

NEWS

OF THE FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF IOWA

SPRING 2019



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DATEBOOK 2019

April 11-12	Gardening School, Iowa Arboretum, Madrid
April 13	District 6 Meeting, Iowa Arboretum, Madrid
April 13	District 8 Meeting, Spencer
April 26	District 3 Meeting, Cedar Falls
Apr 29-May 2	NGC Convention, Biloxi, MS
May 4	District 2 Meeting, Cedar Rapids,
May 6	FGCI Spring Board Meeting, Ames City Hall
May 21	District 1 Meeting, Tipton
June 2-8	National Garden Club Week
June 3	District 4, 5 & 7 Meeting
June 20-21	FGCI State Meeting & Flower Show, Mason City
Sept. 12-13	Gardening School, IA Arboretum, Madrid
Sept. 18-20	National Fall Board Mtg, St. Louis, MO
October 7-8	Central Region Convention, St. Charles, MO



NEWS

of the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc.

Spring 2019

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NEWS Editor: Sandra Gossman, 515-232-5110,
2506 Northwestern Ave, Ames, IA 50010-4637

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Theme: START ANEW - Plant, grow, wonder and remember...
NGC Theme: Plant America - A Grant Program and Fund

DEADLINES

For articles submitted for NEWS

Spring Issue	January 10
Summer Issue	April 10
Fall Issue	July 10
Winter Issue	October 10

Please send information - articles - special club dates to:

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Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa Website:

www.gardenclubsofiowa.org

Yvonne McCormick, Webmaster - yvonne@iastate.edu

National Garden Clubs, Inc. Website:

<http://www.gardenclub.org/>

user name: member password: pumpkin

Central Region Website:

www.ngccentralregion.org

user name: member password: 7states

Iowa Horticulture Society:

www.iowahort.org

Iowa State Extension Service:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/>

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FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF IOWA

FGCI Theme: START ANEW - Plant, grow, wonder and remember...

NGC Theme: Plant America - A Grant Program and Fund

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



HAPPY SPRING

Ah, your spring 2019 NEWS arrived in today's mail. Do you have the time to sit down and read it or is it put on the desk for another day? Spring is so busy, so much to do, because as a garden club member you have plant sales, you plant annuals with the grade schoolers, you visit area nurseries, you attend the district meeting, and you get dirt under your fingernails!

Please attend your District Meeting, learn what other clubs are doing, and meet your

state officers. We continue to learn from each other.

Please plan to attend the State Meeting and Flower Show in Mason City, Iowa at Columbia Club. The "Northern Lights" Flower Show Schedule is in this issue and judging will be on Thursday, June 20. Flower Show Chairman, Kathy Eliff has planned a great show, and we hope you will participate. On Friday, June 21 we will hold the 91st FGCI State Meeting and Installation. I am so pleased to have Diane Ott Whealy, co-founder of Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, as our main speaker. She will be available to visit and sign her books. (Her Grandpa is the "Grandpa Ott's Morning Glory"!)

Spend Thursday and Friday in Mason City. Contact the Visitor Center at 800-423-5724 or go to <http://visitMasonCityIowa.com>. Registration and hotel information are also found in this issue.

"Blossom by blossom the spring begins."
— Algernon Charles Swinburne

Julienne Bramer, FGCI State President
15677 110th Street, Greene, IA 50636
641-823-9908 641-430-4430
mabramer@myomnitel.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

STATE MEETING MEMOS

WAYS & MEANS TABLE

We need items like plants, garden accents, books, etc. for the WAYS & MEANS table. This money goes to offset state meeting expenses.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

We ask that each District provide a minimum \$30 item for the Silent Auction. If you, as a garden club member, would like to donate something for the silent auction, that would be great also. All of the money from the auction goes to the FGCI Scholarship Fund.

CIRCLE OF ROSES

We will honor this year's Circle of Roses recipients at the State Meeting. These members are recognized for their service, often above and beyond and are our go-to people.

IN HONOR OF PAST MEMBERS

Club members: please contact your District Director about the deaths of any club members this past year. Their memories will be observed at the state meeting.

STATE PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

During my term as 2017-2019 FGCI President, I would like to award a monetary gift of \$100 to the best Recycle, Reuse and Reclaim idea/project submitted to me by June 1 by a FGCI member or club. Send me a brief summary of your idea/project for my evaluation. The winner(s) will be announced at the 2019 State Meeting.

Juliene Bramer, FGCI President
15677 110th Street, Greene, IA 50636
(641)823-9908 mabramer@myomnitel.com

CIRCLE OF ROSES NOMINEES

It's that time of year to honor one of your own club members for the "Circle of Roses Award." Think of who has been active in rallying the troops, keeping you together, or encouraging others to attend or join your club, etc.



We all can think of at least one club member who makes our clubs meaningful, fun, and productive. Get the awards form online or from your club president and send in your club nomination by May 1, 2019. [Generally only one nomination per club]. Send the nominations to the **Awards Chairman/FGCI 1 Vice President Walter Reemtsma, 602 North Phillips, Algona, IA 50511-1744**

JOIN THE FLOWER SHOW FUN!

Check the schedule in this issue of the NEWS for the 2019 FGCI State Flower Show, "Northern Lights," a NGC Standard Flower Show.

Find one or more classes you'd like to enter, and then contact the consultant for design (or horticulture consultant, in selected classes) to reserve your space. Plan now to enter and join the fun. Join us June 20-21. You can't win if you don't enter!

CLERKING FOR THE STATE FLOWER SHOW

If you are going to be at the State Flower Show consider assisting as a clerk.

Contact: Sandy Quam, zeldaq@hotmail.com

TRAVELING TROPHIES WINNERS

If you won one of the Traveling Trophies at the 2018 State Flower show, "The Wright Way", please remember to return it for the 2019 Flower Show.



WHEN: Saturday, April 6, 2019
8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
WHERE: Dyer-Hudson Hall,
Hwy 14 N, Knoxville, IA

SPEAKERS:
Lisa Orgler, ISU Landscape Design -
Topic: "Landscaping 101"
Hans Stokes, Swift Greenhouse -
Topic: "New Perennials for 2019"
Barry Laws, Quilted Garden -
Topic: "Under Utilized Trees in Our Landscape"

Registration Fee: \$40.00. Registration deadline, March 29, 2019. No walk-ins accepted. 8:30-9:00 Registration & Coffee; Lunch served; vendors for shopping. Master Garden CEU hours will be issued.

Please make checks payable to Knoxville Garden Club
Mail to: Knoxville Federated Garden Club,
Box 645, Knoxville, IA 50138.

Information contact:
Sherry Luedtke, 641-891-4900, dandsher@gmail.com
or Lois Davis, 641-842-5777, handldavis@iowatelecom.net

State Life Memberships Honor a Retiring President

Does your Garden Club have a retiring president whom you would like to thank for their service to your club? Do consider a State Life Membership. Honor them with a membership and a State Life Membership pin they can wear with pride for just \$25.

Pins have been presented at the District and State meetings. If your club would like to receive the certificate and pin earlier just note it on the membership form and it will be sent to a club contact. Membership forms can be found on the back cover of the NEWS

Angie Beem, State Life Membership Chairman
abeam@iowatelecom.net

DISTRICT 1, 2, & 3 JUDGES' WORKSHOP

Monday, April 22, 2019

Ray House, 9112 First Avenue, Vinton

Setup & Coffee at 9:00 a.m. Meeting at 10:00 a.m.

"Spring Has Sprung"

Division I – Horticulture – "Blooming Beauties"

Class 1 - Narcissus – Daffodils- single stem

Class 2 - Tulipa – Tulip single stem

Class 3 - Muscari-Grape Hyacinth-single stem

Class 4 - Allium- Allium-single stem

Class 5 - Potted Plant- A. flowering B. non-flowering

Class 6 - Any Other (Any other bulb, corm, rhizome or tuber) single stem

Class 7 - Any Other Perennial

A. Blooming - single stem B. Foliage - single stem

Division 2 –Design- "Spring Beauties!"

