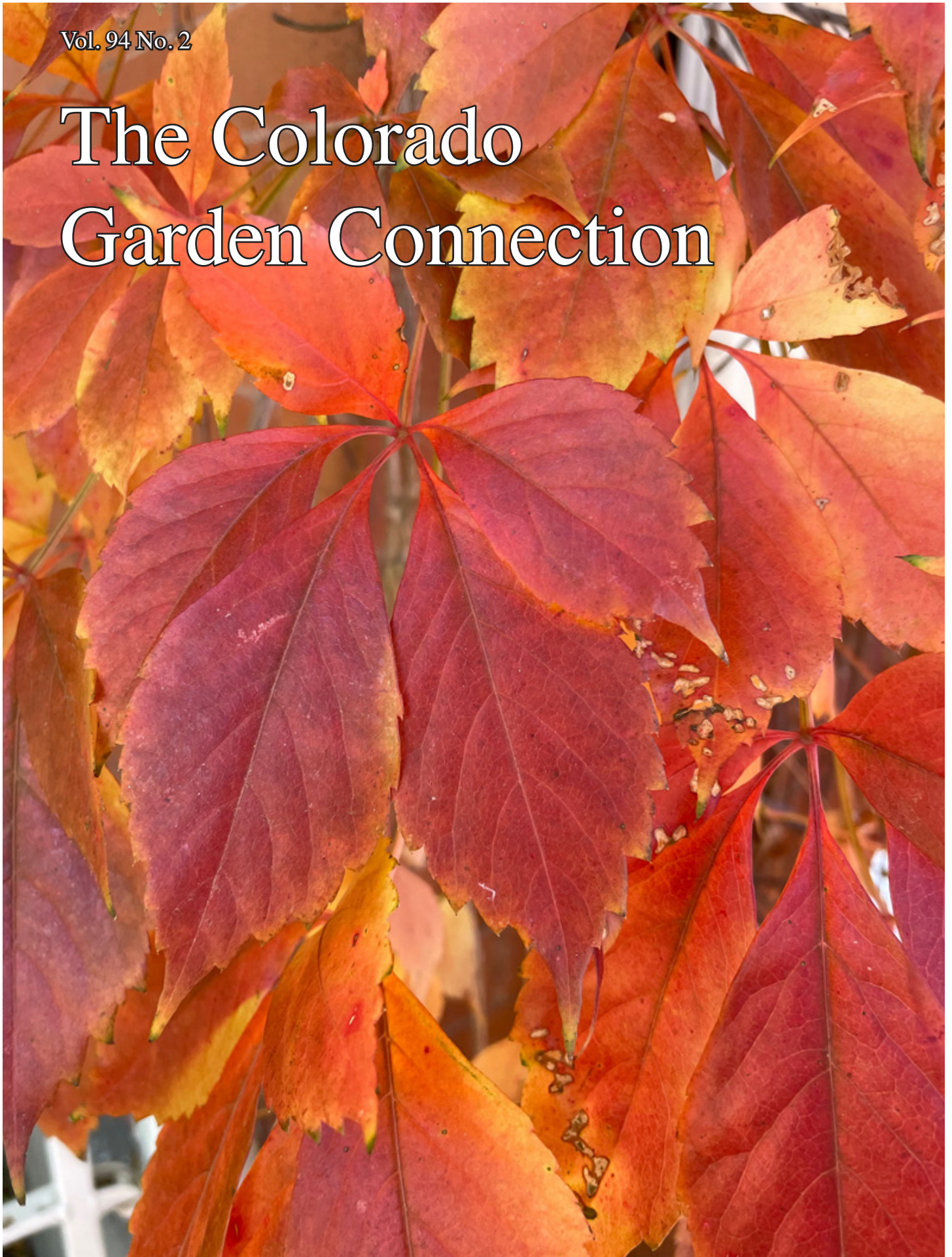


Vol. 94 No. 2

The Colorado Garden Connection



**2023 CFGC
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Cover:
Autumn Colors of Virginia Creeper.

Centerfold:
Flowers from the Albuquerque Botanic Garden.



