

# THE COLORADO GARDEN CONNECTION



Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., 1556 Emerson Street, Denver, CO 80218-1450  
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## President's Message Winter 2015



By Louise Niekerk, President, CFGC

*Greetings to all Gardeners,*

*Once again, we find ourselves scurrying around in the business of the holiday season. Gifts, food, decorations, parties and company all leave us breathless. I was trying to think of the perfect gift to give to a gardener. Garden centers make valiant attempts to cash in on the buying frenzy every December. Amaryllis bulbs, evergreen wreaths and poinsettias are but a few of the temptations offered.*

*While perusing a garden center's merchandise last week, I stumbled across signs designed to be placed within a garden. With mild amusement, I read a few: "Annuals - Grow Fast and Die Young." (Do true gardeners even plant annuals?) Another said: "Compost Happens." (Hmmm...not always.)*

*Then I came across a few signs that made me stop and ponder, "Who in the world writes these signs?" -- certainly, not gardeners. Take this one, for example: "Bloom Where You are Planted." The person who wrote this sign either deserves a top award for naivety or has never planted a blessed thing in their life. Here's another one: "'All Things Grow With Love." You may have brought home*

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*a potted flower because you "loved" it, but the love part ends where work, sweat and tears take over. This is a good one: "Bring on the Sun." I can only conclude this was written by an Alaskan in the wintertime, not by someone who owns 10 pair of sunglasses because they live in Colorado. I immediately chuckled after reading this sign: "I am a Garden Goddess." Oh, if only that were true. My garden attire usually consists of an old shirt that used to belong to my husband, a pair of jeans that are managing to hold together after hundreds of washings and a hat, big enough to cover my needs-to-be-washed head of hair. My garden prayer is "Please, don't let anyone 'just stop by'." OK, I will admit to you that 10 years ago, I almost bought a sign that said, "Caution: Bunny Crossing."*

*Continued on page 6*

## CFGC Serving the Community

### *Harveyette Harvesters Garden Club (by Lynn Cleveland)*

Garden club members, at the November meeting, crafted pinecone reindeer table favors for a nearby home that supports the elderly.



Nanc Halverhout, Irma Farrell, Carren Williams and Lynn Cleveland crafting



Carren Williams, Nanc Halverhout, Irma Farrell and Maryellen Vialpando showing the finished product.

### *Flower Fad Garden Club (by Chuck Pelto)*

The civic project on Abriendo Boulevard had its best year to date – thanks to getting three times the average precipitation from December through May. The columbine, which has for years never grown more than thigh-high, was up to my chest this year. The miniature roses took a bad hit from the warm fall and the sudden deep freeze in December, so, we trimmed the dead material back almost to the ground. But at this point, they've reestablished their dominance in their part of the garden.

### *Evergreen Moonlight Garden Club (by Joyce Cassidy)*

From helping residents at the Life Care Center make flower arrangements to potting plants with residents at Elk Run, garden club members continue to support the local community. This fall blue bird boxes were cleaned out and at the Senior Resource Center Plant It Pink Garden deer resistant bulbs were planted.



Jane Stewart organized the flower arranging at the Life Care Center.



Arrangement by Life Care resident Lillie.



Gail Fischer planting left over plants at Elk Run.

## Fort Logan

By Mary Fagerberg, CFGC Fort Logan Chairman

A huge "Thank you" goes to the 40 garden club members and 8 guests who put in a total of 116 hours to maintain and replace plants through the 2015 season. Garden Clubs are already signing up for 2016 for their one-day during the month. Call Mary Fagerberg, 970-353-1743 or Jeanette Hunt 303-627-9707 to sign up your club!

April, August, and October are still open.

May 11 - Queen of Spades Garden Club

June 18 - Dig & Dream Garden Club

July 9 - Evergreen Moonlight Garden Club

September - Harveyette Harvesters Garden Club

## Penny Pines

By Julie Sheehan, CFGC Penny Pines Chairman

A donation to Penny Pines in \$68 increments is a wonderful way to honor a loved one, or simply to make a beautiful investment in the forest to come, at holiday time or anytime. Make copies so you always have one available for that perfect gift. A lovely certificate may be requested, and is a

colorful way to let someone know you care. You may even request which state you would like to benefit from your gift. So, **RESTORE, REVIVE, REPLACE**, a gift to Penny Pines will turn your green into green!!! See attached information and donation sheet.

## Save The Date - June 4, 2016

Members of the Boulder Garden Club, Greeley Morning Garden Club and Loveland garden club, are having a party and you're invited! Our party will be at the First Lutheran Church in Longmont. Guests will include A Wondering Botanist - *What Happened to My Bees*. We will even give you a gift for attending.