Class 1- "Glorious Spring" - Low Profile Design - Limited to 3 designs Limited to 30" x 30" space. HB 78

Class 2 – "Natures Loveliness - Springtime" - Mono-Botanic Design
Space allowed 30"w x 30"d, unlimited height - Background suggested for design. HB 79

Class 3 – "Spring Fling" - Miniature designs not to exceed 5" in any direction. Stage in a niche 6" x 6" x 6". Fresh or dried. HB 73.

Division 3–Botanical Arts- Artistic Crafts "Birds of a Feather"

Class 1 - "This Place is for the Birds!" - Decorations-Bird House HB 94

All FGCI members are welcome to attend and participate. Judges and guests bring your Handbook and something for Ways & Means table. Adjourn at noon. Lunch at local restaurant.

Please pre-register. Contact Marty Bargman, 319-989-2283 or Jane Buck 319-240-5970, dwbuck@cfu.net



PICNIC IN THE PARK

The Pella Garden Club invites you to a "Picnic in the Park" at the

ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY

on Thursday, June 27, 2019 at Central College

- Doors open into Graham Hall at 11:00 a.m. for Silent Auction/Raffle Sign Up
- The seating for the meal is at 11:30 a.m. with meal served at 12:00 p.m.
- Suggested Summer Attire – Sundress, hat and sandals
- Tickets are \$25.00 and are available from any Garden Club member or contact Edie Buwalda 641.628.4864 or email edith@iowatelecom.net



STATE FUND RAISER REcycling

Recycling continues to be an important part of our everyday activities. Recycling your used printer cartridges, etc. has been a fund raising source for FGCI for many years.

We presently use Funding Factory which just accepts specific used (nonrefillable) ink jet and laser printer cartridges. (Note: They no longer accept Cell Phones. Also do not accept are ANY EPSON cartridges or the thin color cartridges (1/2") used mainly in copy machines, no matter the brand.) You can find a list of accepted copier cartridges on the Funding Factory website.

Please continue to collect accepted cartridges. Give to your District Director or bring them to the State Meeting where we will have boxes for collection. Your help is greatly appreciated. Presently the monies received from these recycling efforts go into the FGCI Scholarship Fund.

Sandy Heerema, Environmental Chairman, sheeree@windstream.net

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE 2019 CENTRAL REGION CONVENTION - October 6-8, 2019

at the Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel St Louis, 191 Westport plaza drive, St Louis, MO 63146.

More information will soon be available on the Central Region website: www.ngccentralregion.org

National Garden Clubs, Inc., GARDENING SCHOOL, Course 1– Series 13

Sponsored by Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa
IOWA ARBORETUM, 1875 PEACH AVENUE, MADRID, IOWA
Located in the rural area between Madrid and Boone, IA
Open to the public

APRIL 11, 2019 (Thursday)

8:00-8:20 A.M. Coffee and Registration
8:20-8:30 Introductions, announcements and questions
8:30 -11:00 *BASIC BOTANY
Aaron Steil, Assistant Director, Reiman Gardens, ISU
11:00-11:15 BREAK
11:15 AM-12:45 P.M. *TECHNIQUES FOR GROWING OUTDOOR FLOWERS
Yvonne McCormick, Extension Horticulturist, ISU Extension/Outreach Region 7
12:45-1:15 LUNCH (Please bring sack lunch. Refrigerator & microwave available)
1:15-3:15 *SOILS 2
Lee Burras, PhD, Professor of Agronomy, Soil Scientist, Agronomy Dept., ISU
3:15-3:30 BREAK
3:30-4:30 BUTTERFLIES OF IOWA
Anita Westphal, Butterfly Wing Assistant, Reiman Gardens, ISU

APRIL 12, 2019 (Friday)

8:15-8:30 A.M. Coffee and Registration
8:30 -11:45 PLANT PROPAGATION
Jessie Liebenguth, Landscape Horticulturist,
Reiman Gardens, ISU
BREAK
PLANT PROPAGATION WORKSHOP continues
Jessie Liebenguth, Landscape Horticulturist
11:45 AM-12:15 P.M. LUNCH (Please bring sack lunch if testing)
12:15-3:15 EXAM

*TESTED TOPIC, ALL OPEN BOOK TESTS

RECOMMENDED READING: The National Gardener magazine. Order on-line or by phone:

1-800-550-6007

Master Gardeners may be awarded 1 hour CEU for each 1 hour class time.

FGCI Registration – Gardening School, Course I, Session 13, April 11-12, 2019, at Iowa Arboretum, 1875 Peach Avenue, Madrid, IA in the Hughes Education Center. Please complete the form below
REGISTRATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL NOON, April 8, 2019, NO REFUNDS AFTER April 8, 2019.
WALK-INS ALWAYS WELCOME, BUT NO HANDOUTS AVAILABLE

NAME (Only 1 name per form) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

NEW LAST COURSE ATTENDED _____

FGCI Garden Club _____ Master Gardener(Y/N)

_____. Unless checked, we may use your name, address, telephone and e-mail above to contact you with National Garden Clubs, Inc. information, including future Gardening Study Schools.

Class \$55 _____ Class + test \$60 ____ Class + refresh _____ \$60. Refreshing is available only to those who are already Gardening Study Consultants or Master Gardening Study Consultants.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **GARDENING SCHOOL** and mail to: AdaMae Lewis, 122 N Russell Avenue, Ames IA 50010; E-mail adamaelewis@gmail.com; Phone 515-232-0608 and leave message



National Garden Week, June 2-8, 2019



NGC Garden Week is an opportunity to encourage pride in your community, interest new members, and work with other groups to be part of those efforts. This is a good time for the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa to promote the NGC objectives of beautification, education of environmental efforts, gardening, and involvement of Garden Clubs in your community.

Publicity is the key to the promotion of National Garden Week. From the NGC Website, you can download the National Garden Week proclamation. By inviting the mayor to sign this proclamation, you have a photo opportunity to submit to the local newspaper to kick off the week. Share a photo and write up of your National Garden Week activities with your local newspaper. Share your projects by sending photos to Yvonne McCormick, Website Manager for the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa website at Yvonne@iastate.edu. (Please note the Winter 2018 NEWS offered examples of club activities.)

There are two versions of the National Garden Week poster. One version is a fillable PDF file so that the name of a local garden club can be added (space for two lines) before printing the poster. These can be found on the NGC website at <http://www.gardenclub.org/projects/national-garden-week.aspx>

Posters and proclamation available on the NGC website: <http://www.gardenclub.org/>

- National Garden Week Poster 2019 or
- National Garden Week Poster 2019 (fillable PDF)
- National Garden Week Proclamation

Jane Buck, FGCI Garden Week Chairman, dwbuck@cfu.net 319-240-5970

Bald Eagles in Iowa

We live in the country and have been blessed with an eagle's nest across the road near a gravel pit. With interest and our binoculars, we watched them build their nest. During breeding season, the male and female work together to build a nest of sticks, usually located at the top of a tree. The nests can weigh up to a ton and measure up to 8 feet across. Once paired, bald eagles remain with each other until one mate dies; then the surviving bird will find another mate. I did a little research and found it interesting that they could build a home together before they mate and stay together.

In 1972 DDT was banned in the United States. Then in 1978, through the Endangered Species Act, the bald eagle was listed as endangered (in danger of extinction). This gave the bald eagle additional protection from human persecution and disturbance.

Protective laws and an increased awareness and concern for the bald eagle are leading to its recovery. We have seen several Bald Eagles in the area, but this was the first nest we have seen. Water in the gravel pit and three hog houses within a mile make this an attractive site to eagles. Hog farrowing houses with dead piglets bring in a lot of birds looking for easy prey. Endangered Species for Eagles is working. We are looking forward to the babies hatching so we can watch them fly.

Shirley Wolf, FGCI Wildlife Chairman

BIRDS – Helping our feathered friends.

In springtime the need for supplemental feeding of birds is at its peak. Natural foods available from the previous season are gone and birds are heading into nesting season. Early mornings and just before nightfall are the most active times.

