, horticulture, environmental concerns or other related fields of study. Find qualifying criteria and the complete list of acceptable majors on the website. NGC Scholarship applications must be received by your state chair by February 1. If you have any questions regarding application procedure or eligibility requirements, contact your state scholarship chair, your region director or me at [ngcscholarship2020@gmail.com](mailto:ngcscholarship2020@gmail.com).

### NATURAL DISASTER FUND

- Brenda Moore

Thank you for your donations to the NGC International Disaster Fund. Please note the following was approved at the September 2019 Board of Directors' meeting:

That the \$25,802.62 balance of the "International Disaster Fund," a donor restricted account, be transferred on 10/1/2019 to the "Natural Disaster Fund." The balance can be used for any International Disasters NGC approves for the next five years. After five years, the principal amount and time commitment is satisfied, either by time or by use, and the remaining balance can be used for any natural disaster. NGC will no longer accept donations for this fund as of October 1, 2019.

**Rationale:** This is something the auditor and NGC accountant Bill Trapp suggested we do. The IRS discourages the transfer of money outside of the country by non-profits due to the possible misuse of that money and the possibility that the money will fall into the hands of terrorist.

We have had so many International Disasters that we hope to use our designated funds before the five year deadline. Again, thank you for your past donations.





## OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT FORM

The Nominating Committee of National Garden Clubs, Inc. will consider names to be placed in nomination for the 2021-2023 term of office for the following offices:

First Vice President \_\_\_\_\_

Second Vice President \_\_\_\_\_

Third Vice President \_\_\_\_\_

Recording Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate

Date

### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. A State Garden Club may present **one name** for each elective office.
2. A candidate may apply for **only one office**.
3. Endorsements for candidates will be accepted no later than **March 15, 2020** by the Nominating Committee Chairman.
4. A candidate must have the official endorsement of the candidate's State Garden Club Governing Board.
5. The State President shall write a letter of recommendation for the candidate on the reverse side of this form, (one page only).
6. This Official Endorsement Form, must be signed and dated by the State President, placed in a sealed envelope and given to the candidate.

State Garden Club \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

State President

Date





**Letter of Recommendation from State President for Candidate**

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **State President** **Date**



**Resume of Candidate for an Elected NGC Office**

Attach Current  
Photo Here

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Please type or print, on both sides. If space is a problem, or you prefer to use a computer, follow the format of this Resume Outline and decrease font size. Please keep it to one page, two sides . Include your name as you wish to be listed in the roster, your first name, and your nine-digit zip code.

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE GARDEN CLUB:** \_\_\_\_\_ **REGION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITION** (in which the Endorsement is Submitted, one position only):

\_\_\_\_\_

**QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE AND POSITIONS HELD:** (Give dates served)

**Garden Club(s):** (Local club and/or horticulture societies):

**State Garden Club:**

**Region:**

**National Garden Clubs, Inc:**



**Other non-profit organizations and positions held:** (Give dates served)

**Other organizations and positions held, with dates served:**

**Educational background:**

**Work experience/Profession:**

**Honors and Recognitions:** (give brief description of awards, dates, and which organization)

**List NGC conventions attended, with year and location:**

**Please Check if Applicable:**

NGC Flower Show Judge	[ ]	NGC Life Member	[ ]
Instructor, Flower Show Design	[ ]	Landscape Design Consultant	[ ]
Instructor, FS Horticulture	[ ]	Gardening Consultant	[ ]
Instructor, FS Procedure	[ ]	Environmental Consultant	[ ]
Instructor Symposia	[ ]	Four/Five Star Member	[ ]

