

THE COLORADO GARDEN CONNECTION



Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., 1556 Emerson Street, Denver, CO 80218-1450
www.coloradogardenclubs.org (303) 832-6390

President's Message Spring 2017

By Louise Niekerk, President, CFGC



Greetings Gardeners,

I am grateful to be a gardener. Do you ever ask yourself, 'If I had my life to do over again, would I make different decisions?' Hindsight is 20/20. The wisdom gained over a lifetime of experiences is invaluable. But there is one thing I would not change. I would still choose to be a gardener.

In the midst of world chaos, gardening offers serenity. It gives you a chance to turn down the radio, turn off the television and enter a quiet place. In spite of political strife, global warfare and street violence, bulbs still flower and trees still bloom. Grasses grow green and violets grow blue. Uncomfortable unpredictability yields to a hushed steady calm.

A total stranger who is a fellow gardener is not a stranger for long. You form an instant bond and could converse for hours about many topics - the latest perennials, new trends in landscaping or exciting plant

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additions. It's as though we are members of an extended family - brothers and sisters of the earth.

I have enjoyed being your President for the past two years. Now my time is up and the gavel will be passed on. Garden club members ask me, "What does the Federation do for me?" I can answer with certainty. The Federation has given me FAR more than I have given the Federation. Becoming involved is key. As they say, "Try it - you'll like it!"

As I bid you a fond farewell, know you will never be forgotten.

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

Colorado Garden and Home Show

By Louise Niekerk, President CFGC

The CFGC Standard Flower Show at the Convention Center in downtown Denver was titled "A World of Music". Thank-you to all CFGC members who entered their beautiful horticulture and designs. We were honored by the visit of our National President, Sandra Robinson, who attended the show and served on a panel of judges. This show is a wonderful way to gain new club members. Over 100 members of the public signed our "Do You Want to Join a Garden Club? sign up sheets. The club presidents were given appropriate names to contact. Flower shows are an effective way to add club members!



Photos Courtesy of Larry Laszlo.



Pictured from left to right: Rosemary Rice, Sandy Kuark, Michele Gustin, Rose Persichetti, Louise Niekerk, Sandra Robinson, Joy Kancir, Sandee Teitscheid, Audrey Coyle, Sandy Dennis, Doris Duckworth, and Jean Nicks



CFGC 87th Annual Convention

When: June 9 – 11, 2017

Where: Colorado Springs Marriott Hotel

What: 2017 CFGC Annual Convention

Come and enjoy the fun on June 9th and June 10th, at the Marriott Hotel in Colorado Springs. CFGC Southern District is delighted to host the annual convention and have planned a "Meet and Greet" on Friday evening for all garden club members and guests. This will be a great time to catch up with wonderful garden friends and meet new ones. Saturday will consist of informative and interesting speakers, excellent food, and an opportunity to view beautiful and tasteful arrangements. A great time to be had by all!

Registration Form Page 7

Environmental Study School

By Trudie Layton, Environmental Studies State Chairman

Learning does not stop once the school door closes and you have diploma in hand. You continue through life—experience, work, and taking advantage of offerings such as those by The National Garden Clubs, Inc. Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. is an affiliate of the National Garden Clubs and is sponsoring an Environmental Studies School April 20 – 21, 2017 in Colorado Springs and Woodland Park, CO.

This not-for-profit educational organization, with headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri, is the largest volunteer gardening organization in the world. As part of its mission, NGC offers educational opportunities for members and non-members. The mission statement of the Environmental Studies Schools is to teach environmental literacy to cherish, protect and conserve the living earth. "The Living Earth" Environmental Studies School curriculum was created by NGC to enable like-minded, concerned individuals to become better stewards of our natural environment. It provides an in-depth understanding of the elements necessary for our survival and the challenges facing their sustainability including environmental science, water conservation, air pollution, land conservation, and endangered species by explaining their value.

The School is composed of a minimum of forty hours of study of specific units divided into four Courses of ten hours, each of which includes a two-hour field trip. The Courses investigate Air, Land and Water. The units are divided into Ecology and Environmental Science, Life on Earth and Earth Stewardship. The series of Courses is usually offered over a two-year period and are open to everyone, whether or not they are garden club members.

A member of NGC, Inc. may take the exams to be an Environmental Consultant; however, the Consultant Card is only issued to members of NGC. A non-member student who has successfully completed the four Courses may apply for a Consultant Card upon joining a NGC member garden club within one year after completing the four Courses. Certificates of Achievement may be awarded to non-NGC students attending the four Courses.

The focus of the April Course is "Water and Related Issues"; this will include a two-hour *Discovery Field Trip of a Wetland* led by faculty member, Dee DeJong. There is also an exciting line-up of speakers. **Registration form is attached.**

Fort Logan Update

By Jeannette Hunt, Fort Logan Chairman

We are looking forward to the new season of working with the various clubs. We need help from another club to participate in October for fall clean up as well as plant additional daffodils. Also, if anyone has skills in garden design I am looking to add and fill in some bare spots in the garden, I would appreciate some help and inspiration.