Feeder tips: Fill at the same time each day. Place feeders near cover. Place out of direct wind and in sun if possible. Place feeders so they are easily visible for birds and for you!

Garden flowers, such as bachelor buttons, calendula, California poppy, campanula, chrysanthemum, cone flower, coreopsis, cosmos, marigold, phlox, verbena, zinnia, sunflowers and others attract an array of birds. Trees and shrubs you might consider are red cedar, serviceberry, mulberry, oak, maple, honeysuckle, and elderberry, among many others.

“Fat and Sassy Suet Cakes”

- 2 parts suet, lard, or bacon drippings
- 1 part peanut butter
- 1-2 parts yellow cornmeal
- 1 part fine cracked corn-or-millet-or hulled sunflower seeds
- Dash of salt and sand

Melt suet over low heat. Allow to cool and harden, then heat again. Stir in peanut butter and other ingredients. Allow to cool some and pour into molds, or form into balls, rolling them into loose corn or seed.

Debbie Lewison, FGCI Bird Chairman

The Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc.
Presents an NGC Standard Flower Show

Northern Lights



FLOWER SHOW: June 20-21, 2019

Columbia Club – 551 South Taft – Mason City, Iowa

Entries 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. June 20 / Judging: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. June 20

Flower Show Free and Open to the Public: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. June 21

ANNUAL MEETING: June 21, 2019

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc. Central Region



FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE

State President Juliene Bramer, 641-823-9908, mabramer@myomnitel.com

Flower Show Chairman: Kathy Elliff, 641-351-8177, kleliff@hotmail.com

Flower Show Associate Chairman: Terri Ewers, 641-357-4130, pearl@CLTEL.net

Schedule: Kathy Elliff, Terri Ewers & Juliene Bramer; **Schedule Consultant:** Roger Buhr

Horticulture:

Entries & Classification: Marlene Marolf, 563-391-9621, gourddzn@aol.com

& Pam Carlson, 641-358-6149, bbbcarlson@gmail.com

Placement: Shirley Wolf, 515-544-3288, saw@wccta.net

& Janice Reemtsma, 515-341-1052, presby1mom@gmail.com

Consultant: Walter Reemtsma, 515-341-1052, presby1mom@gmail.com

Design:

Entries & Classification: Sandy Gossman, 515-232-5110, SRGossman@aol.com

Consultants: Listed with each Class

Judges & Clerks: Sandy Quam, 515-386-4679, zelda@hotmial.com

Awards: Victoria Rute, 712-320-2535, Victoria597@icloud.com

Publicity: Bonnie Bonner, 641-995-2307 & Sandy Gossman, SRGossman@aol.com

Staging: Terry Dorenkamp, 641-420-5627

Hospitality: Angie Wilkins, 641-390-7149

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NORTHERN LIGHTS

2019 GENERAL RULES

1. Members of the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa and non-member amateur growers and designers may enter any division of the show.
2. This Flower Show conforms to the standards established by National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC). The *Handbook for Flower Shows* (HB) 2017 Edition, with revisions printed in *The National Gardener* magazine (TNG), is the authority for all issues not covered by the Schedule, which is the Law of the Show.
3. Prior to the show each exhibitor in the Design Division will be assigned a number and this same number should be used in every Division. Exhibitors entering Horticulture only must receive a number from the Horticulture Entries Chair upon arrival at the show. Entry cards for the Horticulture Division will be available from the Horticulture Entries Chairman. Entry cards must contain the exhibitor's number, name and address on them and be filled out completely. Small address labels are acceptable.
4. The names and numbers of exhibitors in the Design Division will be written on the entry card in advance of the show. On the day of the show, exhibitors must locate their cards where their entries will be placed and complete the cards with address and club. The bottom section of entry card will be folded forward.
5. Advance registration is required in all Design Classes. Classes will be filled in the order in which the entries are received. Design classes will be limited to four entries; they MUST be registered with the proper Design Class Consultant by June 11. The Design Class Consultants will give the names of their exhibitors to the Design Entries Chair by June 13.
6. Exhibits must be entered and placed from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., Thursday, June 20. Preparation may be completed in the designated room in the Columbia Club. Materials and tools may be stored in that room if necessary.
7. The Classification Chairmen for each division (Horticulture and Design) will check exhibits for conformity to the schedule prior to judging. Final determination for conformance is the judges' responsibility.
8. The General Chairman and the Classification Chairmen for each division are available during judging for possible consultations. They, along with the judges and clerks, are the only personnel allowed on the floor during judging.
9. There must be an emphasis on FRESH plant material. No artificial plant material is permitted in any exhibit in any division.
10. Each exhibitor is limited to one entry per class, except in the Horticulture Division.
11. Judging will begin promptly at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, June 20, by panels of National Garden Club approved Judges.
12. The decision of the judges is final. Awards may be withheld if not merited.
13. The Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc. will strive to assure the safety of all items after arrival and placement, but is not responsible for any loss or damage to exhibits.
14. Plants on the state's endangered or conservation plant list must be grown by the exhibitor or collected in a legal manner and so identified. (State policy prevails.) Noxious weeds and plants on the state's invasive plant list are not permitted in any Division. Lists can be downloaded at <http://www.weeds.iastate.edu/reference/weedlaw.htm>.
15. The show will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Friday, June 21.
16. Entries must be removed Friday, June 21, after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. The Show Committee will not be responsible for removing horticulture or designs left by any exhibitor.

AWARDS

NGC STANDARD SYSTEM OF AWARDS

Only one first place (blue) ribbon per class. Must score 90 points or more.

Only one second place (red) ribbon per class. Must score 85 points or more.

Only one third place (yellow) ribbon per class. Must score 80 points or more.

One or more honorable mention (white) ribbons as merited. Must score 75 points or more.

An entry card of a blue ribbon winning exhibit must be signed by an NGC Accredited Judge on the judging panel.

Judges will recognize non-blue ribbon winners scoring 90+ with silver stickers.

HORTICULTURE DIVISION NGC TOP EXHIBITOR AWARDS

The Award of Horticultural Excellence will be offered in Division I, Horticulture. (See Handbook, p. 40)

Arboreal Award will be offered in Division I, Section I.

Nine Awards of Merit will be offered in Sections A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, & J (See Handbook, p. 41)

DESIGN DIVISION NGC TOP EXHIBITOR AWARDS

The Award of Design Excellence will be offered in Division II, Design. (See Handbook .p. 42)

One Designer's Choice Award will be offered in Section A. (See Handbook, p. 42)

One Petite Award will be offered in Section B. (See Handbook, p. 43)

One Table Artistry Award will be offered in Section C. (See Handbook, p. 43)

OTHER AWARDS

Two Sweepstakes Awards will be offered – one in the Horticulture Division and one in the Design Division, counting only blue ribbons. Red ribbons will be counted to break ties. (See Handbook, p. 46)

FEDERATED GARDEN CLUB OF IOWA TRAVELING TROPHIES

The following are "traveling trophies" and are intended to be in the possession of the winner for one year only. If the recipient wishes to have the winner's name inscribed on the trophy, it may be done at the winner's expense. It is the responsibility of the winner to have the trophy at the next State Flower Show in prime condition to be awarded again.

Horticulture Division

Available only to members of the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa.

Rusk Traveling Trophy to the Award of Horticultural Excellence winner.

Smith Traveling Trophy to the Horticulture Sweepstakes winner.

Otto Traveling Trophy awarded by the State President and Flower Show Co-chairmen to a worthy exhibit in the Horticulture Division that did not receive an NGC Top Exhibitor Award.

Design Division

Available only to members of the Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa.

Williamson Traveling Trophy to the Designer's Choice Award winner.

Ricke Traveling Trophy to the Table Artistry Award winner.

Barb Sylvester Traveling Trophy to the highest scoring Petite Award winner.

Thomas Traveling Trophy to the highest scoring Novice winner. (Design must score 90+)

Mabel Prior Award to any worthy design exhibit (90+) by a designer other than a judge.