Jacque Gustafson, Party Chairman

## 2016 Calendar of Events

### February 13 - 21, 2016

Judging February 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>  
Colorado Garden & Home Show  
CO Convention Center, Denver, CO

### March 7, 2016

CFGC Board of Directors Meeting  
Emerson House, Denver, CO

### March 7, 2016

Deadline for The Colorado Garden  
Connection; send articles to  
joyce.cassidy@cassidycm.com

### April 16, 2016

CFGC Southern District Meeting

### May 2, 2016

NGC Annual Convention  
Grand Rapids, MI

### May 16 - 17, 2016

CFGC Flower Show School IV  
Emerson House, Denver, CO

### June 4, 2016

CFGC Annual Meeting  
Lutheran Church, Longmont

### June 4, 2016

Deadline for The Colorado Garden  
Connection; send articles to  
joyce.cassidy@cassidycm.com

## Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

By Brenda Slaughter, RMR Chairman, Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl



Children from the first through fifth grade are invited to participate in the 2016 National Garden Club, Inc. Poster Contest. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and the National Garden Club, Inc. are giving students the opportunity to

demonstrate their understanding of wildfire prevention and basic environmental conservation principles through original drawings of Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl. Local posters are due to state chairman by January 22, 2016 and regional posters are due to regional chairman by February 22, 2016. Grand Prize National Poster winner will win a free round-trip airfare and accommodations for four to Washington, DC. \$50 will also be awarded to the First Place National Winners from each grad level

sponsored by National Garden Clubs. For information on the poster rules, poster tips and recognition ceremonies visit [www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids](http://www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids) or the [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org) websites. You can also check out the winning posters from the 2015 campaign. If you need additional information or help to get started please contact Brenda Slaughter at [bj7slaughter@hotmail.com](mailto:bj7slaughter@hotmail.com). I'd be glad to help and thanks so much for your support and commitment to the partnership between the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Forest Service.



## Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) Awards

From the Rocky Mountain Rambler, Volume 1, Issue 2A, dated September 2015, has this Addendum to the Fall Issue.

You Rocky Mountain Region members “leaped in action” and performed many wonderful projects in your communities. The RMR Awards Program recognizes your hard work and dedication to your communities. We applaud you! Below is a listing of the CFGC award winners:

#11 Conservation and Environmental Concerns 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Queens of Spades Garden Club

#3A Montana Award–Writing, Garden Club Yearbook 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Dig and Dream Garden Club

#3J Montana Award–Writing, Books relating to horticulture or gardening, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Dig and Dream Garden club

#7A Wyoming Award–Trees, Planting the greatest number of trees, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Dig and Dream Garden Club

#17 Fund–raising, 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Dig and Dream Garden Club

## Tree Planting – Remembering Joan Franson

On September 11, 2015 Happy Transplants Garden Club invited members of CFGC and the community to a tree planting ceremony in honor of Joan Franson. Joan, a member of CFGC since the early 1960's, is best remembered in her State Parliamentarian position. A Colorado Blue Spruce

was planted at Wolf Park in Arvada with approximately 35 people in attendance. Members of Joan's family also attended. After an introduction by Kathy Petersen, Louise Niekirk gave a short eulogy. Joan passed away on October 17, 2014.



Kathy Petersen, CFGC Treasurer and Louise Niekirk, CFGC President at the Tree Planting Ceremony.



Members of the community, including Joan's husband listen to Kathy Petersen memorialize Joan Franson.

## 2016 Colorado Garden and Home Show



### "Metamorphosis"

A Standard Flower Show

Presented by CFGC Judges Council

February 13 – 21, 2016

Colorado Convention Center

700 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Denver, Colorado 80202.

Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Sundays: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Weekdays: 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Information is available at

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

Host volunteer positions are still available. If interested contact Mickey Johnson at [hajflower@gmail.com](mailto:hajflower@gmail.com). Each time slot needs two people unless otherwise stated. Host volunteers are provided free entrance into the entire Colorado Garden and Home Show. Sign up and visit the show before or after your shift.

Saturday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, One person is needed from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Two people are needed from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>, One person is needed from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and two people are needed from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, Feb., 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>, all 3 slots are open (10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.).

## Timberline Gardens

On September 30, 2015, Timberline Gardens in Arvada closed their doors after 46 years in business. Gardeners all over the state will miss this garden center that carried many plants suited to the western garden. The site will become a planned development of apartments and townhomes.

Part-owner and manager, Kelly Grummon, is well known and respected in the horticulture and gardening community including CFGC garden clubs. Happy Transplants Garden Club has a long relationship with Timberline, when they helped out in

1998 to pot-up plugs and bar root perennials; and again in 2009 to clean up after a hailstorm. When the Evergreen Moonlight Garden Club implemented a "Plant It Pink" garden at the Senior Resource Center, Timberline donated most of the plants. Even with closing, Timberline will be remembered as Kelly donated over 100 varieties of mostly Western North American cactus to a new display at Chatfield Arboretum. Kelly will also continue his Gardening Q & A column for *Colorado Gardener* so you can send your questions to [cogardener@gmail.com](mailto:cogardener@gmail.com).