Table of Contents

	Page
Columns	
From the President.....	3
Nothing Gold Can Stay.....	3
From the Editor.....	4
Garden Gadgets	4
Culinary Corner	4
Articles	
Putting Your Garden to Bed.....	5
To Autumn	5
Home & Garden Show	6
Plant America	7
Minutes of the Convention Meeting.....	10
Treasurer’s Reports.....	12
Coming Events of Interest	16

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

Article 2 — President's Message

Hello fellow gardeners!

This is a big year for our members as we just finished hosting the Rocky Mountain Region's annual meeting and we now look forward to hosting the National Garden Clubs, Inc.'s annual conference. The 2024 NGC Conference will be held at the Westin Hotel and



Conference Center in

Westminster, Colorado, the first week of June, 2024. It's an exciting time and I am so thrilled that our members are sharing their time and putting their knowledge and skills to work planning this conference. I have no doubt it will be a huge success!



I am happy to share that NFRD has a new team of officers and has the committee working on planning the details of the 2024 CFGC Annual Convention which will be held on May 18, 2024. Our conference will be a little early this year so that we can conduct our business meeting, answer questions about the upcoming NGC Conference, and pass on any last minute planning information prior to the NGC Conference in June. If you would like to volunteer to help with the National Conference in 2024, please reach out to me or Nancy Griffin, our Conference Chair.

The NFRD planning committee is busy looking for a nice but low cost venue to save our members money since we have the NGC Conference less than a month after the CFGC Convention in 2024. NFRD explored using Emerson House but determined that the parking would be insufficient to meet our needs. If you would like to volunteer to help at the CFGC Convention in 2024, please reach out to me or Pat Smit, our new NFRD President.

We would love to have you all attend the NGC Conference in 2024. It's a rare opportunity to have this event right in Colorado! And since it's fairly close by, we have some stellar speakers and workshops lined up, and we have an AWESOME discounted price for Colorado members to attend, we hope that will entice you all to come and join us. This will be a great opportunity for everyone to meet fellow gardeners from across the country, as well as some of our international members. We'll have great speakers and workshops, optional tours, time for mingling and getting to know other members, and we anticipate it being a great conference.

I hope that your gardens grow bountiful harvests and that we see you at both the 2024 CFGC Annual Convention and the 2024 National Garden Club Conference in Colorado!

Sincerely,

Victoria Schmidt
President
Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

"Growing our knowledge through education, experience, experimentation, and sharing."

Nothing Gold Can Stay
by Robert Frost

*"Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf,
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day
Nothing gold can stay."*

From the Editors

My Dear Fellow Gardeners,

Is it just me, or do the pumpkins seem prettier this year? Brighter colors, unblemished skins, rounder shapes. The orange ones glow and the white ones are serene.

It's harvest time. Chiles are roasting, pumpkins fill bins in the supermarkets and you can tell this year's apples from last year's by the crispness and unwrinkled skins. The supermarket has produce spilling over into the nearby aisles and departments.

Down south here, corn mazes and pumpkin patches are popular at some of our local farms. It's all part of the long-standing traditions celebrating the harvest, celebrating life, looking forward to the coming winter and spring.

I have an almost overwhelming urge to bake an apple pie. Whatever happened to Jonathan and McIntosh apples, anyway?

Or maybe a fresh fruit tart. Vanilla pudding covered with fresh fruit, sparkling with a corn starch glaze.

Garden club folks seem to emphasize growing flowers and decorative shrubs, but most of us have tomato plants, maybe some peas, or cucumbers or zucchini squash, tucked away in our gardens. I'm rather interested in the movement to include fruits and vegetables as elements in flower gardens and streetscapes. How is a bright red tomato less decorative than a chrysanthemum? Or a strawberry less than a tulip? Let's enjoy it all.

Chuck & Susan Pelto
Pueblo, CO



Garden Gadgets

Well, I was kicking around the internet, while looking for an interesting new garden gadget when I came across a set of 35 great ideas for gardening using repurposed other household items.

