

NEWSCAPE



From the Editor:

Welcome to our readers! You are a busy group dealing with schools, tours and events during a pandemic. Please take care and stay safe.

Please forward Newscap to your Consultants.

Please send me information about your projects, meetings and schools by February 1, 2021 for inclusion in our Spring 2021 issue of *Newscap*. I look forward to including articles and photos about your events.

All submissions must be original material. Photos are welcome! Please send articles in Word format and photos to the Editor at CSCarbaugh@verizon.net.



*Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, Missouri
Photo by Caroline Carbaugh*

OBJECTIVES OF THE LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS

- ✿ Develop a greater sense of appreciation, pride, and knowledge about our private and public gardens.
- ✿ Become better educated to make changes in our surroundings so that they will be more beautiful, useful, convenient, ecologically sound and easily maintained.
- ✿ Stimulate interest in all phases of landscape design, including community planning that will affect all of our lives.
- ✿ Develop a contingent of qualified Landscape Design Consultants to serve in such decision-making areas of public life as providing leadership, educational programs, scholarships, awards and promoting better landscape design.



*Chihuly Glass Sculpture at Missouri Botanical Garden,
St. Louis, MO
Photo by Caroline Carbaugh*

NEWS FROM OUR NATIONAL CHAIRMAN:

Dear Consultants, Students, Garden Club Members and Schools Chairmen,

Shortly after the last issue of *Newscape* was distributed, the world became a different place because of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. School courses and refreshers were cancelled along with garden club meetings and conventions because of government-ordered restrictions related to slowing the spread of this disease. However, we have been finding new ways to do things including virtual meetings and virtual schools.

Several Gardening School courses have now been conducted by Zoom and I have participated with Schools Policies Committee members in attending designated Beta courses and development of guidelines for conducting school courses by Zoom. It is hoped that these guidelines will be finalized in September. There are many reasons why courses in the classroom remain the preferred standard for NGC Schools, but development of this Plan B provides an option for schools to move forward when they cannot be held in person. Landscape Design School (LDS) courses in Florida and Arizona will be held by Zoom in late October. Zoom possibilities are being explored for additional LDS courses. State presidents and state school chairmen, this is an option for you to continue planned school activities. Please let me know if you want information about conducting courses by Zoom and we will explore the possibilities together.

Any Consultant who needed to refresh by December 31, 2020, but who is unable to refresh because the course or refresher she was going to attend has been cancelled due to the coronavirus may request an extension from their State School Chairman. The Chair should forward the request on Extension Application Form 9-2020 to the LDS Accrediting Chairman or to me. Students who are unable to complete courses (by December 31) required to become a Consultant within the required time period because of course cancellations due to the coronavirus should also submit an extension request.

The new NGC website was launched on August 6. There are some glitches that are still being worked on. There are also some concerns with the way schools

information is displayed. These issues are being identified and worked on by NGC Schools Chairmen. The new website contains revised schools forms (mostly with April 2020 dates) and several forms will be replaced shortly with even newer versions. Please use only those forms posted on the new website and no longer use forms you might have saved from the old website. Revised forms have corrected tabbing and font size issues and some include clarifying instructions and a few changes in administrative process. The revised Schools Handbook is now posted.

*Photo by
Caroline
Carbaugh*



Ongoing review of the Handbook revealed a few problems with the new LDS curriculum for schools begun since July 1, 2019. Therefore, the LDS Committee has made a few adjustments to this curriculum and you will find them in the revised Handbook. Changes primarily affect Courses 3 and 4. This curriculum had required that taking Course 3 be a prerequisite to taking Course 4. While it is always preferred to take courses of any school in numerical order, it has always been schools policy (and still is) that courses may be taken in any order. This is the reason for the curriculum change. Some additional minor wording changes and clarifications were also made. The LDS section of the Handbook now includes the content of LDS 2C (2019) Areas of Expertise for Instructors, LDS 27 Test Question Values and LDS 20 Supplemental Subjects. Added to pre-approved Supplemental Subjects are classes eliminated from the old LDS curriculum and other ASLA and landscape architect-suggested topics. *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard* by Douglas W. Tallamy was recently added to LDS recommended reading.

