

Vol. 90 No. 1

# The Colorado Garden Connection

*Annual Convention*



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**Cover:**

Glorious Morning Glory  
photo by Chuck Pelto

**Centerfold:**

Double-Blossom Clematis  
photo by Chuck Pelto,  
taken on the 2010  
Colorado Springs Garden  
Tour



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**How to Contact Us “Officially” & Other Information:**

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**The Colorado Garden Connection Submission Policy:**

The Colorado Garden Connection, the dues-supported magazine/newsletter of The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., welcomes all points of view relating to horticulture, gardening, floral arranging and landscaping. Please submit articles, letters, graphic materials, if possible via e-mail, to editor at [cbpelto@pcisys.net](mailto:cbpelto@pcisys.net) and/or [smpelto@pcisys.net](mailto:smpelto@pcisys.net). The editor(s) reserve the right to edit any submission for suitability and space. Names may be withheld from publication for good reason, however, the author’s full name, address, phone number, and where possible, e-mail address, must accompany every submission. We welcome your letters, articles, poetry, graphic artwork and other such items for inclusion in this newsletter. No hard-copy submissions will be returned without SASE. Uncopyrighted materials may be reprinted in other Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., publications. The deadline for the next quarterly submissions appears in the events section.

**Visit Our Web Site:** [coloradogardenclubs.org](http://coloradogardenclubs.org)

Check it regularly for late news and changes to the Calendar and Events.

## From the President

Greetings Fellow Gardeners,

I just returned from a short camping trip for a little bit of "down time" and I'm finally able to take in all that has been happening in my life recently. I must say, I am feeling truly blessed and humbled. I had no idea my introduction to garden clubs about 9 years ago would result in such a wonderful change in my life.



I consider it a privilege to be working with all gardeners and floral designers of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. I am excited and thrilled to have the advantage of visiting the many garden clubs in Colorado, learning and experiencing all the wonderful community projects and goals each unique club has to offer.

My theme for the next two years is "Plant, Beautify and Protect Colorado" and my project is "Connecting with Nature through Gardening". I feel it is so important to garden in harmony with nature. Gardening is a challenge in Colorado but, if one observes the natural beauty that is offered to us in a natural landscape, Mother Nature is already showing us how to be successful in our gardening endeavors. Let's plant trees, garden with nature, and take advantage of our natural resources that are given free to us by the environment.

"Work with Nature"

Margie Soileau  
President  
Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

*"The best way to garden is to put on a wide-brimmed straw hat and some old clothes. And with a hoe in one hand and a cold drink in the other, tell somebody else where to dig." -- Texas Bix Bender*



Attendees chatting between sessions of the CFGC 2019 Annual Convention.

## From the Editors

Dear Fellow Gardeners:

I attended our State Convention and found it to be an inspiring and refreshing experience.

Attendance was good, although the numbers in attendance were not quite what it might have been.

Many clubs have been struggling with declining numbers. Indeed, we just heard that one of ours just passed away the other day. After 90 full years.

But at the same time I think there are many people out there ripe for recruitment. They've retired, or finally gotten tired of video games, or maybe they want something more than grass in the yard. So how do we go about recruiting new members?

This has been a problem for the last 30 years or so. All organizations, from bridge clubs to professional societies to churches, have experienced lower numbers. I've heard that part of the issue lies in the fact that younger people aren't "joiners." Then I go to a generational diversity workshop and learn that Millennials value personal connections and social interaction. Where are the answers?

I think one answer presented itself at the convention: everyone was sharing their love of plants and growing things, from the people I sat with at my table to the speaker who is so interested in plants that he's even interested in the history of how they were discovered. This leads me to say that we should stop recruiting members and start sharing our love of plants and gardening.

This change is not so much a change in what we do, but where our focus is. Instead of saying, “Wouldn’t you like to join my garden club? Dues are only \$15 a year,” we’ll be saying “I know you love gardening the way I do, and I’ve gotten so much out of sharing it with my fellow garden club members, I think you would like it, too.” Instead of “being a member” we’ll “share the experience.”

Some ways I heard this expressed at the convention were clubs who share with youngsters in youth clubs and as part of school projects. Others shared at plant sales and with their civic projects. The trick is to make these projects and events open invitations to participate and share.

If you’ve had a successful way to “share the experience,” the editors would welcome an article, long or short, describing it.