Willasson Traveling Trophy to the Design Sweepstakes winner.

Davidson Traveling Trophy awarded by the State President and Flower Show Co-chairmen to a worthy exhibit in the Design Division that did not receive an NGC Top Exhibitor Award.

Fran Smith Crystal Traveling Award for the best second place floral design in the show

DIVISION I HORTICULTURE “From Dusk to Dawn”

Award of Horticultural Excellence is offered

Horticulture Rules

1. All Horticulture Classes are open to any amateur grower.
2. All plant material must be fresh and have been grown by the exhibitor.
3. All plant material must have been in the exhibitor's possession for 90 days, except Arboreals with possession for 6 months, see HB p. 55. For other exceptions for Annuals, Bulbous blooms, Vegetables and others, see HB p.55.
4. Plant material may not be altered by the application (treatment) of oil or commercial “shine” products that change the natural appearance. No wiring of specimens is permitted.
5. Cut horticulture specimens are to be shown in clear, preferably colorless, glass bottles, provided by the exhibitor. Stems should be viewed easily through any container. Containers should be free from lettering, labels or distracting colors and patterns and in pleasing proportion to the specimens.
6. Exhibitors will complete their own horticulture entry tags, in advance, if possible. Entry tags may be obtained from the Entries Committee the day of the show. ALL SECTIONS of the entry tag must be filled out. Address labels may be used. To avoid water damage, entry tags may be completed with typing, water-proof ink, or pre-printed labels.
7. All entries are to be labeled by genus, specific epithet and/or variety – or patented/trademarked names. Common names may also be given, see HB pp. 57 & 137.
8. Preparation, classification and entries will be done in the designated preparation area.
9. Fruits and vegetables will be displayed on paper plates provided by the Committee. Fruits and vegetables are not to be washed or polished. They should be clean and free of blemish. Multiple specimens should be uniform in size and color.
10. Wedging of specimens is recommended. Wedging is to be inconspicuously placed in the neck of the bottle to hold the specimen upright. The exhibitor will furnish any wedging used.
11. Double potting is permitted, but the inner pot must not be visible. Container sizes are specified in the Classes.
12. An exhibitor may have more than one entry in any Class or Sub-Class providing each is a different cultivar, color, or type except in Collections and Displays. Any exhibitor who will have more than 5 exhibits in one Class or Sub-Class must notify the Horticulture Entries Chair three days before the show.
13. The Horticulture Classification Committee reserves the right to subdivide any horticulture Classes by color, type, or cultivar.
14. The Scales of Points for judging horticulture is listed on p. 129 of the Handbook.

DIVISION I HORTICULTURE

Award of Horticultural Excellence is offered

Section A Annuals - Flowering “Colors of the Sunset”

Award of Merit offered

- Class 1 *Antirrhinum*, Snapdragon, 1 stem
- Class 2 *Centaurea*, Bachelor's Button, 3 blooms
- Class 3 *Consolida*, Larkspur, 1 spike
- Class 4 *Pelargonium*, Geranium 1 blooming stem
- Class 5 *Salvia* (annual), 1 spike
- Class 6 *Violaceae*, 3 blooms
 - 6a. Pansy
 - 6b. Johnny Jump Up
- Class 7 Any other flowering annual not listed, 1 specimen
 - 7a. Large (over 2” bloom)
 - 7b. Small (2” bloom and under)

Section B Annuals -Foliage “Contrasting Images”

Award of Merit offered

- Class 8 *Coleus*, 1 stem
- Class 9 Grass (*Pennisetum*, *Isolepis*, *Millet*, etc.), 3 stems
- Class 10 *Strobilanthes dyerianus*, Persian Shield, 1 stem
- Class 11 Any other foliage annual, not listed, 1 specimen

Section C Biennials Flowering “Harmony at the Horizon”

Award of Merit offered

- Class 12 *Campanula*, 1 stem
- Class 13 *Dianthus*, Sweet William 1 stem
- Class 14 *Digitalis*, Foxglove 1 stem

Section D Perennials - Flowering “Simply Magical”

Award of Merit offered

- Class 15 *Achillea*, Yarrow, 1 stem
- Class 16 *Aquilegia*, Columbine, 1 spray
- Class 17 *Centaurea*, Bachelor’s Button, 1 stem
- Class 18 *Coreopsis*, Tickseed, 1 stem
- Class 19 *Delphinium*, 1 spike
- Class 20 *Dianthus*, 1 stem
 - 20a. Pinks
 - 20b. Carnation
- Class 21 *Dicentra*, Bleeding Heart, 1 spray
- Class 22 *Echinacea*, Cone Flower, 1 bloom
- Class 23 *Gaillardia*, Blanket Flower, 1 bloom
- Class 24 *Hemerocallis*, Daylily, 1 scape
 - 24a. Eyed
 - 24b. Miniature
 - 24c. Regular
 - 24d. Spider
 - 24e. Double
- Class 25 *Heuchera*, Coral Bells, 3 flower stems
- Class 26 *Leucanthemum*, Shasta Daisy, 1 bloom
- Class 27 *Liatris*, Gay Feather, 1 bloom
- Class 28 *Penstemon*, Beardtongue, 1 stem
- Class 29 *Paeonia*, Peonies
 - 29a. Herbaceous, 1 stem
 - 29b. Intersectional, 1 stem
 - 29c. Tree, 1 stem
- Class 30 *Salvia* (perennial), 1 stem
- Class 31 *Stokesia*, 1 stem
- Class 32 *Veronica*, Speedwell, 1 stem
- Class 33 Any other flowering perennial, not listed, 1 specimen
 - 33a. Large (over 2” bloom)
 - 33b. Small (2” bloom and under)

Section E Perennials – Foliage “Northern Exposure”

Award of Merit offered.

- Class 34 Ground Cover, 1 specimen
- Class 35 *Heuchera*, Coral Bells, 3 leaves
- Class 36 *Hosta*, (Measure the width of the leaf of a mature plant for the variety.)
 - 36a. Dwarf/Miniature, Less than 2” width, 1 leaf
 - 36b. Small, 2” but less than 4”, 1 leaf
 - 36c. Medium, 4” but less than 6”, 1 leaf
 - 36d. Large, 6” but less than 8”, 1 leaf
 - 36e. Giant, Over 8”, 1 leaf
- Class 37 *Stachys*, Lamb’s Ear, 1 specimen
- Class 38 Any other foliage perennial, not listed, 1 specimen

Section F Bulbous Plants “Radiating Skyward”

Award of Merit offered

- Class 39 *Allium*, 1 specimen
 - 39a. 4” to 8”
 - 39b. Under 4”
- Class 40 *Iris*, 1 scape
 - 40a. Japanese
 - 40b. Bearded
 - 40c. Siberian
 - 40d. Spuria
 - 40e. Louisiana
- Class 41 *Lilium*, 1 stem
 - 41a. Asiatic
 - 1) Up-facing 2) Down-facing 3) Outfacing
 - 41b. Any other
- Class 42 *Tuberous Begonia*, 1 bloom and leaf floating in a clear, shallow container
- Class 43 *Zantedeschia*, Calla Lily, 1 bloom
- Class 44 Any other bulb, corm, rhizome, or tuber not listed, 1 specimen
 - 44a. Large (over 2” bloom)
 - 44b. Small (2” bloom and under) Specimen length 8” -18”

Section G Herbs “Scents at Dawn”

Award of Merit offered

- Class 45 Annual
 - 45a. Cut, 3 stems
 - 45b. Container grown, Pot size under 7”
- Class 46 Biennial
 - 46a. Cut, 3 stems
 - 46 b. Container grown, Pot size under 7”
- Class 47 Perennial
 - 47a. Cut, 3 stems
 - 47b. Container grown, Pot size under 7”

Section H Rosa, Roses “Pure Radiance”

Award of Merit offered

Classes may be subdivided by color.