One of the very few outings (wearing a face mask and observing social distancing) I have had during this pandemic was to the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden in Thousand Oaks, California. The garden consists of 33 acres of natural terrain with eighteen specialty gardens that highlight water-conserving plants from California and other Mediterranean climates. The garden is maintained by volunteers and supported by members and donations. It has benefitted from president’s projects of three California Garden Clubs (CGCI) presidents, all Landscape Design Consultants (and all NGC Four or Five Star Members). One of these presidents has been especially involved in developing the Garden for nearly two decades and was instrumental in planning the layout of the landscape without the involvement of a landscape architect. Currently one of the board members is a landscape architect, adding a valuable resource to the roster of devoted volunteers.

The moral of this story is that NGC Landscape Design Consultants can contribute to our mission to develop a greater sense of appreciation, pride and knowledge about our private, public and historical gardens, and stimulate interest in all phases of landscape design, including community planning by being involved with a botanic garden, supporting it, promoting it, working in it, raising funds for it, and visiting and enjoying it.

Greg Pokorski,
NGC Landscape Design Schools Chairman



The Trail of Trees

The Trail of Trees was proposed in 2005 to replace invasive Brassicaceae, (mustard weed) on a 150 by 400- foot south slope in the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden. Upon receipt of a grant from the Principal Financial Group and matching funds from the Westlake Village Garden Club, development began with grading a road for truck access, clearing footpaths, placing boulders, and installing underground irrigation lines to locations where each tree would be planted. Garden volunteers, Boy Scouts and local groups groomed the area by pulling the ever-present mustard and by spreading mulch on this slope.

On April 7, 2007 the first thirty trees were planted. By 2009 additional plantings bought the total number of trees to seventy two. Fifty varieties of trees are represented with two or three of some varieties. The trees show their various characteristics for the public to enjoy and perhaps to help them to decide which trees they might plant in their gardens. Each tree is labeled with the family, botanic and common name as well as country of origin and planting date. Trees are available for honorariums or memorials and these trees have a second label denoting the dedication. In Spring, California poppies form a carpet under the trees.

(This was Robin Pokorski’s project as CGCI President 2007-2009 – raised \$33,500 – all matched by a matching donor.)

Greg Pokorski, CA



Photos by Greg Pokorski

**NEWS FROM
LANDSCAPE DESIGN COUNSULTANTS
FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

Unfortunately, most of our Landscape Design-related meetings, schools and activities have been postponed or cancelled and our Councils have taken few trips or started new projects in the past 6 months due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These activities are usually the source of articles from the states for our *Newscap*e issues.

During these challenging times, I think that many of us have gotten great joy and solace from our gardens. I find the work refreshing, soothing and calming and a welcome break from the news. I asked our readers to share pictures showing off their gardens, special plants, or landscapes and showing us what has thrived during the pandemic and what has given them pleasure.

Let’s enjoy seeing what our friends have been working on during the pandemic.

Caroline Carbaugh, Editor

A Pergola in South Carolina

LDCC of South Carolina, like many other Councils, has had to postpone our scheduled meetings in recent months. We recently rescheduled our September meeting for March 2021. We were looking forward to our Fall program provided by the Medical University of South Carolina. The Medical University is a leader in the nation with their unique gardening/health programs. MUSC designed raised garden beds on what was once a parking lot in downtown Charleston. There they have been teaching local community members to plant and cultivate healthy foods, and teaching volunteers how changing their diet and eating healthy foods can reduce many medical problems. We look forward to the program next Spring.