Susan Pelto  
 Editor  
 The Colorado Garden Connection

**Garden Gadgets**

Wouldn’t it be great to be able to see how things are going in your garden at just about any time? To be able to watch a blossom unfold to the Sun? Watch a honey bee collect nectar and pollen close up? Catch the neighbor’s dog in the act of digging up your plants?

All without actually sitting in the garden all day?

It’s become possible to do just that.

There are a number of new digital cameras available to watch over the garden day and night and, depending on your choice, capture what is going on.

Take a look at Amazon, searching on ‘Garden Cameras’ and you’ll see a large array of possible options. They range in capabilities, complexity and price from as little as less than twenty dollars to several hundred.

The Canary Flex Garden Camera—pictured—in itself, is inexpensive, but stores images on a ‘cloud’ service

which requires a monthly fee.

Others will use WiFi to send signals to a computer.

All require some form of electricity, either hardwired to the household electrical system or batteries, either replaceable or supported by solar collectors that store power in batteries.

In the Spring 2018 issue of this magazine, we looked into computer controlled irrigation systems to help dissuade critters from munching on our plants. A Passive Infra-Red (PIR) sensor would detect the uninvited presence and activate the computer controlled high-pressure, pulse sprayer head, which would give the intruder cold, wet hits. I know of people who have used this to drive off Great Blue Hurons, from ponds of their prized koi.

The PIR sensors are so sensitive as to detect dusty miller moths at a distance of a couple of feet.

In a similar fashion, such a system could capture the presence of a butterfly on a bloom. Now THERE is an idea for people aspiring to win the next Butterfly Photography Contest.

And here’s a twist. many cameras can have their own motion detectors and capture the moments, either in still shots or video movies.

To capture the opening of a bloom, you could program the camera to take a snapshot every few seconds.



Canary Flex Garden Camera

*Yup, gardening and laughing are two of the best things in life you can do to promote good health and a sense of well being. -- David Hobson*



## Gold Star Families Memorial Dedication

From Joyce Cassidy

The first Colorado Gold Star Families Memorial Marker was dedicated at Fort Logan on Thursday, May 30, 2019 at 3pm. The Marker honors families whose loved one made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our country.

Gold Star Families Mission is to “offer honor, hope and healing through remembering their fallen heroes by coming together and sharing their pain and sorrow, to offer each other support and understanding, and to continue to live, not just exist, and navigate their lives in today’s world.”

Over three years ago a CFGC member was working in the garden at Fort Logan when she noticed families coming to the Visitor Center to find a loved one. There was a Blue Star Marker but the garden club member thought the families and loved ones should be recognized. Members of the Evergreen Moonlight Garden Club voted to donate some funds and started the process. In addition, many thanks to Blue/Gold Star Memorial Committee Chairman, Audrey Coyle and Fort Logan National Cemetery Committee Chairman, Jeanette Hunt for ensuring completion and installation.

The dedication ceremony was attended by Gold Star Family members and members of CFGC including CFGC State President Betty Roberts and Vice President Margie Soileau. The invocation was provided by Jerry Brown (Dig and Dream GC), and the Marker was dedicated by Jeanette Hunt (Dig and Dream GC) and Joyce Cassidy (Evergreen Moonlight GC). The Markers stand as a symbol for All Gold Star Families – Honor – Hope – and Healing.



Front Row, Left to Right: Kenton Ryan, Gayle Slover, Alice Padilla, Jeanette Hunt and Betty Roberts  
Back Row: Jerry Brown, Meg Watkins and Bob Hunt. Jeanette



## When I'm Gone - Mrs. Lyman Hancock

*When I come to the end of my journey  
And I travel my last weary mile,  
Just forget if you can, that I ever frowned  
And remember only the smile.*

*Forget unkind words I have spoken;  
Remember some good I have done.  
Forget that I ever had heartache  
And remember I've had loads of fun.*

*Forget that I've stumbled and blundered  
And sometimes fell by the way.  
Remember I have fought some hard battles  
And won, ere the close of the day.*

*Then forget to grieve for my going,  
I would not have you sad for a day,  
But in summer just gather some flowers  
And remember the place where I lay.*

*And come in the shade of evening  
When the sun paints the sky in the west  
Stand for a few moments beside me  
And remember only my best.*



**Southern District Garden Club Tree Grant – 2019**

The Douglas County Garden Club has received the Southern District Tree Grant, and was matched in funding by the Douglas County Garden Club. A linden tree was purchased and planted at the Douglas County Off Leash Dog Park in Castle Rock, where it is planted in existing bluegrass with an irrigation system. A plaque was installed stating The Douglas County Garden Club and the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., donated the tree. We worked with the Douglas County Department of Community Development, Parks, Trails and Building Grounds Division to make the tree planting happen.