- Class 48 *R. floribunda*, 1 spray
- Class 49 *R. grandiflora*, 1 bloom
- Class 50 *R. hybrid*, Hybrid Tea, 1 bloom
- Class 51 Miniature,
 - 51a. 1 bloom
 - 51b. 1 spray
- Class 52 Mini-flora
 - 52a. 1 bloom
 - 52b. 1 spray

Class 53 Old Garden, e.g. Bourbon, Damask, Moss,
Portland, 1 spray
Class 54 *Polyantha*, 1 spray
Class 55 Shrub, e.g. rugosa, kordesii, musk, 1 spray
Class 56 Any other rose not listed, 1 bloom or 1 spray

Section I Arboreal “Curves and Curls”

Arboreal Award offered

Specimens should be no longer than 24”, have several nodes and an apical tip.
Class 57 Any conifers – deciduous & evergreen, 1 branch
Class 58 Any deciduous tree, 1 branch
58a. Blooming
58b. Non-blooming
58b. Fruited

Class 59 Any shrub, 1 branch
59a. Blooming 59b. Non-blooming 59c. Fruited

Section J Fruits and Vegetables “Under the New Moon” *Award of Merit offered*

Class 60 *Allium*, Onions, 3 scallions
Class 61 *Asparagus officinalis*, 3 spears
Class 62 Berries, any kind, same variety, 3 specimens
Class 63 *Brassica oleracea*, Kohlrabi, 1 specimen
Class 64 *Brassica oleracea italica*, Broccoli, 1 head
Class 65 *Pisum sativum*, Peas, 3 specimens
65a. Edible pod
65b. Shell pod
Class 66 Any other fruit or vegetable, not listed.
66a. Small (Under 2”) 3 specimens
66b. Large (Over 2”) 1 specimen

DIVISION II DESIGN “Reflections of Light”

Award of Design Excellence is offered.

Design Rules

1. All design classes are open to any amateur designer.
2. Design must be the work of one individual. Plant material need not have been grown by the exhibitor, unless the schedule requires.
3. Some plant material must be used in every exhibit.
4. The designer has the freedom to choose Traditional or Creative Style with any design type listed unless restricted by the schedule.
5. Fresh plant material may not ever be treated in any manner. Plant material that has been treated to alter its exterior appearance may be used only in its dried state.
6. Contrived plant material or other forms made from real plant materials, fresh/and/or dried are permitted in all design classes unless prohibited by the schedule, law, or specific requirements of a Design Top Exhibitor Award.
7. Consult NGC Policies and Guidelines for the Design Division (HB pp.79-81) in regard to what is permitted and not permitted.
8. If a designer is unable to fulfill the assignment, it is the designer’s responsibility to find a replacement.
9. Designer is on her/his honor that the design being entered has not been previously entered or previously judged in an NGC Flower Show.
10. Exhibitors may enter only one design in each class. All designs should be pre-registered with the appropriate Class Consultant by June 8.
11. All plant material used in the design must be identified on a card, provided by the exhibitor and included with the entry tag.
12. The exhibitor is required to conform to the stated description and limitations of the Design Type if named in the class.
13. Rules for Design Types, Advanced Design Types, Table Designs and Table Appointments are printed in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, Chapter 7.
14. The Design Scale of Points is in the *Handbook*, Chapter 7, p. 130.
15. When a designer has completed her/his design, she/he must have the entry card initialed by the Design Classification Chairman before leaving the entry.
16. The Design Classification Chairman will not accept designs that contain plant material on the Iowa Noxious Weed list. See <http://www.weeds.iastate.edu/reference/weedlaw.htm> for a list of Iowa’s noxious weeds.
17. The Thomas Traveling Trophy is offered to the highest scoring novice winner (90+). A novice is anyone who has

- not won a blue ribbon in a FGCI State Flower Show. NOVICE should be written on the outside of the entry tag. A novice may enter any design Class.
18. The Mabel Prior Award is offered to any worthy design exhibit (90+) by a non-judge. A non-judge is anyone who is not certified as an NGC judge. NON-JUDGE should be written on the outside of the entry tag. A non-judge may enter any design Class.

DIVISION II DESIGN

Award of Design Excellence offered

Section A - DESIGNER'S CHOICE *"Enchanting Images"*

Designer's Choice Award offered.

Designer has the choice of all plant materials. Accessories permitted. Background panel or niche, 36" high, required. Space allowed: 30" wide x 30" deep x 36" high. Black table covering will be provided. See HB p 42.

- | | |
|---|------------|
| Class 1 "AURA OF STARLIGHT" An Illuminary Design, (HB p.74) | |
| Consultant: Tracy Edens, 319-338-1401, tracyleeann66@yahoo | 4 Exhibits |
| Class 2 "A QUIET ATMOSPHERE" A Reflective Design, (HB p. 75) | |
| Consultant: Twila Henning, 712-262-1447, hmt51158@smunet.net | 4 Exhibits |
| Class 3 "MYSTICAL IMPRESSIONS" A Parallel Design, (HB p. 75) | |
| Consultant: Peg Egertsen, 712-845-4344, plegertsen@me.com | 4 Exhibits |

Section B - PETITE DESIGN *"Fire in the Sky"*

Petite Award offered. (HB p. 73)

Petite design size as indicated in Class. Designer has the choice of all plant materials. Accessories permitted. Required background/underlay must be in proportion to design size and may not exceed 1" in height & width more than specific size of the design class. Scale is important. Classes 4, 5 and 6 will be displayed on open shelving. Class 7 will be displayed on tabletop with black covering.

- | | |
|--|------------|
| Class 4 "EARLY MORNING LIGHT" (3" Petite Design) Design no more than 3" in height, width & depth. | |
| Consultant: Janice Tyler Blanchard, 563-387-3032, jkay@acrec.com | 4 Exhibits |
| Class 5 "SWIRLS OF COLOR" (5" Petite Design) Design no more than 5" in height, width & depth | |
| Consultant: Ruth Hamilton, 319-334-3971, hamiltonfarm1864@gmail.com | 4 Exhibits |
| Class 6 "MOONGLOW" (8" Petite Design) Design no more than 8" in height, width & depth | |
| Consultant: Sue Becker, 712-540-4762, topdog51031@frontier.com | 4 Exhibits |
| Class 7 "LIGHTNING IN THE SKY" (12" Petite Design) Design no more than 12" in height, width & depth | |
| Consultant: Steve Wolter, 712-363-4012, swolter1@hotmail.com | 4 Exhibits |

Section C - TABLE ARTISTRY *"Under the Moonlight"*

Table Artistry Award offered.

Class 8 "DANCING SPIRITS" Table for one (1). Space allocated 30" wide x 30" deep. Black table covering provided. Underlay required; no overhang. Underlay may be fabric, board, etc. A decorative unit is required and should be in proportion to the one (1) place setting. (HB p. 76)

Consultant: Pam Gollob, 515-359-2649, gollob@LVCTA.com 4 Exhibits

Class 9 "FROSTY EVENING" Tray for one. Exhibitor to provide own tray. Tray must be no longer than 24". Requires an appropriate-sized decorative unit with the stability of the decorative unit given importance. Space allotted will be one-quarter of 60" round table. (HB p. 76)

Consultant: Jean Van Veldhuizer, 641-390-0783, bjvan@wctatel.net 4 Exhibits

Class 10 "SHADOWS IN THE GARDEN" Exhibition Table. Space allotted: 30" wide by 30" deep. A 36" background / niche is required. Black table covering will be provided. Not meant to be functional. Entry created artistically to suggest the service of food with no requirements as to the type or number of table appointments. Plant material must be used as needed for the overall design. (HB p. 76)

Consultant: Terri Ewers, 641-357-4139, pearl@CLTEL.net 4 Exhibits

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

90th FGCI ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, June 21, 2019

Doors open 8:00 a.m. Meeting Starts at 9:30 a.m.