Many of us in South Carolina used an unusually long cool spring to rethink our gardens before the oppressive heat and humidity of summer all but put an end to outdoor pursuits. I have used some of my time to update our LDCC archives and I call a few of

our members each day to stay connected. I am working my way through our directory.

As a way of capitalizing on the "stay at home orders" one of our members, Sarah Ann Parler [former Director of South Atlantic Region] has done an exceptional job of completing a landscape project at her house. Sarah Ann said that she grew tired of looking out her bedroom window each morning at a concrete foundation at the far end of her garden... it was all that remained of two outdoor buildings on her property that had been destroyed by lightning a few years ago. One morning Sarah Ann woke up with a vision for what could be done with the 12X20 slab of concrete. She quickly called a contractor friend and told him what she would like to do. The carpenter arrived and asked to see her plans. Sarah Ann merely tapped her forehead, saying "they are all in here". Sarah Ann's vision reminded me of that famous quote from Michaelangelo: "*The idea is there...all you have to do is remove the excess stone*". Between March 9 and April 26, at Sarah Ann's daily direction, a grand pergola was completed, Sarah Ann tells me that this was of course accomplished by keeping appropriate social distancing from the crew by way of her supervising chair in the garden. I think you will agree that this project qualifies as a truly "Novel" use of quarantine time. I'm pea-green with envy!



Photo by Ann Edwards

***Karen Prewitt, President
LDCC of South Carolina***

Landscaping With Petites

What is this article about? Or what isn't it about? It is not about invasive plants, or GMO plants. It is not about being a host plant for pollinators. It is instead, about helping to increase understanding the difference between a "standard plant" and one grown to be a smaller version in some way . . . or a petite. It might not always be very small in size, but it can be expected to be smaller than one of its parents.

Plants I grow are used as examples and most have been planted in their place since 1984. My experience comes from being a member of a garden club since 1965, growing plants in my own yard, and selling petites with hundreds of other landscaping plants for 4 years in Landscape Nurseries. This is designed to help you and others to be willing to grow and show petites and to expand to others the same information.

Carole Whited

WORDS INDICATING "IT MIGHT BE PETITE"

The nursery signage from a grower is the best indicator and most always will have at least one word that tells you it is a smaller-growing variety than a standard. Some of the terms listed to assist in purchasing petite plants are: Dwarf/Miniature/Petite/Compacta /Horizontal/Nana (small)/Nana nana (extremely small) and some of the indicator words: Elf – Little Gem, Obtusa or Wee all indicate a slow growing plant.

WHY DEVELOP AND/OR SELECT A PETITE VARIETY?

One reason is to keep down excessive pruning to maintain a certain height and/or width of your landscape planting; another is to be able to grow standard plants just in a smaller version. Special uses are: Fairy Gardens - Food Sources (example wheat field where smaller plants provide more food per acre) – Landscaping - Control Growth / Layer garden front to rear - Maintenance and Limited Planting Spaces, to name a few.

EXAMPLES OF PETITE PLANTS USED IN LANDSCAPING -

Landscaping with petites can be energy saving, your energy that is!

A. NATIVE PLANTS. 'Bleeding Heart' in my zone could include *Dicentra spectabilis* which typically grows to 4 feet. But a dwarf could be *Dicentra formosa*, growing about 1 foot tall and will continue to bloom

throughout the summer. It is a good diversion between larger evergreens.

B. EVERGREEN BROADLEAVED. There are plants developed to be smaller which is generally depicted on the tag for an expected 10-year growth. Nursery Grown Labeled: *Ilex crenata* 'Helleri' (Japanese holly) 3' x 3' tall. My plants, *Mahonia pumila*, grow to about 3' high and wide. These are never considered invasive as the case is for the standard version, as they do not seed.