Susan Willis and Ann Bozeman are taking a selfie with the tree.



Next CFGC Board of Directors Meeting

Dave Ingram will present a program on roses. He is a Master Rosarian. He will be at Emerson House for the meeting

Rosarian, n., a person who cultivates roses, especially as an occupation.

About the American Rose Society:

Mission:

To encourage amateur and professional rose culture

- To provide rose horticulture education for ARS members and for the public
- To increase the general understanding of and interest in all aspects of roses, hybridization, growing, exhibiting, artistic designing and judging, research, and thereby to improve the standard of excellence of the rose for all people
- To record, publish and establish priority on rose cultivar names, and rose cultivar ratings.



**Editor's Note — Pictures with comments.....**

We and the CFGC Web-Meister continually receive offerings of articles and photos for publication in our respective medium: The Colorado Garden Connection and the CFGC Web Page.

We regret that we cannot present everything provided, but we ask a favor of you who provide such items. Please:

Do not provide items that are protected by copyright laws, unless you have written permission from the person(s) who created the original work.

Photos should be cropped to provide only the portion on which you want to focus attention.

Photos should be accompanied with what verbiage you wish to accompany the image, if we can present it.

Items of interest submitted as articles to be published should be limited to approximately 500 words. If you wish to contribute something that is much longer, please contact the Editors to coordinate it. We may be able to do it in installments.

We greatly appreciate your enthusiasm and your sharing of your joys in gardening. Please keep up the good work.











## Minutes of the 89th Annual Convention Meeting

Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Pinery at the Hill, Colorado Springs  
June 8, 2019

**Call To Order** by President Betty Roberts at 9:30 a.m. Boy Scout Troop #194 presented the colors for the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Mary Schmitt offered the invocation. Convention Chair Aurora Glaze welcomed everyone and thanked the many members of Southern District who worked with her to host this Convention. Jeff Green, Chief of Staff for Colorado Springs Mayor John Suthers, greeted the attendees and spoke warmly of the importance of garden clubs. Kathy Shafer, Registrar, reported an initial count of over 80 attendees, including 21 people attending for the first-time. President Betty thanked Douglas County Garden Club for the beautiful decorations.

**National President Gay Austin** said that Colorado is her 8th state visit since being installed as NGC President in her home state of Mississippi. She urged clubs to apply for PlantAmerica grants. A simple one-page application may result in up to a \$1,000 grant. The deadline is October 15, 2019. She emphasized three aspects of garden club activity: 1. conservation, 2. membership, 3. youth. Elementary school garden clubs often produce gardeners who join garden clubs when they grow up. She also remarked that several garden club members were present at the installation of a Gold Star marker at the 75th anniversary of D-Day in France. There is much useful information on the NGC website; the login for members is "members" and the password is "conserve."

**Rocky Mountain Region Representative Connie Mackay**, standing in for RMR Director Darla Anderson, seconded the importance of junior garden clubs. She has had good success with them in Utah.

**Officer and Committee Chair Reports** were given by: Ann Bozeman, Douglas County G.C.; Louise Niekerk, Flower Show School; Nancy Griffin, Emerson House (garden art contest and rosarian workday); Chuck Pelto, Editor; Michele Gustin, Awards; Audrey Coyle, Butterflies and Blue/Gold Star; Gail Fischer, Landscape Design School (to be held 3rd weekend in November); Rose Persichetti, Boulder G.C.; Joy Kancir, Judges Council (written report); Victoria Schmidt, Dig & Dream G.C.; Audrey Coyle, Southern District (four clubs received \$125 tree grants); Michele Gustin, Northern Front Range District; Jean Nicks, Pikes Peak Designers Guild (blue ribbon for table design this year).

**Emerson House Calendar.** Because Emerson House has a regular renter and is used by others, please contact Joy Kancir if you wish to get on the calendar to meet or work there.