Our long time groundskeeper, Mr. Charles Hutchison has retired, and the new groundskeeper is looking

forward to meeting with the various clubs and will provide support to us as needed.

Many thanks to the participating clubs:

Boulder Garden Club
Queen of Spades
Dig and Dream
Moonlight Evergreen
Douglas County
Harveyette Harvesters

Calendar of Events

April 8, 2017

North District Annual Meeting

St Martha's Episcopal Church,

Westminster, CO

April 20 - 21, 2017

Environmental Studies School

Mesa Water Building, Colorado Springs, CO

April 22, 2017

Earth Day

April 22, 2017

Southern District Annual Meeting

Congregational Church,

Manitou Springs, CO

May 3 - 4, 2017

Gardening Study School, Course II

CSU Extension Office,

Colorado Springs Campus,

Colorado Springs, CO

May 16 - 21, 2017

NGC Convention

Richmond, VA

June 9 - 11, 2017

CFGC Convention

Colorado Springs, CO

June 23 - 24, 2017

Westminster Flower Show

July 28, 2017

Weld County Fair

August 2 - 6, 2017

Adams County Flower Show

August 25, 2017

Rocky Mountain Region Fall Board Meeting

North Dakota

Book Review

By Lynn Cleveland, Book Review Chairman



Best Garden Plants for Colorado

by Betsy Lehdorff and
Laura Peters

Did you move here from another state where the soil is black and the precipitation is predictable? Or are you a long-time Coloradan who has figured out what you can (usually) grow in our miserable soil and

problematic climate? Either way, it's helpful to have a simple, colorful list of flowers and shrubs to browse through for new ideas. *Best Garden Plants for Colorado*, written by two Master Gardeners, depicts and describes over 350 plants suitable for Colorado gardens, in eight categories: Annuals, Perennials, Trees & Shrubs, Roses, Vines, Bulbs, Herbs, and Foliage Plants. You're bound to find a plant or two that you never thought about before.

Editor's Note: It is with mixed feelings that I must inform readers of The Colorado Garden Connection that this Spring Issue will be my last as the editor. Thank you for the opportunity and privilege of producing the CFGC newsletter for the past six years, however, it is time for a new look and a new editor to take over the reins. At this time I do not know who the new editor will be, I only know who ever it is, they will do a great job!

MINUTES
COLORADO FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Emerson House – March 6, 2017

Call To Order by President Louise Niekerk at 10:45 a.m. Maureen Kazmer led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mary Fagerberg offered the invocation. A quorum was present.

Minutes of the January 24, 2017 meeting were adopted as published.

Treasurer Kathy Petersen's financial report showed total assets (including checking account, special funds, Vanguard Funds and Emerson House) at \$344,312. Vanguard Funds are up \$7,700 year to date, including an increase of \$3,081 in the Scholarship fund. CFGC received \$5,827 on Colorado Gives Day. CFGC income exceeded expenses by \$9,458 this year. The full report was filed.

Membership Chair Margie Soileau reported 462 total memberships, of which 17 are duplicates.

New Clubs. Louise introduced Christian Copeland, who is in the process of organizing a new Denver garden club that will meet at Emerson House. A new club, "Groundbusters," has been formed in Thornton. Its President is Kay Ehalt.

2017 Convention Chair Margie announced that plans are in place for the June 9-10 State Convention at the Marriott in north Colorado Springs. The new NGC President and the Rocky Mountain Region Director will both attend our Convention. Registration form will be available soon.

Items from Executive Committee. Secretary Lynn Cleveland read five Motions that were forwarded from the Executive Committee:

MOTION: That we purchase Quickbooks Pro 2017 for up to \$200. The motion passed.

MOTION: That we add \$43 of CFGC funds to the \$25 collected at the Adams County Flower Show in order to donate \$68 to Penny Pines. The motion passed.

MOTION: That the registration fee for the 2017 State Convention will be \$30. The motion passed.

MOTION: That Article V of the Bylaws be amended to read:

Section 2. A. The annual dues for Garden Clubs with active individual Memberships shall be nine dollars (\$9.00) per member to be paid into the general fund of CFGC to be allocated as follows: One dollar (\$1.00) to NGC, Three dollars (\$3.00) to the President's Travel Fund, One dollar (\$1.00) to Headquarters Fund, and Four dollars (\$4.00) to remain in the General Fund.

B. The annual dues for Garden Clubs with Family Members shall be nine dollars (\$9.00) for the initial membership, to be allocated as in Section 2A. Each additional adult membership within the family structure shall be four dollars and fifty cents (\$4.50) of which One dollar (\$1.00) shall go to NGC, Two dollars (\$2.00) to the President's Travel Fund, Fifty cents (\$.50) to Headquarters Fund, and One dollar (\$1.00) shall remain in the General Fund.