C. EVERGREEN CONIFERS. Some standard junipers can grow to rooftops and are not used as in foundation plants as much as in the past. Hundreds of junipers are available and so are slower-growing varieties and dwarf. *Juniperus squamata* 'Blue Star' grows to be about 3' x 3' and is really blue. Also *Pinus mugo* is smaller than any pine tree, but *Pinus mugo* 'Mugh' is even smaller. *Picea glauca* 'Conical' (Dwarf Alberta Spruce) is popular as a cone-shaped dwarf.

D. PERENNIALS *Hemerocallis fulva* Tawny daylily found along the roadsides. Many varieties are now bred; but a favorite is *Hemerocallis* x 'Stella d'Oro' daylily – much shorter, the first-reblooming variety

E. CONTAINER-GROWN DWARF PLANTS Containers are great for a petite single plant or a landscape and do very well if you place them where you can monitor the light, food and water! Pictured herein is a dwarf *Sansevieria* – a petite given to me about 15 years ago. It took almost half of that time to grow much and for the leaves to harden like the standard. It was no more than 2" high and the leavers were plain green, soft and pliable. Now it is a beautiful almost 12" high, with strong horizontal with leaves that have a darker and wavy horizontal line, and has new plants forming.



Dwarf Sansevieria
'Snake Plant'

Note the newly-developed horizontal green lines.

Photo by Alex Haun

NATURAL EVOLUTION – Nature has a way of “seeing a need” and answering. An example of this would be the *Cedrus* or ‘Cedars of Grandfather’s Mountain, N.C.’ Strong constant winds at the high mountaintop has caused a natural Bonsai look to these plants – large round trunks, all growth to one side and very short. Bonsais are “dwarfed by nature (or by you.)”

LARGER / SMALLER EXAMPLES OF VARIETIES Let’s look at a deciduous plant such as *Acer*, a very tall maple with leaves that remind you of your hand. Then look at *Acer palmatum* or Japanese Maple. No matter how tall it grows, it is still no comparison to the giant maples – its leaf is tiny and so is the “airplane seed.” Another is *Berberius* ‘Barberry’ – look at the space between the leaves and how compact it grows - it almost never needs pruning.

This article could be the background for a club program, having members bring correctly-named exhibits. This, too, is interesting because they are “so cute!” OR, why not encourage your club to have a petite show – it takes much less space and the public is always amazed at both design and horticulture. The new handbook says Petite must be stated on the title or cover page.

Remember that using the grower’s tags would be your best information. But the best source of all is the Internet – it saves volumes of books and magazines. However, I would not take anything for my beautiful magazines and precious books!

***Carole Whited, TFGC Chairman
Landscape Design School***

Gardening in Seattle

The picture below is from my garden. The heather Erica Kramer’s Rote picks up the color on the bergenia leaves. The heather blooms late in February so there is winter color and it holds its color for a very long time. Also there is yellow and green variegated euonymus. The white is scilla. So this is likely an April picture or maybe later with interesting textures, colors and patterns.

I live in Bellevue Washington which is in the greater Seattle area of Washington state. I am in the usually warmer and usually colder outlying areas. Zone 8. So summer can be warmer than Seattle and winter

colder. We each learn our microclimates. My garden is my purpose now that we are sheltering in place. Love it. Wonderful nurturing relationship.



*Photo by
Lana
Finegold*

I have a Gravenstein apple tree. They ripen early August. This is a banner year and we are giving apples away after I made 8 apple cakes and a huge pot of applesauce.

Lana Finegold

I recently was on the phone talking about native plants and, of course, those would be tied to specific weather conditions. I am in the Greater Seattle area and our Bellevue Botanical Garden is creating video in August to highlight the many garden rooms and the partners that maintain each room or area. BBG is a world class garden because of volunteers that maintain it and a city that believes it is a city in a park. The video will highlight 10 volunteer groups and be sent to every garden member. What a great idea in this isolating time.