**Memorial Design.** Joy Kancir presented the memorial design for deceased members Carmen Armantrout (Harveyette Harvesters) and Deanne Hoaglund (Evergreen Moonlight).

Following lunch, Doris Duckworth introduced Captain Timothy Ross from the **U. S. Forest Service Pikes Peak Region** and his special guest **Smokey Bear**. Many attendees lined up to have a photo taken with Smokey. Captain Ross said this has been the wettest year on record in Colorado Springs, and the wildfires so far have been small.

**Assistant Treasurer Sue Parker** reminded clubs to submit their dues and club rosters pronto.

President Betty honored the **Life Members**. Two new Life Members this year are Michele Gustin and Margie Soileau.

**Awards Chair Michele Gustin** presented numerous awards to clubs and individuals. (See separate list.) Lynn Cleveland received a Presidential Citation. Joy Kancir was honored with three very special awards: CFGC #2 Special Achievement; Award of Merit #21 NGC Award of Excellence Nominee; and SR-3 NGC Member Award of Honor 2019! Michele noted that the Civic Achievement Awards are to be renamed the "Helen Clifford Civic Achievement Awards" in honor of the woman whose generosity funded them. The Lyn Verretta Heartwarmer Awards winners were also announced.

**Photo Contest Winners** in the Birds and Pollinators categories were announced by Audrey Coyle: Melissa Stearns, blue ribbons; Kathy Sharkey and Claire Chomiak, red ribbons.

**Slate of Officers.** Audrey Coyle, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the following nominations for officers for the next two years:

- President: Margie Soileau
- Vice President: Nancy Griffin
- Secretary-Recording: Lynn Cleveland
- Treasurer: Kathy Petersen
- Assistant Treasurer: Sue Parker

Betty Roberts asked for further nominations from the floor. As there were no further nominations, the slate of officers was declared elected.

**Bylaws Amendments.** Lynn Cleveland moved that the following two amendments to the Bylaws, which were published in the Colorado Garden Connection before last year's Annual Convention Meeting, and were tabled at that meeting, be adopted:

1. In Article VII, Officers and Duties, Sec. 2: Revise final phrase following semicolon as follows: "and the President shall contract with a professional accountant with this contract subject to the approval of the Board of Directors."

2. In Article VIII, Elections, Terms of Office, Sec. 3: Delete "and an auditor who is a professional accountant."

Both motions were seconded and passed.

**Financial Report and Budget.** Treasurer Kathy Petersen had previously presented the full financial report to the Ways & Means Committee, and together they had developed a budget for 2019-2020, which was reviewed by the Board of Directors. Lynn Cleveland made the following motions, which were seconded:

3. To adopt the financial report as presented.

4. To adopt the 2019-2020 budget as presented.

Both motions passed.

Throughout the day, the "**Door Prize Affair**" produced many happy winners of tabletop gardens and ornamental plants.

Following a break, NGC President Gay Austin conducted the **Installation of New Officers** using a theme of birds. A reception was held honoring Margie Soileau as the new President.

After dinner, Gail Fischer gave courtesy resolutions expressing gratitude to all who produced this excellent Convention; Kathy Shafer finalized the credentials report with a count of 87 persons in attendance; Betty Roberts gave the invitation to the 2020 Convention which will be sponsored by the Federation some time in June; and the meeting adjourned sine die.

The evening's program held everyone's interest, as Denver Botanic Gardens Senior Curator Panayoti Kelaidis described many local native plants that were first named, mostly by Edwin James, during the 1819-1820 Stephen Long Expedition. Many of these plants are endemic to Pikes Peak.