Rather than describe them all to you, here is the link to them. Whether you grow flowers or vegetables or have tall fruit trees, there's something in there for every gardener.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eaPrVcLaqOE>

Enjoy.....

Culinary Corner

Roasted Zucchini Disks

An excellent side dish for most any meal.

Ingredients:

2 Ea	Medium Zucchini
1/2 Cup	Garlic Bread Crumbs
6 Tbls	Parmesan Cheese, Fresh, Shredded
1 Tbls	Cajun Seasoning
Salt	
Pepper	

Directions:

- [1] Pre-heat an oven to 425 °F.
- [2] Cut off the ends of the zucchinis and slice into 1/2" disks.
- [3] Place the disks in a single layer on a sided baking pan.
- [4] Drizzle with olive oil.
- [5] Mix the parmesan cheese with the bread crumbs and olive oil.
- [6] Divide the cheese and crumbs among the disks.
- [7] Sprinkle the salt and pepper on the disks.
- [8] Bake at 425°F for 15-18 minutes. More time if using a lower temperature.

Putting Your Garden to Bed

Hello everyone, I hope you had a great summer. At the beginning of spring/summer it was a challenge in our gardens. Things were not growing as quickly as in the past. Too much rain (bite my tongue!), too cool, hail and too windy..... and then the grasshoppers!

But how to put your gardens to bed.....
There are many ways to do this.

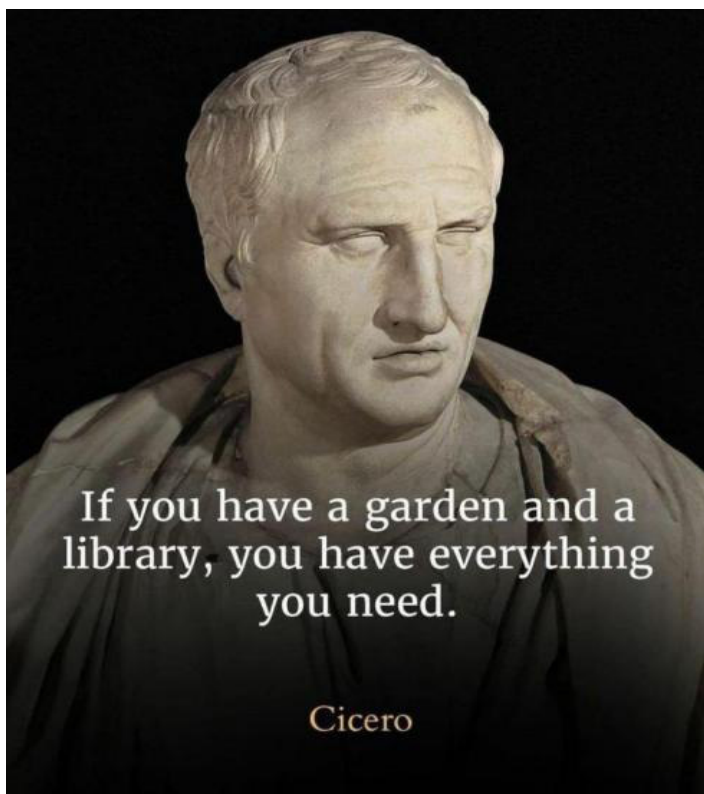
I have just started to clean up my raised beds. Since my soil is clay, this is how I grow my vegetables. I add compost, soil from my pots and Yum Yum mix. Then top it off with dried molasses and leaves. This year I have strawberries. I read that you need to put straw on top of them. Is there any other ideas?

I also have roses and have started to place mulch against the base of the rose bush.

What do you do???? Please share your process. You might be surprised at the different ways a gardener does this. I like to try new things, don't you?

Cheers,

Stacy
Southern District President



If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.

Cicero

To Autumn

by John Keats

*Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;

To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For Summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells...
Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,—
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;

Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river sallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-cricket sing; and now with treble soft
The red-breast whistles from a garden-croft;
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.*





Colorado Garden and Home Show

Feb. 24 - Mar 3, 2024

<https://www.coloradogardenfoundation.org/colorado-garden-home-show/>

Exhibition and education event focusing on Membership, Exhibits, and Education

Goal: To recruit new members, reinvigorate and retain current members, provide a fun experience for members, and provide education and information on gardening, landscape, environment, and design to members and the public.