***Lana Finegold
Washington State***

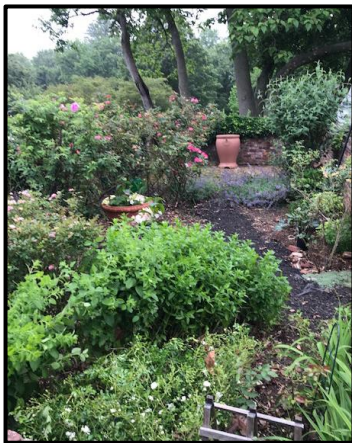
Gardens in Shrewsbury, NJ

As we attend workshops; symposiums; and Landscape Design School programs, we come away with enthusiasm. We revisit our gardens and, hopefully, learn from the changes in our environment. One removal of a species might change the entire focus of the garden. My mother was first involved with floral arranging. When she finally moved to a house that was able to have a garden, it was all about the flowers.

Another influential individual was a neighbor that did floral design in her garage. The initial reason for my association was that she had a candy jar that was accessible on her front porch. Of course, there was always a fresh bouquet of flowers. During my teens, she hired a few of us to do the “small corsages” etc, anything that smaller agile fingers could handle.

Later, my children were given “chores” to help their grandmother as she explored vegetable and herb gardening up on Cape Cod. A new generation was born to explore flower, herb and vegetable gardening. Always, a bouquet made for the interior to enjoy the fragrance and design.

Now, there are several gardens that the Shrewsbury Garden Club designed as well as maintained. The one area that has been a challenging project is an Eagle Scout’s project. My son is the Scout who was supported by the Shrewsbury Historical Society. He directed clearing of a long-neglected area, removed destructive overgrowth including a Paulownia (Paulowniaceae) tree that was breaking down the corner wall. He discovered the foundation of a probable 19th century greenhouse never recorded on site plans. Ready-made for a municipal Floral Garden, the project commemorated Shrewsbury’s Boy Scout Troop 50 founded in 1914 plus his grandmother’s inspiring love of Nature’s floral bounty. The design was continued by a few of us. The garden club returned to maintain the planting. The focus is to maintain the donated floral plants from my mother and other garden club members.



Greenhouse Garden



Several David Austins were gifted by Barbara Skoog. And, in 2009 the popular Knock Out pink roses of that year were donated. “Julia Child” still thrives with her buttery yellow blooms. We have lost a few but hope to continue to be challenged with additional varieties. Stephen Scanniello made a visit to this site and donated his “Trinity”, a small white floral rosa.



Other floribunda, rugosa and shrub rosas were also added to the garden. As well as the Climber Iceberg (Rosa ‘Iceberg’), additional planting to attract the bees and butterflies = Dwarf Buddleia; Monarda (bee balm); Echinops (Globe thistle); Nepeta (catmint); Mentha genus (spearmint and peppermint); Paeonia Lactiflora (Peony); Thymus pseudolanuginosus (woolly thyme); Helleborus (hellebore) to name a few.



This year, planters were filled with a variety of “fragrant flowering” plants. A theme that will be continued throughout the design of the “Greenhouse Garden.” As English’s horticulturalist and poet William Cowper, 1731-1800, put it, “Who loves a garden, loves a greenhouse too.”

**Terese Blake, Chair Landscape Design School,
Garden Club of New Jersey**

Photos by Terese Blake and Nadia Nigro

Gardens in Maryland

Over the years I have been enchanted with the beauty of spring bulbs....their colors awaken our spirits after a long winter....my gardens have always had daffodils and small minor bulbs....but my real love has always been tulips. However like many of you, I had issues with squirrels digging up my tulip bulbs....and bunnies eating their greenery.

A few years ago, I decided to try a new tactic planting the tulips among the daffodils in a large swath in our lawn in an area where the squirrels wouldn't dare to go....no trees to run to! The bunnies can't see the greenery when planted with the daffodils....so the temptation is greatly reduced! And the picture below shows the results...it works!