Section 3. An Associate Member admitted to the State Federation at any time during the year shall pay dues of eighteen dollars (\$18.00). An Associate Member is a member of NGC, and the dues are allocated as follows: One dollar (\$1.00) to NGC, Three dollars (\$3.00) to the President's Travel Fund, One dollar (\$1.00) to Headquarters Fund, and the balance to the General Fund.

Corresponding changes shall be made elsewhere in the Bylaws as necessary.

The motion passed. (Because this is a proposed amendment to the Bylaws, it will be published in the *Colorado Garden Connection* and voted on by the membership at the State Convention.)

MOTION: That CFGC put \$1,250 into the Tree Fund to support Southern District. The motion passed.

Environmental Studies School April 20–21 in Colorado Springs and Woodland Park. Chair Trudie Layton is distributing brochures. Schools are open to the public; CFGC members get a discount.

Trudie reported that two seed libraries are being started in Teller County. Efforts like this help support the new NGC President's theme, "Plant America," and NGC's children's book, "Seed Starter."

Gardening Studies School May 3–4 in Colorado Springs. Chair Margie Soileau will have brochures soon.

Flower Show School September 27–28. Chair Louise Niekerk said that NGC now requires Course I be taken as a prerequisite to any other Courses.

Summer Tour July 15 from 9:00–3:00 in the Briargate area of Colorado Springs. Chair Betty Roberts said seven gardens will be on view for \$10. Title: "Friendship in the Garden – Briargate in Bloom."

Memorial Design. Please notify Barb Cornell, Courtesy Chair, taragold10@msn.com, of any club members who have passed away since last year, so that they may be commemorated in the memorial design at Convention.

Emerson House. Clubs may sign up with Janet Tetteimer for a workday in the yard.

Fort Logan. Clubs may sign up with Jeanette Hunt for a workday at Fort Logan.

Emerson House Calendar. Please notify Joy Kancir of any events at Emerson House and whether parking permits for the Wendy's lot will be needed. Wendy's now requires both the date and the time of the event, and may not be available on weekends.

Louise Niekerk's new email is fivecatsbox@comcast.net.

Nominating Committee. Margie gave the report from the committee concerning nominations for officers for 2017–2019:

President	Betty Roberts
Vice-President	Margie Soileau
Treasurer	Kathy Petersen
Secretary	Lynn Cleveland
Assistant Treasurer	Sue Parker

As there were no further nominations from the floor, this slate of officers will be voted on at State Convention.

The meeting adjourned. Following the meeting, members enjoyed a tasty lunch. Carol O'Meara presented a program on the Emerald Ash Borer, a pest already present in Boulder and Longmont, which has been described as a "natural disaster in slow motion." Members were urged to inform their clubs about this harmful insect.

Lynn Cleveland, Recording Secretary

CFGC Gardening Study School (GSS)

May 3rd and May 4th, 2017 – Colorado State Extension Office, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Course II Content: "Understanding Plant Diseases and Garden Pests", "Container Gardening", "Techniques for Growing Vegetables", "How New Plants are Developed and Evaluated", and "Techniques for Growing Lawn and/or Lawn Alternatives". Subjects are interesting and fun with wonderful instructors, hands on labs, and the opportunity to grown in your knowledge of gardening. For further questions please contact Margie Soileau, State Chairman at (719) 648–8025 or margie@soileau.org.

Gardening Study School Registration form is attached.

CFGC 87th Annual Convention

“Grow and Share Colorado” – June 9-11, 2017

Marriott Hotel & Conference Center - 5580 Tech Center Dr., Colorado Springs, CO

Convention Registration Fee: \$30.00 _____

Guest or Late Registration Fee:
(Late as of May 10th, 2017) \$35.00 _____

Friday, June 9, 2017 @ 5:30 pm
Social Hour with Hors D'oeuvres \$16.00 _____

Saturday, June 10, 2017
Continental Breakfast \$21.00 _____

Lunch (choose one)

Chicken Salad Sandwich \$24.00 _____

Cobb Salad \$24.00 _____

Dinner (choose one)

Orange Horseradish Glazed Pork Roast \$37.00 _____

Chicken Breast w/Boursin, Tomato and Artichoke, Lemon Garlic Butter \$37.00 _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Club: _____ **District:** _____

Guest Name: _____

Please check your status (mark all that applies to you):

1st Time Attendee

Club Member

Club President

Delegate

District Officer

District President

Environmental Consultant

Flower Show Judge

Gardening Consultant

Headquarter Trustee

Landscape Consultant

National Chairman

National life Member

National Officer

Regional Life Member

Regional Officer

Regional Representative

State Life Member

State Officer

State Past President

State President



Please complete the above and mail with your check payable to: “2017 CFGC Annual Convention” to Kathy Shafer, Registrar at 4323 Roundtree Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80915-00213.

Hotel Reservations are to be made directly with the Marriott Hotel at 1-800-932-2151 or 1-844-240-3585.
Reference the 2017 CFGC Annual Convention for the correct room rate of \$119.00 per night.
Contact Margie Soileau, Chairman, for any concerns at Margie@soileau.org or (719) 648-8025.

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

Check it out!



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