## CONGRATULATIONS!

The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs received a Regional Award of Excellence (#25); first place; for RMR Large State Clubs. This award is given to a garden club that does an exceptional project to promote and participate in NGC goals with special activities. Congratulations to Trudie and all those who participated in this project!

## President's Message – Winter 2015 (continued from page 1)

*We had just moved into our house that borders Jefferson County open space. I had just seen my first bunny and I thought he was soooo cute. My attitude has changed considerably since then, after twelve years of witnessing roses that have been chewed to the ground and watching evidence of "rabbit-resistant" plants" being devoured. A more appropriate sign would be: "Caution to any Bunnies Crossing."*

*I did see a sign that I could actually relate to. The sign said, "Born to Garden, Forced to Work." Now that makes sense. I know I was born to garden. My mother gave me a packet of snapdragon seeds when I was six years old. I picked out a little plot of*

*earth and went to work. What followed were rave reviews. Had my talent finally found me?*

*Don't get me wrong. Despite the trials, gardening has brought great joy to my life. I savor the successes all the more because they have been hard won. In this holiday season, gardening has also brought to me the greatest gift of life - wonderful friendships. To all of you, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with all-things-gardening. I know it's going to be a great year.*

*Louise Niekerk, CFGC State President  
Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs*

MINUTES  
COLORADO FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Phillip S. Miller Library, Castle Rock, Colorado  
December 11, 2015

**Call To Order** by President Louise Niekerk at 11:08 a.m. Mary Fagerberg offered the invocation. Louise introduced officers and new Board members. A quorum was present.

**Minutes** of the August 24, 2015 meeting were adopted as published.

**Financial Report:** Treasurer Kathy Petersen reported on CFGC's assets, budget, and expenses. Kathy noted that typically the bulk of CFGC's income is received in the first quarter and the bulk of expenses are paid in the last quarter of the fiscal year. The full report was filed.

**Membership Report:** Assistant Treasurer Margie Soileau reported 465 members statewide.

**Other Financial Items:** Louise reported that Colorado Gives Day was very successful this year, resulting in online contributions of \$6,612 and check donations of \$1,325 for a total to date of \$7,937. She stated that damage to Emerson House from hail and the neighbors' tree falling on the roof has been repaired, and CFGC has presented the bill for tree damage to the neighbors.

**Vice-President Betty Roberts** reported that the Ways and Means Committee forwarded two recommendations to the Executive Committee, which added a third. Secretary Lynn Cleveland presented the recommendations:

MOTION: That the registration fee for the June 4, 2016 Annual Meeting in Longmont be \$20.00.

MOTION: That CFGC ratify payment for repairs to Emerson House of up to \$10,000, to be paid from the checking account.

MOTION: That CFGC participate in Colorado Gives Day in 2016 as a means to encourage donations.

All three recommendations passed.

**Committee Reports:** Louise read Julie Sheehan's report on Penny Pines encouraging members to consider a Christmas donation to Penny Pines in honor of someone. Lynn read Michele Gustin's report on Awards encouraging clubs to apply for awards; Michele has forwarded two Regional winners (Dig & Dream and Queens of Spades) to National for judging. Mary Fagerberg reported that clubs and individuals donated 116 volunteer hours at the Fort Logan Cemetery gardens in 2015; she and Co-Chair Jeanette Hunt are assembling the volunteer workday schedule for 2016. Lynn read Joyce Cassidy's Trustees' report concerning rentals, recent repairs, and reorganization in Emerson House. Geneva Austin has resigned as a Trustee and Nancy Griffin has been added. Louise relayed Jacque Gustafson's reminder that the Annual Meeting will be June 4, 2016 in Longmont. Marge Koerner is signing people up for designs and exhibits for the flower show at the Garden & Home Show in February. Louise urged members to participate in the flower show by submitting designs or artistic crafts and by acting as hostesses. Mickey Johnson ([hajflower@gmail.com](mailto:hajflower@gmail.com)) is the hostess chair this year. Two garden tours are planned for summer 2016, one in Colorado Springs in June and one in the Pinery area on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Audrey Coyle thanked all the clubs and individuals who purchased NGC's children's book, The Frightened Frog. The book is still available for purchase. Kay Rolfe, Membership Chair, outlined several ideas for encouraging new members and new clubs.

Next meeting will be March 7, 2016 at Emerson House.

Meeting adjourned 11:54 a.m. Following adjournment, those in attendance enjoyed a program on Irises by Steven Speights, President of the Elmohr Iris Society of Colorado Springs, followed by lunch provided by the Ways & Means committee.

Lynn Cleveland, Recording Secretary

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## CFGC is on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Colorado-Federation-of-Garden-Clubs/177497272343002>

### Check it out!



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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

*[www.coloradogardenclubs.org](http://www.coloradogardenclubs.org)*

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