Spring green and white....Hosta and Deutzia ...with a "baby" hydrangea, astilbe, White geranium (not in bloom), and day lilies that will bloom in the summer...

Summer time.... Hosta, Heuchera , Carex, Coleus all under Viburnum carlesii bordering our pool



Photos by Trish Reynolds

Trish Reynolds, Landscape Design Council, FGCMD

I attached an April picture and August picture of the view outside my bedroom window. As soon as I wake up, this is my view and I have worked on it for a number of years to get things established. The giant gold plant at the left of the arbor is Aralia 'Sun King' which has been there about 5 years. I love this deer resistant partial shade plant and it has been voted the "perennial of the year" for 2020.



Photos by Claire Jones



Claire Jones, MD

So, I wanted the pool and he wanted the garage workshop... you can see who won!

I even thought a smaller pool between the garage and back deck could work but, knowing we were looking for a vacation/retirement home, this made the most sense. We started with the fire pit and by the next fall the stone patio design came into picture. It is a great spot to sit and sip, enjoy an early evening fire, and just relax. The tomato red *echinacea* burst mid-summer and the variety of sedums are full of yellow flowers all summer long. Don't forget the swaying grasses!

We are so pleased with the decision and design plan.



Photos by D. DeMarr

Dottie DeMarr, Chair
MD Landscape Design Council

**My Favorite Deck Plant –
 The Incomparable Mandevilla Vine**

The Mandevilla vine is a garden showstopper in every respect. It thrives in heat and humidity and produces luscious, deep-throated flowers - I prefer the pink blooms of Alice DuPont (*Mandevilla x amabilis*), but it also comes in hues of white, apricot and red.



Photo by Kathi Carpenter

Mandevilla twines effortlessly on a trellis or obelisk. This tropical beauty needs six hours of sunlight and is not cold hardy in the Mid-Atlantic region and must be over-wintered. The vine flowers from late spring until the first autumn frost and is a must-have for the balcony, small and large garden.

Kathi Carpenter, MD

**Grow With Communication and
 Education**

With the pandemic starting in March and the April 12th tornado in Chattanooga, the Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs’ business came to a halt but these events did not stop the garden clubs and their members from creating efforts to continue the goals and objectives of TFGC! Over the past months, the garden clubs and members have communicated with me their enthusiasm to hold events and social distancing meetings. Communication by phone calls and emails to their members has encouraged the members to submit newsletters, club incentives, inspirations and virtual tours of member’s gardens. The clubs have supplied garden tours of other locations in TN and nationally for all of us to be reminded of why we love horticulture. Some clubs are experimenting with Zoom meetings and other technical sources to keep members informed.

We have moved forward with “Grow With Communication and Education”. Who would have ever thought this special theme would mean so much to all of us in TFGC!



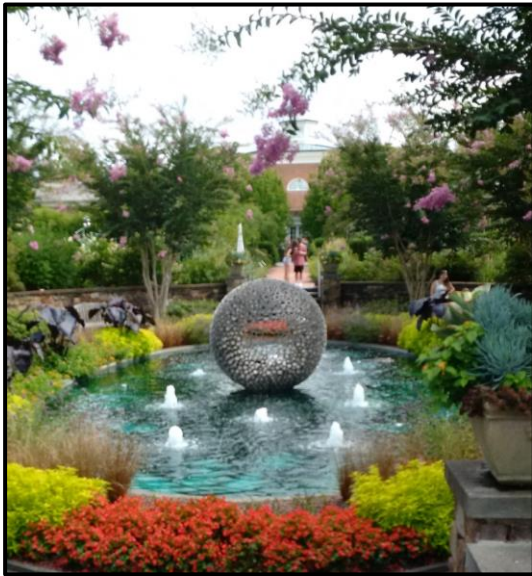
Maggi’s favorite plant container of Caladiums

Maggi Burns,
President TFGC

Photo by M. Burns

**Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in
Richmond, VA**

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond, Virginia has opened for tours with social distancing, wearing a mask and preregistration on-line for members and guest visitation. Recently, featured by M&T Bank are designs in a series “Wind, Waves, and Light.



