

# The Garden Connection — Supplement: Committee Reports



## Facebook Report for Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs

December 2021

Our Facebook page has grown this year. We have 149 likes (people following our page).

Of that number, 94% are women and 6% are men. We have people following our page from Mexico (1%), South Africa (1%), Bahamas (1%), and the US (93%). Our goal this year is to increase our followers to 500. Spread the word! Send invites to your friends on your contact list. Mention our page to everyone you know. Facebook is safe as long as you set your security and privacy settings to what information you want your friends and the public to see. You can specify the settings when you set up your account.

I try to post something new on our page 2 or 3 times a week. My posts include information about horticulture and design, things that will make you smile (hopefully), what is going on in the gardening world and the National Federation of Garden Clubs. Upcoming next week will be information about scholarship opportunities through the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., and National Garden Clubs, Inc. To follow National Garden Clubs, Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs and the Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs Facebook pages go to their websites and click on the little blue icon that has a small "f" on your screen. If you have never checked out their websites, please do. They have tons of information about what is going on in the gardening world on each one of the websites!

Hope to see many more people following our Facebook page in 2022!

Phyllis White

## Rocky Mountain Region Report

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had wonderful and blessed holidays. My first year as the Rocky Mountain Region Director is a new and exciting challenge, getting to know gardeners throughout the Rocky Mountain Region. There are eight states within the region, and I find very little difference in gardening and horticulture. The eight states include Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

One of the biggest challenges within all the states is communication and membership. Shirley Pursel, the RMR Membership Chairman, is working closely with National Garden Clubs to increase membership in many of the states. Phyllis White, RMR Facebook Chairman, diligently keeps the Facebook page active with events and projects in the RMR states and NGC. I have been working with the new RMR website Chairman, Carla Jo Scheer, to create a new website. I invite everyone to visit the website at <https://sites.google.com/site/rockymtngardenclubs>.

May this year be a fun and exciting gardening year and filled with good health to all.

Margie Soileau,  
Rocky Mountain Region Director

## Flower Show School Report

Our Judges' symposium was held on October 5 and 6, 2021 at Emerson House. We had a great turnout of attendees with about 20 people present. We welcomed instructor Karen Booker from Kansas who taught horticulture. She focused on mums and geraniums. Jo Krallman traveled from Arkansas and taught the allied topics and Design. Her allied topics centered on floral design techniques and the Exploration Design, which is a botanical art. For design instruction, Jo chose Abstract Design and Featured Plant Material. We all learned a lot, stretched our minds and enjoyed the two-day sessions.

Submitted by Louise Niekerk, Flower Show School Chair

## Scholarship Committee Report

Mollie Morton, Chairman

The Committee Chair sent out, by email, Colorado and National Scholarship information to over thirty colleges and universities in early September. Unfortunately, additional information from National was sent to her in late September. It is useful to Financial Aid Departments to have all Scholarship information before the Fall semester begins.

The new directory was used to send a cover letter, scholarship information, application and the financial aid form to all CFGC members listed, totaling over 50. Information has also been sent to the City of Boulder and the Boulder County CSU Extension. The information is also being sent to be printed in the next newsletter.

It is hoped that members of CFGC are able to identify qualified candidates to compete for these valuable scholarships. They are the ones in the community that have access to these qualified candidates and it is hoped that applications will be forthcoming from these efforts.

## Trees Committee Report

The Tree committee proposes to promote urban trees and forests by being an informational resource. Information provided includes,

A list of unique and sustainable trees for urban and suburban areas of Colorado

Lists of tree information resources such as local urban forestry departments, state wide resources, etc.

Lists of sources for trees, maintenance and installation information, etc.

For more information or to help, call Sandy White, 719-439-2740

### Loveland Garden Club Awards Scholarships Report

The Loveland Garden Club, Loveland, CO, in conjunction with an ongoing commitment to the Front Range Community College Foundation, awarded scholarships in 2021 to two deserving FRCC students in the unique “Scholar Success Program.” Scholarships are awarded to majors in horticulture or other related horticultural fields.

Two scholars were awarded 2021 scholarships funded by the Loveland Garden Club as they began their academic year this September. One scholar’s area of study is horticulture, greenhouse and nursery management. The other scholar is pursuing an A.G.S. degree with an interest in horticulture. Scholarship awards have been an enduring program within the LGC.