Designs: Open to experienced and novice designers. Display your designs or a tablescapes as an individual, through your club, or as a group. We hope to have the designs and tablescapes reviewed by CFGC/NGC Judges (if we get volunteer judges) to provide education to members and the public on what judges look for in a design or tablescapes.

Participants, members, and the public will have the opportunity to hear the Judges' thoughts on how they would judge the designs and tablescapes, how they could be improved, or why one would receive higher marks than another. This information is invaluable. It is crucial that experienced designers also participate to show examples of great designs that will help educate other members and the public. CFGC hopes to offset costs for entrants. The amount will be determined by the BOD at the December Quarterly Board Meeting. Presidents and Committee Chairs please attend or send a representative in your place to vote. If we don't have a quorum, we cannot provide this reimbursement.

Membership & Education: We will have tables with sign up sheets for potential members to ask to be contacted for questions or to get information on clubs in their area. We will also have tables for display boards, educational handouts, and flyers. Visitors to the Garden and Home Show will be able to pick up information to learn more about membership, gardening, landscape design, environmental issues and projects, and design information. Included in this area is a membership table where a host (or 2) are during scheduled times to have potential members sign up on the contact list and to provide educational and membership handouts or flyers to interested people.

We encourage clubs to provide flyers about their clubs. Be sure to include the locations your club servers and general information about your meeting dates, times, and locations (if in a public location). Do NOT include personal information about your members such as home address or phone number. If possible leave off personal email addresses. We encourage you to set up generic Gmail accounts for your officers and Committee Chairs such as GreeleyGCPresident@gmail.com or FASCMembership@gmail.com. Those accounts can be passed to the next person in that office or role and you can use that email on flyers and business cards without giving members personal information.

Presentations & Demonstrations: An area set up for live talks, presentations and demonstrations on Friday, Saturdays, and Sundays. Dates are Feb 24 and 25, March 1, 2, and 3, 2024. The show schedule will have up to three live demonstrations on each of those days, lasting 30 minutes (10 minutes of that is for Q&A).

Contact the CFGC Board & Membership Chair to suggest topics and/or to volunteer to be a host (man the booth for a couple hours) or to do a presentation or demonstration. We will also have an opportunity to display designs and/or enter a tablescapes that will have the audience voting for the People's Choice award. Pass the word at your clubs and contact the CFGC Membership Chair, Annie Mollock to volunteer. Volunteers get into the convention for FREE! It can be a fun outing for your club members. Take turns hosting and walking around and checking out the convention. We need hosts and helpers on Friday, Saturdays, and Sundays. Other days are optional.



PLANT AMERICA

Community Project Grants Guidelines and Application



The *PLANT AMERICA* Community Project Grants Program is sponsored by National Garden Clubs, Inc. for new or existing club projects in their respective communities. Projects may be a joint venture with another organization/s. The scope of these projects may include but are not limited to:

- Beautification and/or restoration
- Community gardens
- Youth gardening
- Habitat for Humanity landscaping
- Landscaping projects
- Implementation of environmental practices
- A horticulture or environmental educational event for the public

Grant Amount: Up to \$1,000.00 is available to be used for direct expenses of 2023 projects.

Who May Apply:

- Individual or near-garden clubs that are members of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- **NOTE:** Recipients of previous PLANT AMERICA Community Project Grants are **NOT** eligible to apply.

How to Apply using this PDF form:

- Application is limited to a **TOTAL** of **two (2) pages**. (This page does not count.)
 - **ONE (1) PAGE** - Application Form (Page 1)
 - **ONE (1) PAGE** - Budget (Page 2)
- *Applications of more than two pages will **NOT** be considered. NO PHOTOS/DIAGRAMS.*

• Save this form to your desktop and open it in Adobe Acrobat; it is not fillable with most internet browsers. Fill in, save the changes and email the completed **application form** and **budget** to: PlantAmericaGrants@gardenclub.org.