It was great to visit the garden again after so long.

**Jane Earle,
VA Landscape Design Council**

Photo by Jane Earle

Elmbrook Nature Center

Enjoy at tour of the Elmbrook Nature Center, a seventeen acre site, in the Elmbrook School District in Brookfield, Wisconsin. There are two ponds, a prairie, woodlands, wet mesic area, wetlands. There is a 400-foot bridge over a swamp. This center is used by Elementary School K-6th grades and students of Brookfield East High School. The Elmbrook Garden Club planted and maintained all of the plantings about the visitor center/classroom.

Compass Plant

*Photo by
Judy Newman*



The walk includes identification and control of invasive plants, restoration of areas, identification of spring woodland plants, prairie plants, shrubs and more. Go to YouTube WildOnes Menomonee River Chapter. Judy Newman has worked in the center since 1978 as a community coordinator.

**Judy Newman, Chair
NGC Schools Policy Committee
NGC Environmental Schools Committee**

**Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. & Michigan Consultants Council
2020 TRI REFRESHER held June 4 & 5th, 2020
it was a Virtual Zoom event with a 100 person capacity**

Due to Covid-19, the Michigan Garden Club annual conference was cancelled as well as the Tri-Refresher. I thought that it would be possible to conduct the Tri Refresher virtually because an exam is not a requirement. I contacted National Garden Clubs for approval and acceptance of offering the Tri Refresher as a virtual event. All of the speakers were willing to present their topic virtually with Zoom. I discussed with fellow MCC officers about the logistics, pricing, planning and coordination of the virtual event.

Because the Tri-Refresher is an 8 hour event with a field trip as an option, NGC recommended it be given over a 2 day period. It would be offered in 2 4 1/2 hour days from 12:30 pm - 5 pm, EDT. Because I had 5 speakers committed to speak for 1 – 1 1/2 hours, I needed to add a virtual garden tour. Recommendations were to utilize a docent-led virtual video. No Michigan garden venues provided any that were available to use.

Registration was made through the MGC website with payment to be made by PayPal or Credit Card. Some people requested to register by mail as they were uncomfortable paying with a Credit Card on line. Those payments and registrations were mailed directly to the MCC Treasurer.

MGC State President Janet Hickman created a questionnaire for the participants about what they liked and did not like about the virtual event. This was to be provided to the participants via email to complete and email back to the Technical Administrator.

The Speakers were sent a release to sign and return, notifying them that their presentations would be recorded, but only for promotional purposes and not for the intention of running another Zoom Tri-Refresher for credit. All speakers complied with the release.

Many pre-zoom virtual practice sessions were held to assist speakers and participants with their familiarity and knowledge of attending a Zoom event. Presentation outlines were emailed to the Tri-Refresher registrants so that they would be able to prepare, follow along with the presentation and make notes as necessary.

Participants were asked to sign into the Zoom Tri-Refresher fifteen minutes before it was to start to take attendance and so we would be prepared to begin on schedule. Attendance was taken during the beginning and again before the final speaker and on the second day before the video. Questions were sent to me via the Chat option and I would then ask the speaker the question at an appropriate time.

Five speakers presented the following topics; Planting Natives in an Urban Environment, Invasive Species, Chemical & Biological Pollutants; A Threat to Water Bodies, Ecosystems and Human Health, "Extreme Makeover: Nature Edition!", and Protect Natural Lands, Habitat for Rare Threatened & Endangered Species.

A total of 93 Registrants were pre-registered to attend the event. There were 83 participants, with 4 no shows, 4 cancellations and 2 registrants who did not receive credit. Overall the feedback was very positive from the attendees. They were pleased with the Tri-Refresher being held as a Zoom event and welcomed the opportunity given to them to refresh their credentials and to be able to interact and communicate with fellow gardeners.