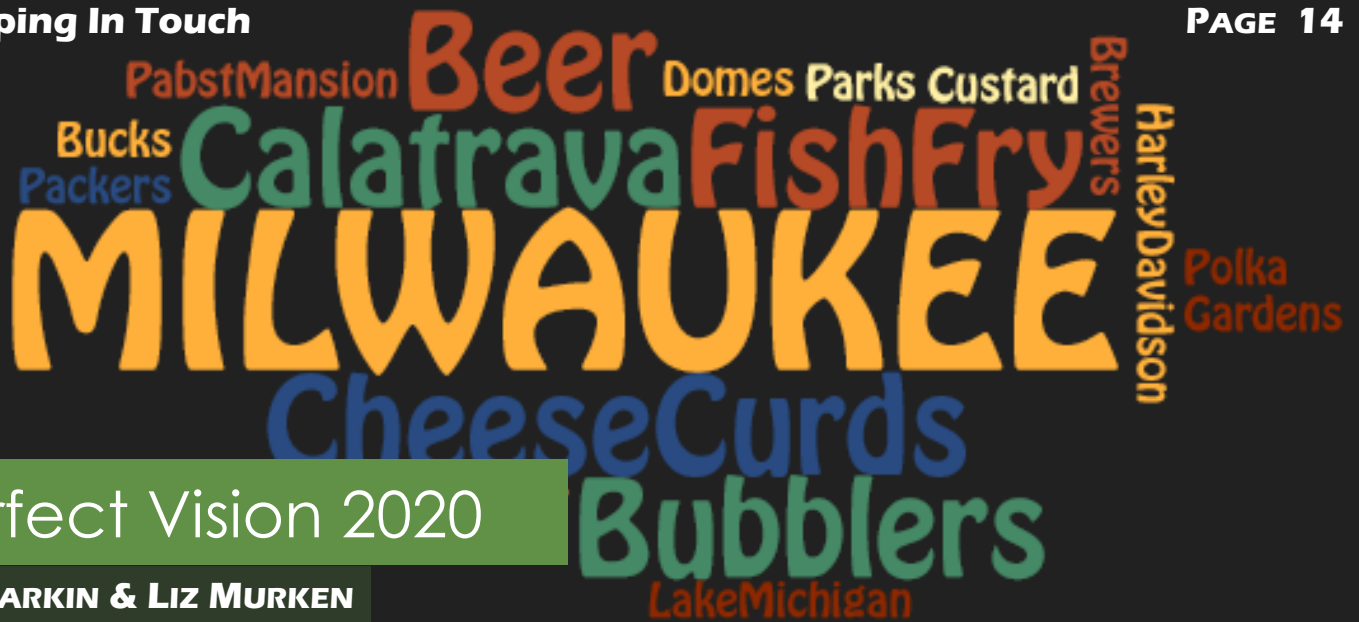
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Signature of Candidate

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Date





Perfect Vision 2020

KITTY LARKIN & LIZ MURKEN

Welcome to Milwaukee and the 2020 NGC Annual Convention *Perfect Vision 2020*. A Special highlights are listed below. The complete convention schedule will be on the NGC website: [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org) after registration opens on 12/1/2019. Please be sure to sign up early as space is limited on Tours, Pre-convention Tri-Refresher and the Post-convention workshop and tour. Come Early, Stay Late, Have Fun!

**Monday, May 11 Pre-Convention**

- 🕒 8:00 – 4:30 Preconvention Tri-Refresher
- 🕒 5:00 – 9:00 Flower Show Set-up

**Tuesday, May 12 Pre-Convention**

- 🕒 8:30 – 5:30 Tour A: Olbrich Botanical Gardens/Ebert's Greenhouse
- 🕒 8:30 – 4:00 Tour B: Milwaukee County Zoo
- 🕒 9:00 – 3:00 Tour C: Harley Davidson Museum/Milwaukee Brewery
- 🕒 12:00 – 1:30 Optional Lunch Buffet
- 🕒 12:00 – 4:00 Flower Show Entries Accepted
- 🕒 7:00 – 9:00 Flower Show Judging

**Wednesday, May 13 Pre-Convention**

- 🕒 8:00 Flower Show Ribbon Cutting & Opening
- 🕒 8:30 – 4:00 Tour D: Cedar Creek Winery/Shopping
- 🕒 8:30 – 5:00 Tour E: Schlitz Audubon Center/Cheese Factory
- 🕒 8:30 – 5:00 Tour F: EAA Museum/Veterans Military Museum
- 🕒 7:00 – 10:00 Members' Appreciation Banquet: "How Terra Nova Turns Ordinary Plants into Superstars" by Don Heims

**Thursday, May 14 Convention**

- 🕒 8:00 – 4:30 Tour G: Case Manufacturing/SC Johnson Company (Spouse/Guest)
- 🕒 12:00 – 2:00 Opening Luncheon: "International Crane Foundation, Then and Now" by Dr George Archibald, founder
- 🕒 2:15 – 5:30 Tour H: Milwaukee Art Museum
- 🕒 2:30 – 3:30 Seminar: "Getting Your Trees to Thrive, Not Just Survive" by Dan Traas
- 🕒 3:45 – 4:45 Seminar: "Proud to be Part of the Rotting World-Mushrooms" by Lindsay Bender
- 🕒 4:00 Flower Show Closes
- 🕒 7:00 – 10:00 Awards Banquet