Application Deadline: October 15, 2022

- Recipients of grants will be notified, and all money will be awarded by **January 31, 2023**.
- Projects must be completed by **February 28, 2024**; final report forms due by **April 1, 2024**.

Judging Criteria:

In evaluating grant applications, judging is based on the following Scale of Points:

Benefits and visibility in community	40	Collaboration with other community groups	15
Impact and scope of project	25	Application form complete	5
Involvement & participation by club members	15	TOTAL	100

Funding Guidelines:

Grants will not be provided for:

- Projects in which club does not participate in some aspect
- Purchase of Blue or Gold Star Markers
- Competitive Flower Shows
- Scout projects
- Salaries or benefits of personnel
- Political action programs
- Capital drives and/or fund building
- Scholarships and/or endowments
- Private gardens
- Lawsuits and/or litigation
- Overhead costs
- Projects completed before 2023.

Final Report:

1. **Deadline:** within two months after the completion of the project or by April 1, 2024.
2. Email the following:
 - A short two-to-three pages report describing the project including photos
 - A copy of the final financial report including all income and expenses
 - A copy of any publicity

NOTE: Please indicate if permission has been given for use of photos by NGC in print, website and social media. A release form for adults and minors can be found on the NGC website. <https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2020-05/ngc-publication-release-fillable-01.pdf>



Board of Director Minutes

COLORADO FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS,
INC.

Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2023 via ZOOM

Present: Victoria Schmidt, Margie Soileau, Joy Kancir, Chuck Pelto, Susan Pelto, Ben Parker, Stacey Shockley, Michele Gustin, Jeanne Ricci, Deborah Trujillo, Debbie Martin, Deb Martinez, Sandy Edmondson. Sue Parker arrived later in the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 pm by Victoria Schmidt, President.

Victoria welcomed everyone.

There was a discussion about quorum requirements. At 12:39 pm only 12 members were present, and a quorum is 14. The agenda was modified to take care of items that do not require a vote first. A quorum was present later in the meeting as noted below.

Directory, Victoria Schmidt: An updated version of the directory is available. Personal information will be available only through a private link to prevent scammers from accessing members' personal contact information. Chuck Pelto asked about removing personal contact info from the masthead of the Connection. Victoria thought it should be removed and a mask used to disguise who messages are going to. Victoria encouraged clubs to have "generic" email accounts that can be passed from officer to officer.

Technology Committee, Victoria Schmidt: Victoria reported that she has received 50 free licenses to Canva Pro for CFGC. She will make them available to clubs, CFGC officers and CFGC Chairs. The licenses will be tied to a Gmail account that the tech committee will set up. She announced a CFGC techie Gmail account is set up and we are using it for CFGC's YouTube and Zoom, so more people can take care of requests. The Tech Committee also reviewed information on website hosting. We are paying more and receiving less than what competitors offer. The Committee is recommending that we move to Wix. Money is available.

NGC Convention:

Victoria announced that through a discussion with the NGC President, it was determined that at this point they

only need \$2,250 for educational speakers, so CFGC will keep the rest of the \$5,000 which was approved unless NGC requests additional speaker funds.

The current NGC Conference Budget is set to have Colorado members pay only \$20 for registration at the NGC Convention, whereas those outside the state will need to pay \$50. Victoria cautioned this is still officially a draft and could potentially change but since it is in the approved budget it will hopefully be the final price.

There will be tours and discounted tickets to the Butterfly Pavilion, Denver Botanic Gardens, Betty Ford Gardens, etc.

Help is needed to get sponsors and donations.

Audrey Coyle is in charge of centerpieces and honor designs. She needs people to help with those.

Margie will handle the registration table. She needs volunteers to help staff the table.

District Updates

Northern Front Range District: Debbie Martinez, President, Greeley Morning Garden Club, encouraged people to attend on September 15.

Southern District: No report.

Emerson House Costs

A review of the yearly costs for Emerson House revealed that Emerson House costs us about \$24,000 per year with an income of about \$8,000. The Executive Board and the Ways and Means committee has asked that the Board of Directors indicate whether it is interested in pursuing the sale of Emerson House. A committee would be formed to investigate alternatives for storage, office facilities, legal implications, etc.