Notes regarding any future virtual activities for MGC or NGC, etc:

- Include information regarding refund deadline. Should PayPal fees be deducted from any refunds?
- Keep speakers informed about how many people are attending, where they are from, what their expectations are.
- Even though the requirements were stated from the beginning and continuously throughout the notifications, people still did not understand that it was mandatory and required to have the ability to connect to Zoom with audio and video.
- The more people on Zoom seems to negatively effect bandwidth, clarity of presentation, video, audio.
- Try to prepare for unforeseen circumstances. For example 2 speakers were replaced because of last minute urgencies. Connections may be affected by storms or natural disasters in and out of the area.
- Set up the virtual event to allow 2 hosts to conduct the administration portion. This would allow a person with the hosting group to still have access and utilization of the technical requirements.
- It is important to have back up methods to show the presentations.
- It is definitely important to have speakers do a run through before the event. Check their pics, make sure they are able to open and run their presentations.

**Rita Crawley,
President, Michigan Consultants Council**

Holding an LDS event by Zoom must be pre-approved by the NGC LDS Chairman, Greg Pokorski

Landscape Design Tips

An idea for a future issue.... have the different councils give a few landscape design tips and list them in Newscape for all to see. For example:

- Doorways - plantings should be no higher than 1/4 to 1/3 the distance from the groundline to the eave. Taller plants may be too dominant.

Susan Laursen, Chair
CT Landscape Design Council

New Location on NGC Website for Previous Issues of Newscape

The *Newscape* issues that were posted on the Landscape Design Schools page of the previous NGC website have now been moved to the Member Resources area of the new website, right below TNG and KIT. Member Resources is accessed at the bottom of the home page.

Unsolicited Seeds from China: from the USDA

From: "USDA Farm Service Agency"
<usdafsa@service.govdelivery.com>

Subject: Message from Kansas FSA Director
David Schemm

If you receive a package of this type, please DO NOT plant these seeds. Unsolicited seeds could be invasive species, could introduce diseases to local plants, or could be harmful to livestock. Invasive species wreak havoc on the environment, displace or destroy native plants and insects and severely damage crops.

Recipients of these unsolicited seed packages should contact their State department of agriculture or the [APHIS State plant health director](#). Please hold onto the seeds and packaging, including the mailing label, until someone from your State department of agriculture or APHIS contacts you with further instructions. People with questions can also call APHIS

at **844-820-2234**, or
email CustomerServiceCallCenter@aphis.usda.gov.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS / REFRESHERS

September 11 - 12, 2020. Billings, MT.

Course 1.

Contact Person: Joyce Hendricks; 406-259-9610;
rnhend@charter.net

October 5 – 6, 2020. Grand Haven, MI.

Course 3.

Contact Person: Doris Campbell; 734-439-7727;
Campbell.doris.ann@gmail.com

October 13 – 14, 2020. Bowie, MD.

Course 1.

Contact Person: Linda Harris; 443-695-2071;
Lindaharris355@aol.com

October 14 – 15, 2020. Rochester, NY.

Course 3.

Contact Person: Roberta DuBeshter; 585-230-7587;
robertadubes@gmail.com

October 23 – 24, 2020. Florida: Online via Zoom.

Course 4.

Contact Person: Vicki Williamson ; 802-324-3847;
vwilliamson47@gmail.com

October 31 – November. 1, 2020. Arizona: Online via Zoom. Course 3.

Contact Person: Judy Tolbert ; 602-421-5290;
grmajdy@gmail.com

March 30 – 31, 2021. Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

Course 3.

Contact Person: Linda Ellinghausen; 630-469-9039;
eillinghausenLH@sbcglobal.net

NGC MULTIPLE REFRESHERS

None Scheduled

**PLEASE consult our website
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Editor: Caroline Carbaugh
cscarbaugh@verizon.net