Each year we renew our commitment with FRCC, if possible with our fund-raising activities, for a three-year term. As a non-profit organization, all members participate in a major fund raising sale each spring for scholarships. The annual Loveland Garden Club Plant Sale is dedicated to funding our program and is generally scheduled in early May before Mother’s Day. At least one scholarship is awarded annually and sometimes, with adequate funding, additional awards can be made to two or more qualified and deserving students.

During the LGC president’s term a Scholarship Chair is appointed. The general scholarship committee consists of 3 to 5 members. Responsibilities of the scholarship committee are to review all qualified applications from the FRCC Foundation, agree by majority vote on viable candidates, and make a recommendation to LGC members for voting on scholarship awards. At an appropriate monthly LGC meeting, the Scholarship Committee moves acceptance of the candidate or candidates and the membership votes approval. The Scholarship Chair contacts the scholar(s) and receives formal acceptance of the award.

Our Loveland Garden Club, founded and federated (CFGC, Inc.) in 1994, is proud to continue our scholarship program as part of our objectives “to operate for benevolent, charitable, scientific and educational purposes conducive to the well-being of the community and useful to the public.”

Ellen B. Fernandez, President 2021-2023, The Loveland Garden Club

### Butterfly Chair Report

Every other year at Installation Year Conventions, the Butterfly Chair organizes and sponsors a Photo Contest. The flyer was presented and distributed at the previous convention, and was also published in the Connection. The prizes are from CFGC and our Treasurer writes those checks. The three Flower Show Judges evaluate the photos and the winners are announced at the end of that Convention. Hopefully this encourages our members to be aware of the danger to our pollinators and birds. A laminated banner was created to use for the contest. Plastic frames are used to mount the photos on a table.

We also have a Monarch Education Exhibit, a Blue Bird Education exhibit and a Hummingbird Education Exhibit for display. These are available for any club to borrow.

Audrey Coyle, Butterfly Chair

### Blue Star Memorials Report

This is the newly installed memorial at the Pikes Peak National Veterans Cemetery. We are hoping to dedicate it whenever that can be arranged. We also had a Blue Star Memorial shipped to The VA Home in Aurora which will be installed sometime next spring.

In 2018 a Gold Star Marker was placed at Fort Logan Cemetery by Dig and Dream and one in Lin Grove Cemetery by Greeley Morning GC. We have 5 Blue Star byway markers and 24 Blue Star Memorial Markers and 2 Gold Star Markers. We have restored 2 Markers in the past two years, moved 2 and we have one to be shipped in for restoration. I facilitate the purchase thru our National Blue Star Chairman and the installation is by the Highway Department, or grounds keepers of the sites. The new one at Pikes Peak had to be done by us as an outside contractor and I supervise this aspect but not the others.

Audrey Coyle, Blue Star Chair

**Rocky Mountain Region of Garden Clubs Awards**

Here are the awards received from the Rocky Mountain Region:

- 3b- Writing: Dig and Dream, 2nd place, Digital Scrapbook
- 3d- Writing: CO Garden Connection Editors, 2nd Place, Newsletter
- 7a- Trees: NFRD of Colorado, Tree planting
- 14a Landscape Design: Dig and Dream, Legacy Projects
- 26a Photography: Floral Art Study, Photo Contest
- 27-1 Website: Dig and Dream, Website
- 3a- Writing: Queens of Spades 3rd place, Yearbook under 15 members
- 3a- Writing: Evergreen Moonlight, 1st place, Yearbook 15-25 members
- 3a- Writing: Top O' the World, Award of Merit, Yearbook 26-35 members
- 3a- Writing: Dig and Dream, 3rd Place, Yearbook 36+ members

**CFGC Awards Submitted to NGC for 2021**

Here are award recommendations submitted from Rocky Mountain Region to the National Garden Club, Inc. for their consideration:

- MAE-4B. Publications State- large: Colorado Garden Connection Newsletter, Chuck & Susan Pelto, Editors
- MAE-2A. Social Media/ Website: diganddream.com, Victoria Schmidt, Administrator

Michele R. Gustin,  
Colorado Awards Chair  
Rocky Mountain Region Awards Chair