WELCOME TO MASON CITY, IOWA *Northern Lights*, a Standard Flower Show will be held Thursday and Friday, June 20 – 21 at Columbia Club (formerly Knights of Columbus), 551 S Taft, Mason City, Iowa 50401

Meeting Registration Fee - \$40 by June 1, 2019 – Late Fee \$45 after June 1, 2018 (Fee includes registration, morning coffee, lunch and programs) Registration form below.

Make checks payable to: **FGCI 2019 Annual Meeting**
Send to: **Deb Stockberger, Registrar**
18388 Warbler Avenue
Nora Springs, IA 50458
(641) 749-2542 debstockberger@gmail.com

ACCOMMODATIONS

Historic Park Inn. 7 West State Street, Mason City, IA 50401 641-422-0015

Room special \$129 plus tax. Refer to Federated Garden Club of Iowa when making reservation. **Deadline to make reservation May 1, 2019.** This is the last remaining Frank Lloyd Wright designed and built hotel in the world. It has only 27 rooms, FGCI has reserved them all for evening of June 20, 2019. Please note, make reservations by May 1, 2019 for this room rate. It is a beautiful boutique hotel.

Hampton Inn & Suites. 2111 4th Street SW, Mason City, IA 50401 641-435-7500

\$139 plus tax. May 21, 2019 deadline for room rate. Refer to Federated Garden Club of Iowa when making reservation. Breakfast is included.

There are many hotels in the area. Contact them directly or through the Mason City Visitors Center, 2021 4th Street SW, Mason City, IA 50401 800-423-5724 www.VisitMasonCityIowa.com

**REGISTRATION FORM
FGCI ANNUAL MEETING****Friday - June 21, 2019****Columbia Club (formerly Knights of Columbus) 551 Taft Avenue South, Mason City, IA 50401**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact number/email _____

FGCI District _____ Garden Club _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____ (\$40.00 early registration; after June 1 - \$45.00)

(Fee includes registration, morning coffee, lunch and programs)

Diet restrictions _____ (efforts will be made to accommodate)

Member Status (please check all that apply)

State Officer _____

Former State President _____

State Life Member _____

District Director _____

Former District Director _____

Central Region Life Member _____

Board Member _____

Flower Show Judge _____

National Life Member _____

Club President _____

Landscape Design Consultant _____

Central Region Director _____

Club Member _____

Garden Consultant _____

Central Region Board Member _____

Guest _____

This 'n That.....

About Butterflies and Bees

In the November, 2018 Wallace's Farmer we read an interesting article about harvesting milkweed seed. Part of this article suggested putting the seeds, with their "fluff", into a paper bag with two pennies. When the bag is shaken the pennies will help to separate the fluff from the seeds. This would certainly be faster than separating the fluff from seeds one at a time.

Please register your corner of the world as a "Plant.Grow.Fly" garden. Even a few flower pots outdoors could qualify. A web search of Plant.Grow.Fly will bring up a lot of information for you to read.

In a "Center for Rural Affairs" publication we read an interesting article about partnering bee keepers with gardeners. In Nebraska a gardener found she had a bumper crop of peppers after cooperating with a bee keeper to allow hives on her property. The article stated "Across the nation bee keeping and the diversified or specialty crop farming industries are growing. Many beekeepers lack land for their hives, and landowners could benefit from honey bee pollination." Even a small yard or garden would benefit from bee hives nearby. It also states bees will travel up to five miles to find nectar. The article goes on to state that the bees did not bother the landowner's grandkids, or the cattle grazing nearby. But we would caution that gardeners living in towns and cities may need to check local ordinances about keeping bees in their city or town. Despite the benefit of pollination, some ordinances prohibit bee keeping in town.

Sandy Quam, Butterfly Chairman

American Peony Society Convention

Reiman Gardens, Ames, Iowa

May 15-19, 2019

For the first time since 1932, the American Peony Society's National Convention is being held in Iowa. The convention theme is "Back to our Roots" with special seminars and garden tours featuring peonies bred by the "father of the modern peony" A. P. Saunders. Co-chairs are Lois Girton and Kris Jurik. Registration information is available on the APS website; <http://americanpeonysociety.org/>

The flower show and educational seminars are being held on Saturday, May 18th, and Sunday, May 19th, at Reiman Gardens. Events are free to the public with admission to Reiman Gardens. We welcome everyone to enter peony stems in the horticulture division or artistic designs. Contact Exhibition Chairman Linette Sorrentino (dakotahgirl@broadband-mn.com) for a show schedule or if you wish to enter an artistic design. There are always extra peony stems available to designers who don't have their own flowers. All entries must be in place by 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 18th. The flower show will be open to the public from 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. on Saturday and 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

WILDFLOWER USES

The prairies and woodlands have put themselves to bed for the winter. "Going to bed" may be a misnomer, as the plants really aren't sleeping. In fact, the roots are busy storing up energy for next year's leaves and blooms. The prairie grasses have turned brown. The browns and golds are beautiful colors now. The prairie grasses create beauty for winter landscapes, especially when one looks out and sees the snow clinging to the grasses. It is a beautiful sight as the sun shines and crystals form on the grasses.

In studying the wildflower books, I discovered that wildflowers had many uses in earlier times. I have listed some of the more common wildflowers and the ways they were used by early explorers and Native Americans. Some of them are amusing.

**Rattle Snake Master* – Used to treat hemorrhoids, venereal disease, snake bites, and exhaustion from sexual depletion.

**Yellow Cone Flower* – It was used by Indians to treat toothache.

**Beard Tongue* – Native Americans used it as a toothache remedy.

**Prairie Smoke* – Chippewa Indians used the boiled roots for disease, women's problems and dysentery.

**Wild Garlic* -Early explorers used Wild Garlic to treat Scurvy and it was an important food source.

**Prairie Phlox* – Meskwaki Indians made a tea as a love potion and to treat eczema, purify blood, treat piles, and help heal an injured womb.

**Lead Plant* – The oil from this plant was used by the Indians to treat pinworms.

**Bedstraw* – Seeds have been used as a substitute for coffee. It was used to curdle milk, help in easing childbirth, stop blood flow, and increase urine flow.

**Yucca* – It was used as a soap for washing hair and to treat balding.

**Butter Fly Weed* – Used to treat pleurisy, and as a diuretic and laxative.

**Black-eyed Susan* - Indians used the root to cure colds, and as a diuretic.

**Meadow Sweet* – used for food, tonic, an aspirin substitute, and easing of childbirth.

**Yellow Coneflower* – Used for snake bites, bee stings, toothache, mumps.

**Swamp Milk Weed* – Used to expel worms in an hour and to counteract snake bite poison.

**Blazing Star* – Gonorrhea, urine problems, childbirth.

**Culver's Root* – Used for sluggish liver, stomach tonic, laxative, typhoid.

**Horse Mint* – Treatment of pimples, cure colds.

**Prairie Sage* – Used to drive away evil spirits and control profuse menstruation.

Darla Kickbush, Wildflower Workshop Chairman

DISTRICT AND CLUB NEWS

DISTRICT I

Deb Bentley Co-Director
2463 Bobwhite Drive
Muscatine IA 52761
641-420-3696 (c)
dmhalfpap@gmail.com

Tracy Edens Co-Director (email contact)
4515 560th Street SE
Iowa City IA 52240
319-338-1401 (h)
tracyleeann66@yahoo.com

District I Meeting May 21 in Tipton hosted by Tipton Garden Club.

Muscatine Garden Club's formal meetings and events are March-November which gives members the winter months for family and snowbird travel. They build a lot of activities into a shortened calendar! March 9 they will have an educational booth and vend garden-related items during the Art of Gardening at Muscatine Community College. On March 11, Kim Anderson from "Blueberry Bottoms" will talk to the club and visitors about blueberry farming. In April speaker Nile Dusdieker, Eastern Iowa Orchid Society, will be sharing information about this delicate plant. May is packed with events: May 11 they join with Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society (CVIDS) and Muscatine Master Gardeners for annual plant sale. May 13 will be the first road trip of 2019, to the Black Hawk Historical Park and to Hilltop Greenhouse. May 21 members will travel to Tipton for the District 1 Annual Meeting.