Emerson House Report

The House needs a new backflow preventer.

Sprinkler repairs will be about \$800-\$1,200.

Snow shoveling costs have gone up considerably.

D'Ann Carr has volunteered to be a trustee, but Joy Kancir and Carol Grant have left.

New flooring is needed in the kitchen and foyer, costing about \$6,500.

They'll be transplanting some sedum from the back to the front to keep the Squeegee from drifting out onto the sidewalk.

Margie will take over the calendar.

Margie commented that we have had several large expenses for Emerson House in the past several years.

We will need to start using the Vanguard money to pay for Emerson House soon.

December 8th.

CFGC & NGC Benefits:

Victoria reviewed a detailed document she compiled on the benefits of CFGC and NGC membership for clubs, e.g., non-profit status, grant opportunities, etc. She will send to Presidents after the meeting.

Chairs & Clubs: Club/Chair reports or updates from the floor as needed: None.

Vanguard: Margie reported that investments have gone up.

CFGC Vacancies:

CFGC has vacancies for 1st Vice President, Chaplain, two Emerson House Trustees and Chairs for various Schools, Programs, FT. Logan National Cemetery, and Organizational Study. We really need a 1st Vice President. Since Annie Mollock has taken up some of the VP's duties, about all that is left is preparing the agenda and running the Ways & Means meeting.

Quorum:

Sue Parker joined the meeting, and a quorum was declared.

Motions:

Speaker Funds: Deb Martinez moved that we give \$125 to Douglas County Garden Club for a speaker on permaculture. There was a second and the motion passed.

Emerson House: With the Executive Board's recommendation, Sue Parker moved, and Deb Martinez seconded that the Board of Directors wishes to pursue the sale of Emerson House and a committee be formed to look into the details. There was a second and the motion passed.

Minutes Approval: The March 2023 minutes were accepted as submitted. The Post-Convention minutes were accepted as submitted.

Financial Report: Margie Soileau, CFGC Treasurer, reviewed CFGC financial status. Vanguard: Joy Kancir reported. Chuck Pelto moved they be filed as submitted. There was a second and the motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

Announcements:

Sign up for the free NGC newsletter at www.garden-club.org.

Quarterly CFGC Meetings via Zoom. The next one is

NGC Schools:

Need Chairs – Can set up courses to run via Zoom (Tech Committee can help set up the zoom) to get more attendees both in & out of CO. Promote other State's Zoom courses. (Listed on NGC website, Education tab).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 pm.

Submitted by Susan Pelto, Secretary

HELP WANTED VOLUNTEERS

Are you clever?
Make Friends Easily?
Skilled at Sales?

Join the 2024 NGC Team
We need someone to
Chair the.....

Sponsorship Team
Contact Nancy Griffin

mysticmoongardener@gmail.com

HELP WANTED VOLUNTEERS

Photogs and Videologs
for the
2024 NGC Convention



- Got Gear
- Got Imagination
- Got Time

Join the Photog/Video Team
And have some fun!

CONTACT Chuck Pelto,
cbpelto@pcisys.net

1:47 PM
09/06/23
Accrual Basis

CFGC
Profit & Loss
June through August 2023

	Jun - Aug 23
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
CFGC	
Contributions	
Colorado Gives Day	64.10
District donations	0.00
Contributions - Other	175.00
Total Contributions	239.10
Dues CFGC portion	
Dues family	9.00
Dues single	1,135.00
NGC portion	233.00
President's travel	693.00
Total Dues CFGC portion	2,070.00
Fundraising	
2023 CFGC Convention Donations	1,477.00
Fundraising - Other	619.00
Total Fundraising	2,096.00
Total CFGC	4,405.10
Emerson House	
Contributions	64.00
Facility Rental	
Laszlo and Associates	3,375.00
Swallow Hill HO Assoc	40.00
Total Facility Rental	3,415.00
Other Income	3,090.00
Total Emerson House	6,569.00
Total Income	10,974.10
Gross Profit	10,974.10
Expense	
CFGC expenses	
2023 CFGC Convention	4,328.46
Administrative	
Bank charges	23.00
CFGC Technology Expenses	180.00
State-city fee	250.00
Total Administrative	453.00
CFGC Web site	
hosting	34.99
Total CFGC Web site	34.99
Columbine scholarship award	2,000.00
Fundraising	
CFGC board hospitality	157.62
Total Fundraising	157.62
President Elect expenses	
President elect's Nat'l life me	200.00
President elect's travel	200.00
Total President Elect expenses	400.00