**Friday, May 15 Convention**

- 🕒 8:30 – 5:00 Tour I: Kohler Design Center/American Club (Spouse/Guest)
- 🕒 12:00 – 2:00 Luncheon: "Two Women and a Hoe" by Jan Bills
- 🕒 2:30 – 3:00 Seminar: "Jumping Worms" by Bernadette Williams
- 🕒 3:45 – 4:45 Seminar: "Amazing Pictures from a Different Point of View" by Kathleen Greiger
- 🕒 7:00 – 10:00 Design Banquet: "Floral Design Program" by Kathleen Hawryluk

**Saturday, May 16 Post-Convention**

- 🕒 9:00 – 5:30 Tour J: International Crane Foundation/Aldo Leopold Foundation
- 🕒 9:00 – 5:00 Workshop: "Botanical Arts Jewelry 101" by Sarah Boynton



National Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention  
 Potawatomi Hotel & Casino  
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
 May 12-16, 2020





**PERFECT VISION 2020**  
**2020 National Garden Clubs Annual Convention**  
**Potawatomi Hotel & Casino**  
**1611 West Canal Street Milwaukee, WI 53233**

- Room rate: \$139/night, free parking
- Call 1-800-729-7244
- Registration code: National Garden Club 2020 National Convention
- Book online: [https://reservations-paysbig.webhotel.microsdc.us/bp/search\\_rooms.jsp?groupCode=NGC06082020](https://reservations-paysbig.webhotel.microsdc.us/bp/search_rooms.jsp?groupCode=NGC06082020)
- Ground transportation: NO hotel shuttle – cab/ridesharing service is available to and from the airports
- **Hotel reservation deadline: April 26, 2020**

### **Airports**

- General Mitchell International Airport (MKE) – Milwaukee (10mi)
- O’Hare International Airport (ORD) – Chicago (80mi)
- Dane County Regional Airport (MSN) – Madison (76mi)
- Midway International Airport (MDW) – Chicago (106mi)

**Please Note: the 2020 NGC Convention registration form is available on the NGC website AFTER December 1, 2019. Thank you.**

# Calendar of Events

## WHERE IN THE WORLD IS PRESIDENT GAY?

Nov 2 - 5	New Jersey Board Meeting	Bridgewater, NJ
Nov 19 - 21	Delaware State Meeting	Dover, DE
Jan 27 - 29	NGC Winter Executive Mtg.	St. Louis, MO
Feb 6 - 8	Judges' Council 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.	Dallas, TX



International Members Welcome President Gay to Chili.

## SCHOOLS THROUGH JANUARY - START DATES

### Environmental School

Nov 12	CR 2	<a href="#">Nancy Richards</a>	FL
Jan 24	CR 1	<a href="#">Sarah McReynolds</a>	TX
Jan 28	CR 3	<a href="#">Sally Flanagan</a>	FL

### Flower Show School

Nov 10	CR 3	<a href="#">Joanne Nelson</a>	FL
Nov 18	CR 1	<a href="#">Lois Hannabury-Deno</a>	FL

### Gardening School

Nov 14	CR 3	<a href="#">Joyce Skoglund</a>	VA
Nov 17	CR 1	<a href="#">Shirley Schmidt</a>	OR
Nov 21	CR 1	<a href="#">Michelle Maguire</a>	FL
Dec 5	CR 1	<a href="#">Carol Bullard</a>	MS
Jan 20	CR 1	<a href="#">Michael Biedenbender</a>	CA
Jan 22	CR 2	<a href="#">Michael Biedenbender</a>	CA
Feb 3	CR 2	<a href="#">Jennifer Condo</a>	FL

### Landscape Design School

Nov 20	CR 2	<a href="#">Judy Howerton</a>	GA
Nov 22	CR 3	<a href="#">Gail Fischer</a>	CO
Jan 13	CR 1	<a href="#">Kathy Wade</a>	SC
Jan 25	CR 2	<a href="#">Judy Tolbert</a>	AZ
Feb 3	CR 1	<a href="#">Sheryl Perkins</a>	FL
Feb 5	CR 2	<a href="#">Sheryl Perkins</a>	FL

### Multiple Refreshers

Jan 22	Tri	<a href="#">Barbara Hadsell</a>	FL
April 14	Tri	<a href="#">Barbara Hadsell</a>	FL
May 11	Tri	<a href="#">Vern Lowell</a>	WI

### Flower Show Symposium

Nov 6		<a href="#">Brenda McManaway</a>	VA
Jan 28		<a href="#">Cyndi Long</a>	MS

See [NGC website](#) for more information on all schools, refreshers and symposiums.