Tipton Garden Club will meet February 26 for a program by a conservationist on native birds and birding as a hobby. In late March they will begin cleaning and prepping the three community flower beds they care for. March meeting will be a program about what's new for 2019 and some favorite stand by's. In April the club will work with the 7th grade students at Tipton Middle School to plant one or two trees on the school property, as well as mulch the 70+ established trees. May 11 will be their annual plant sale. The club will be hosting the District I meeting May 21. The meeting will be held at member Becky Bradfield's lovely home and unique gardens. Tipton is excited to host this year and the club hopes that many members will be present.

Keosauqua Town and Country Garden Club is excited to start a new year with something new in February, an evening meeting with a potluck. Members hope

working friends can join them. They will be discussing plans for the garden show "Down on the Farm" to be held in July. March is always a great trip to the Master Gardener Symposium. It gets members excited about spring and being able to get their hands dirty again. By April members hope to have a day of digging, dividing and sharing plants.

DISTRICT II: Mary Steuben
315 Douglas Street,
Jesup, IA 50648
319-827-1509 (h) 319-230-8099 (c)
msteuben@jtt.net

District II Meeting May 4 in Cedar Rapids.

Decorah Town & Country Garden Club planted a flowering crab tree "Showtime", in memory of deceased member, LaRue Hagen. November's program was a review of the recent tree census in Decorah's city limits by presenter Peter van der Linden. Diversity of tree varieties, pests, diseases and specific types of creative tree groups were discussed. Members brought designs titled "Branching Out", which were critiqued by judges Buhr and Tyler-Blanchard. In December, they gathered at the cozy "Farm House Restaurant" in Caledonia, MN for Christmas luncheon, where they also joyfully celebrated one special member's 90th birthday! Plans for 2019 include their popular biennial "Dessert Among the Flowers" to be held Thursday, April 25 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church with program featuring photographer, adventurer, hiker, Steven Meyer on "Picturing the PACIFIC CREST TRAIL". (Tickets are sold only BEFORE, not at the event.)

Floralia Arrangers Guild of Van Horne learned about "Garden Myths and Half-Truths" from the program given by Carla Albertsen and Faye Nolan taught members about saving container plants for next year. Members were shown how to plant flower bulbs that can be forced to bloom in early spring. Committee members removed the fall decorations from the planters on Van Horne Main Street and redecorated them for the Christmas holidays. Club members assembled table decorations to share with the Key Stone Care Center's dining room and provided the residents with recycled materials from nature to make snowman ornaments to decorate their rooms. Members celebrated Christmas lunch together and several members made evergreen swags that were used as door prizes for a community event.

Good Earth Garden Club of Cedar Rapids will serve as the host club for the District II meeting this spring. They have already painted favors in preparation for the event. Good Earth members enjoyed their annual potluck Christmas party at which they also enjoyed playing games and a multimedia program. The GEGC does not meet during January. Did you know that the name for the month of April comes from the Latin word *Aperio*, to open? It is at this season that flowers begin to bloom.

Independence Garden Club helped Lexington Estates residents make snowman tea light ornaments for their rooms in November. About a dozen residents took part in the activity. It was hard to tell if the residents or the garden club members had more fun. Josh Spece presented "Succulents in Containers" along with general tips on care and feeding of succulents in December. It was amazing the variety that are available and the wide range of color. He also brought a number of succulent Christmas ornaments to share with the group.

Quasqueton Garden Club members learned fascinating facts about bird feathers at November's meeting. Birds have several different types of feathers and each type serves a purpose for the particular bird. The club will be supporting the community and Independence Garden Club with a donation towards the Blue Star Memorial Project for Buchanan County. Members went home with a completed Christmas decoration from the annual Christmas craft and White Elephant Exchange at "In the Country and Gifts". This year's project was a choice between a button and an ornament Christmas tree mounted on a board.

Vinton Garden Club is reorganizing due to loss of members due to illness and aging. The elected president Fran Stueck has been a member for 40 years. Vinton Garden Club was organized 100 years ago. Plans are being made for fun tours and interesting speakers as well as community projects in Vinton. They welcome anyone interested in joining the club.

Fran Stueck, Central Regional Director, and a member of the Vinton Garden Club is recuperating from surgery. (Fran developed an infection from knee surgery she had had last year. A second surgery is planned for February 14. Hopefully by the time the NEWS is delivered she will be in rehab.) Fran would love hearing from FGCI friends and asks that mail be sent to her home address: 5589 22nd Avenue Trail, Vinton, IA 52349-9480 or e-mail franstueck@yahoo.com.

DISTRICT 3: Jean Van Veldhuizen
4835 Mallard Avenue
Northwood, IA 50459
641-390-0783
bjvan@wctatel.net

District 3 Meeting April 26 Cedar Falls, Radcliffe Better Homes and Gardens Club enjoyed all their fall activities and ended the year with successful wreath sales, their yearly fundraiser. They use Homestead Evergreens, a local vendor, for the wreaths. In December they gathered together for a Christmas supper, ornament exchange and a Christmas story. In January the Board will meet to plan the year which begins in February. They will be discussing renovations for the mini park as well as community projects that members could be involved in.

Green Thumb Garden Club members enjoyed floral designer Connie Hickie's exciting program on Holiday Decorating emphasizing "The Farm House Look" and a relaxed fun décor in November. The Christmas party was a fun gathering with a potluck meal and a monetary free will Christmas gift was given by participating members to a local needy family. In January GTGC met to review new yearbooks and to install new officers for 2019--2020.

Cedar Falls Garden Club had each member bring a decorated pumpkin to the October meeting. They voted on a favorite pumpkin, and the winner received a prize. In November each member brought a favorite garden or yard ornament. They enjoyed seeing a variety of interesting and unusual ornaments. In December they enjoyed the traditional cookie exchange sharing with Earl May Garden Center employees, where they hold some meetings. New officers were installed and a donation was made to the Cedar Valley Arboretum & Botanic Gardens.

Swaledale Garden Club met in October at Lime Creek Nature Center in Mason City. Weather kept members inside but Lime Creek offers a great place to gather while observing many great indoor exhibits, including an observation beehive. New officers were elected for the upcoming year and a great lunch was served. November saw the club meeting back in Swaledale for the annual wreath/swag, or decorate a basket with greenery day; this is a fun and creative time. Roll call included everyone's favorite part of the Thanksgiving dinner. Due to inclement weather in December, the Club was unable to visit the Rockwell Care Center to sing carols with the residents and share Christmas "goodies"

DISTRICT IV, V, VII: Marilyn Moore
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District Meeting June 3, Oakwood United Methodist Church. 400 NE 56th Street, Pleasant Hill, IA 50327.

Ackworth Garden Club November meeting was a great presentation on "Bats" by Carly Kalina. In December the Garden Therapy committee decorated a tree for the Vintage Hills Festival of Trees with Nature's Joy as the theme. They received "Best Tree" award, voted on by the residents and guests of the retirement community. The committee also held a floral arrangement work day and assisted residents of the memory care unit with creating holiday arrangements for their rooms. Pictures of these events can be seen on our Facebook page.

Afton Federated Garden Club's fall luncheon was held at the Afton Community Center. Four clubs, including Orient, Greenfield, Belington, and Osceola, attended. The speaker was Judy Hayes, an Elderberry farmer from Grant City, Missouri. She makes jams and jelly, syrup, and eventually a little wine from the berries. In November Kathy Tapken talked about water quality. The December Christmas outing was held in Diagonal at 209 Broadway Restaurant. Members were given little paper Christmas trees to decorate with pictures from magazines and old photographs of garden-related subjects. The trees were then put on a card for two members that are in nursing homes.

Ames Garden Club will begin their year with a program on "Climate Change" in February and "Amazing All American Selections" in March.

Grant Sunshine Garden Club enjoyed lessons on composting and vermiculture. Worm starter kits were available with some members getting kits and becoming "worm farmers." Another presentation was about "flower frogs", which included an exhibit of many different styles and kinds of flower holders. The next event was the annual Christmas luncheon and gift exchange. The Nature Center was decorated with an angel theme and members decorated their own place settings.