Lynn Cleveland  
Secretary

## In Memorium

**Those of us we lost and will miss....**

Harveyette Harvesters GC – Camen Jean Armantrout  
Evergreen Moonlight GC – Deanne Wissner Hoaglund

*God looked around his garden  
and found an empty place.  
He looked down upon this earth  
and saw your tired face.  
He put his arms around you  
and lifted you to rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful,  
He always takes the best.  
He knew that you were suffering  
he knew you were in pain.  
He also knew in Heaven  
you would never hurt again.  
He saw the road getting tough  
and the stairs harder to climb.  
So he closed your weary eyelids,  
and whispered "Peace be thine."  
It broke our hearts to lose you,  
but you didn't go alone.  
For part of us went with you  
the day God called you home.  
-- Author Unknown*

*Checking the menu, a restaurant customer ordered a bowl of vegetable soup. After a couple of spoonfuls, he saw a circle of wetness right under the bowl on the tablecloth. He called the waitress over and said, "It's all wet down here. The bowl must be cracked." The waitress said, "You ordered vegetable soup, maybe it has a leek in it."*

## Heart Warmer Awards 2019 CFGC

From Lynn Verretta



- Boulder- Ila Sheahan
- Cheyenne Mountain - Hedy DuCharme
- Dig and Dream - Josie Struthers 90 years old and already received since she cannot attend the Convention
- Douglas County - Susan Willis
- Evergreen Moonlight - Carol Slaughter
- Floral Art Study - Kathy Petersen
- Gardeners with Altitude - Judy Snyder
- Greeley Morning - Bruce Carlisle
- Happy Transplants - Judy Campbell
- Loveland - Donna Drevdahl
- Manitou - Chifumi Ito
- Pikes Peak Deisgners Guild - Nanc Halverhout

No other Clubs sent in an Application.

## CFGC Awards List for Convention 2019

**# 1 Civic Achievement**

- 1st Place Dig and Dream
- 2nd Place Gardener's With Altitude
- 3rd Place Douglas County

These should be named the...

**“Helen Clifford Civic Development Awards”**

...due to her generous endowment !!

**# 2 Special Achievement**

- Top O' the World- Karen Edstrom
- Boulder- Barbara Hyde Boardman
- Boulder- Brochure
- Dig and Dream- Digital Scrapbook
- Douglas County- New Member Orientation
- Douglas County- Out and About
- Douglas County- Honey Bee Festival
- Douglas County- Volunteer Hours

**#3 Presidential Citation**

- Lynn Cleveland

**#4 President's Project**

- 1st Place- Dig and Dream

**#10 Literary Production**

- Boulder- Barbara Hyde Boardman

**#11 Garden Club Program**

- 1st Place- Loveland
- 2nd Place- Boulder

**#14 Significant Contribution to Landscape Design**

- Cheyenne Mountain

**#19 Increase in Membership**

- Douglas County

**#26 Certificate of Merit for Newsletter**

- Boulder

**#27 Website**

- Douglas County

**#28 Facebook Page**

- Cheyenne Mountain

**#30 Working with Youth**

- 1st Place - Dig and Dream

**Special Awards for Joy Kancir:**

- Regional Award not given last year
- Award of Merit - #21 NGC Award of Excellence Nominee
- CFGC # 2 Special Achievement 2019
- NGC Award of Excellence 2019

*Botanists have developed a vegetable that eliminates the need to brush your teeth. They're called 'bristle sprouts'.*

Calendar

Coming Events of Interest:

- **Deadline for submissions for the Winter issue of the Colorado Garden Connection, *Month Day, Year.***
- July 22, 2019                    CFGC Trustees meeting at EH
- July 31-Aug 4, 2019            Adams County Standard Flower Show, “Escapades in Art”
- August 12, 2019                Evergreen Moonlight Garden Club work gardens at EH 9am-1pm
- August 23-24, 2019            Rocky Mountain Region meeting, Missoula, Montana
- August 26, 2019                CFGC Trustees meeting at EH
- Sept. 10, 2019                 CFGC Ways & Means, Ex BD & BOD meeting at EH 9:30am-3pm
- Sept. 13, 2019                 Cheyenne Mountain Garden Club work gardens at EH 9am-1pm
- Sept. 16-19, 2019             NGC Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, MO
- Sept. 23, 2019                 CFGC Trustees meeting at EH
- Oct. 9, 2019                    Harveyette Harvesters Garden Club work gardens at EH 10am-1pm
- Oct. 28, 2019                 CFGC Trustees meeting at EH
- June 13, 2020                 CFGC State Convention

NOTE: EH = Emerson House, CFGC Headquarters

For additional information on events without a Point-of-Contact (POC), please check the CFGC web-site at [coloradogardenclubs.org](http://coloradogardenclubs.org). Or, if no access to the internet, call or write Joy Kancir at 303-814-0679 or 2195 Pine Wood Road, Sedalia, CO 80135-8043.

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