1:47 PM

09/06/23

Accrual Basis

CFGC
Profit & Loss
June through August 2023

	Jun - Aug 23
President Expenses	
President's travel	1,139.00
Total President Expenses	1,139.00
Speakers	617.97
Supporting donations	
Rocky mountain region	100.00
Total Supporting donations	100.00
Total CFGC expenses	9,231.04
Emerson House expenses	
Building maintenance	
Exterior	
Garden	225.03
Total Exterior	225.03
Interior	
Cleaning	360.00
Maintenance	160.00
Total Interior	520.00
Total Building maintenance	745.03
Utilities	
Denver water	161.26
Trash removal	30.00
Waste water management	124.20
Xcel	
Electric	128.63
Gas	315.22
Total Xcel	443.85
Total Utilities	759.31
Total Emerson House expenses	1,504.34
Reconciliation Discrepancies	-170.00
Special Fund expenses	
Awards Fund	125.00
Judge's Council	35.00
Trees	900.00
Total Special Fund expenses	1,060.00
Total Expense	11,625.38
Net Ordinary Income	-651.28
Net Income	-651.28

2:31 PM

09/07/23

Accrual Basis

CFGC
Balance Sheet
 As of September 7, 2023

	Sep 7, 23
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking	7,610.75
GFMA	
Awards	716.80
Blue/Gold Star Memorial	337.15
Butterfly	59.00
Environmental Studies	4,715.88
Flower Show Schools	12,767.38
Fort Logan	718.49
Garden Study	5,127.24
Garden Therapy	477.14
Garden Tour	895.90
Judges Fee & Travel	465.61
Landscape Design School	3,917.37
Scholarship Fund	1,716.87
Trees Fund	306.68
GFMA - Other	8,970.26
Total GFMA	41,191.77
Transfer Acct	3,204.20
Total Checking/Savings	52,006.72
Other Current Assets	
Vanguard	
Emerson V-4486	22,060.94
Gibson V-2851	66,574.38
Scholar V-1114	56,208.44
Total Vanguard	144,841.76
Total Other Current Assets	144,841.76
Total Current Assets	196,848.48
Fixed Assets	
HDQ BUILDING	97,500.00
HDQ Land	107,500.00
Total Fixed Assets	205,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	401,848.48
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	429.50
Total Accounts Payable	429.50
Other Current Liabilities	
Lazlo Rent Deposit	2,386.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	2,386.00
Total Current Liabilities	2,815.50
Total Liabilities	2,815.50
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	217,676.25
Retained Earnings	117,826.84
Unrealized Gain/ Loss	6,328.20
Unrealized Gain/Loss on Invest.	61,924.97
Net Income	-4,721.28

2:31 PM
09/07/23
Accrual Basis

CFGC
Balance Sheet
As of September 7, 2023

	<u>Sep 7, 23</u>
Total Equity	<u>399,032.98</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>401,848.48</u>

Coming Events of Interest:

- **Deadline for submissions for the Winter issue of the Colorado Garden Connection, December 22, 2023.**
- Nov. 13, 2023 CFGC Judges Council
- Dec. 8, 2023 CFGC Ways & Means, EX BD & BOD Meeting at EH
- Jan. 8, 2024 CFGC Judges Council Meeting at EH
- March 8, 2024 CFGC Ways & Means, Ex BD & BOD meeting at EH
- March 25, 2024 CFGC Trustees meeting at EH

For additional information on events without a Point-of-Contact (POC), please check the CFGC web-site at 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.