Greater Des Moines Garden Club's Flower Show "In Blooming Color" is March 15-17 during Iowa Flower, Lawn and Garden Show at the Iowa State Fair Grounds Varied Industries Building. The club does not meet in January. Spring programs include "A Florist's Flower

Arrangement Guidance" by Carrie Thede, owner of Plaza Florists & Gifts; "Monarchs on the Move" by Lynn Campbell, ISU Extension; "Pollinators and the Plants that Love Them" by Marcia Leeper, garden writer and horticulturist; "Wildflowers in the Iowa Prairie" by Joe Jayjack, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation.

Knoxville Federated Garden Club prepared Bessie Spaur Butterfly Garden for winter in late fall. Members spent over 200 hours last year keeping the garden a beautiful place for visitors. Programs have featured prairie plantings (Marla Mertz led us around a well-established prairie); Curt Donohue explained his tree reforestation project; and Vern Cochran brought members up to date on the Red Rock Hydro Plant construction at the Red Rock Dam. November included election of new officers. The club decorated a Christmas tree for the Historical Society's Festival of Trees, sponsored a Wreath Silent Auction at the Chamber's Living Windows event, and sponsored a Christmas Lighting and Decorating Contest. The year ended with an evening potluck dinner and gift exchange. Perfect attendance awards were presented. Their 18th annual Garden Gala will be held April 6, 2019. (See ad on page 4 in this issue of the NEWS.)

Pella Garden Club has been busy with many activities and informative speakers. They are starting to get ready for the annual June Garden Party. (See on ad page 5 in this issue of the NEWS!) In November they had a very interesting program on conifer gardens by Paula Flynn from Alleman and look forward to visiting her gardens in June. December's Christmas luncheon was followed by a time of painting a winter pine tree on canvas. They are now posting information about meetings on Facebook. The club is looking into various projects to support in 2019. They also recently received news that the club is a recipient of a Pella Foundation Grant that will enable them to establish a website. Their annual Tulip Time Flower Show is in the works with the theme soon to be announced. If anyone is interested in entering this event please contact a member of the Pella Garden Club.

Urbandale Garden Club started the holidays off with trimming a bird-themed Christmas tree at the Urbandale Library. The Christmas meeting was a potluck held at the Historic Olmsted-Urban House. New officers have been installed. They began the new year with a program by Derek McKay from Ted Lare Garden Center, "Year Around Garden Interest" with plant ideas for all seasons. In February, the program "Project: Beauty!" with Tina Krug of Red Fern Landscape Design featured ideas

for all corners of the backyard. In March, the Highland Park Garden Club will host a combined meeting with Greater Des Moines and Urbandale Clubs, and Gary Garles of the American Hosta Society will speak on new and improved hosta.

Woodland Hills Garden Club's November meeting was a craft night. Members made a snowman with a black stove top hat out of painted flower pots. Extras were made for a couple of members who couldn't attend that night. The Pleasant Hill Library planters were changed out to winter greens Thanksgiving weekend. The December meeting was a Christmas dinner for the members at Toad Valley Golf Course. Members brought items for donation to Hawthorn Hill in Des Moines and pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. A white elephant exchange was held. The club will not meet again until March.

Kellogg Garden Club met recently to plan programs for 2019. The upcoming programs will feature topics such as water conservation, birds, backyard conservation, creation of flower pots by dipping a cloth in wet concrete and draping it over a bucket and a visit to a sorghum mill. The group will also continue to plant and tend 5 city flower beds in Kellogg.

DISTRICT VI: Shirley Wolf
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District VI Meeting is April 13 to be held at the Iowa Arboretum, Madrid, hosted by the Madrid Garden Club.

Fort Dodge Federated Garden Club, after a busy 2018, is ready for the New Year! Some programs planned include: Knowing about Bulbs; Succession Blooms, Planting to Have Color All Summer Long; and a trip to the Botanical Garden in Des Moines.

Palo Alto Garden Club met in September to start planning the 2020 District VI meeting. Many committees were set up and decisions made before the time got away from them! In October they met at the home of a member who gave an excellent presentation on preparing flower beds and gardens for winter. November's program was on rain gardens and dry creek beds. In December members held their annual banquet and installed next term's officers. Roll call topic was to bring an apron and tell its history; many stories were shared. Each member brought a dozen or more homemade cookies, which were divided into four baskets and delivered to the local nursing homes.

Estherville Garden Club had a slide show presentation in October by Alan Gage recounting his 2016 Canadian Wilderness canoe trip. The Canadian theme was carried out in the decorations on the serving table. The December club meeting included games and a gift exchange. Next year's program theme for the meetings will be "Colors of the Garden".

DISTRICT VIII: Victoria Rute
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victoria597@icloud.com

District VIII Meeting will be hosted by Clay County Federated Garden Club on Saturday, April 13 at Del's Outdoor Elements, Del's Garden Center, 1808 11th Street SW, Spencer, Iowa from

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Registration fee: \$10.00 Deadline for registration April 3.

RSVP with registration fee to: Jacqueline Heinrichs, Treasurer, 409 W 4th Street, Spencer, IA 51301. Programs by Del's Garden Center (District club members are reminded to PLEASE BRING ITEMS FOR THE WAYS AND MEANS TABLE)

Clay County Federated Garden Club will kick off their new year on February 12 with an annual dinner party at the Spencer Golf and Country Club. They will share ideas for 2019 year for monthly meetings and events. Their first meeting is March 12 at Del's Garden Center.

Kingsley Home and Federated Garden Club, organized in 1932 and Federated in 1957, welcomed two new members. At the same time they mourned the loss of member David Klingensmith, a dedicated conservationist. The club begins the year in February with a garden therapy session at the Kingsley Nursing and Rehab center. March will be spent at the Sioux City Garden Show, attending educational presentations, etc. April is a visit to a new nursery.

Moving? Change of Address?

To ensure continued delivery of the NEWS be sure to send or email your new address to the state treasurer:

Sandy Stone Miller, FGCI Treasurer
10717 Highway E
Wyaconda, MO 63474
660-479-5580 Cell: 612-381-4800
onestonefarm@yahoo.com

PENNY PINES

Isn't it wonderful what trees can do? They have many uses and it is up to us, as citizens of Earth, to help nurture, protect and insure the future of trees, right? As garden clubs, that's what we are about.

Look what trees do for us: They protect us from the heat of summer, give us clean air to breathe, and give fruit, nuts and spices like cinnamon! Also, how about shoes and wine bottle stoppers from the cork tree? Let's not forget housing for squirrel huts and bird nests. So many uses for trees, don't you agree? What our club is doing at every meeting is passing around a can for Penny Pines. I would love to hear what your clubs are doing. You can reach me at topdog51031@frontier.com or call me at 712-540-4762.

Susan Becker, Penny Pines Chairman
Floyd Valley Federated Garden Club

Recycle, Reuse and Reclaim

Did you know that there are a billion fewer birds in North America than 40 years ago? Yes, it is messy feeding birds but it is definitely rewarding to provide food and shelter. The Audubon Society advises that you leave seeds on stems. Native grasses make good foraging. Leave the leaves, PUT THE RAKE DOWN, build brush piles, and stop the use of chemicals.

Used mascara brushes can be sent to Appalachia Wild and their Wands for Wildlife program. They estimate that more than 2,000 animals will need urgent care this year. For example, donating provides bandages for an injured turtle and food to nourish back to health.

Did you know that the average American uses about 1,500 plastic bags but only 1% are recycled? These bags break down into micro-plastics that contain toxins which pollute our water and atmosphere. They also use a large amount of oil in the manufacturing process, which worsens air pollution.

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Send To: Angie Beem (Life Membership Chairman)

2002 Madison Street,
Emmetsburg, IA 50536

Further Information or Questions: Phone: 712-852-3869 Email: abeem@iowatelecom.net