## PRE-CONVENTION TRI-REFRESHER

### VERN LOWELL

Coming early to the NGC Convention? Please consider attending the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation sponsored Tri-Refresher on May 11, 2020 from 8:00 - 4:30. Buses leave the Potawatomi Hotel & Casino at 7:30 a.m. Speakers include:

- 🌍 Nancy Aten, landscape architect, introducing Jens Jensen design particularly at The Clearing in Door County, WI.
  - 🌍 Dr John Berges, biological & freshwater sciences professor, presenting fresh water and threats to the Great Lakes.
  - 🌍 Shirley Dommer Walezky, Boerner Botanical Gardens Director, telling the story of the gardens: past, present and future.
  - 🌍 Will Radler, hybridizer of Knock-Out® roses, talking about the most widely sold rose in the world.
  - 🌍 Chris Schultz, certified public manager, discussing sustainability & the Milwaukee Sewage District.
- The day concludes with docent led tours of Boerner Botanical Gardens.





**National Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Tri-Refresher – NGC Pre-Convention**



Sponsored by Wisconsin Garden Club Federation  
**Monday, May 11, 2020 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.**

**Boerner Botanical Gardens, 9400 Boerner Dr., Hales Corners, WI**

Limited to 90 people

Registration deadline: April 1, 2020

The Tri-Refresher cost is \$125, which includes all admission fees, tours, speakers, lunch and transportation. Additionally, those refreshing must pay \$5.00 for each school refreshing. Buses leave Potawatomi Hotel at 7:30 and return at 5:00. Tours take place, rain or shine, so dress appropriately. Layers suggested and no open toe shoes, event is open to all. Please complete this form and send with your check as indicated. **Please print or complete as a fillable pdf or register online: <https://ngc2020tri-refresherbywgcf.eventbrite.com>**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
(As it appears on Consultant's Certificate) (For confirmation)

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code+4 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Club \_\_\_\_\_ State Garden Club \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_

International Affiliate (Country) \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED** Most recent Consultant Refresher record:

Gardening School: Event \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Environmental School: Event \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Landscape Design School: Event \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED** Please check school(s) in which you are a Master\*. If you are NOT a Master, then check ONE School in which you are accredited to refresh.

Environmental School                       Gardening School                       Landscape Design School

(\*Master Consultants may refresh in any school in which he/she is a master by paying \$5.00 per school.)

**Please Check** your lunch choice:

- Country Club: (ham, turkey, lettuce & tomato on cornmeal roll)
- California Avocado: (arugula, tomato, avocado, black bean spread & chipotle mayo, Ciabatta roll)
- Southwest Chicken: (chicken breast, pepper jack cheese, avocado, chipotle mayo, on Telara bread)

**Tri-Refresher Fee: \$125.00** \_\_\_\_\_  
**#School(s)** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$5.00 =** \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Information: [geriannewgcf@gmail.com](mailto:geriannewgcf@gmail.com) (Sorry, no refunds after April 1, 2020)

Please mail registration form and your check **payable to WGCF:**

WGCF Tri-Refresher c/o Gerianne Holzman, 7437 Terrace Av, Middleton, WI 53562-3154

# Acknowledgements

Bryce Canyon, Utah

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**Please Note: all forms included in this issue are fillable on your computer. Download the form, complete, "Save As" and rename file with your name.**

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 Gerry St. Peters, Joyce Bulington & Jan Sillik, Editorial Review  
**Coming in January/February: Media Issue: Website, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, YouTube, Instagram**



**YOUR contributions to KIT are always welcome. Please send interesting articles about your club and activities along with special tips & tricks. Deadline: December 1, 2019. Please send articles to [geriannewgcf@gmail.com](mailto:geriannewgcf@gmail.com)**

## PHOTO ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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# Sitting on the Porch

## GERIANNE HOLZMAN

During our recent travels to National Parks in Utah and Arizona, my husband and I marveled at the beauty, diversity and spaciousness of our wonderful country. Traveling from the deep green of early autumn in the Midwest to the pink and red canyons and mountains of Utah with their hardy windswept pinyon pines was breathtaking. In the desert of the Navajo Nation and Monument Valley, life still managed to take hold with lizards and cacti. At the Grand Canyon, hardy junipers clung to the cliffs as a flock of California Condors soared along the late afternoon wind currents. Seeing the return of these magnificent birds from the brink of extinc-

tion is astounding. Our national parks are some of our greatest treasures and need to be enjoyed. We are all so very busy with our lives that we forget to take time to just stop and enjoy the beauty of our surroundings. As we approach another new year, can we think back to taking the time to smell the roses or watch a bee gather pollen or just listen to the wind? My goal is to do just that.

***In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous.***  
**Aristotle**