

Vol. 89 No. 3

The Colorado Garden Connection



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Cover: An unidentified blossom. Provided by Larry Laszlo.

Could someone please identify it for us?

Centerfold: White and Purple Iris by Chuck Pelto

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How to Contact Us “Officially” & Other Information:

The Colorado Garden Connection is the official quarterly publication of Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., an affiliate of National Garden Clubs, Inc. Known office of publication: 1556 Emerson, Denver, CO 80218-1450. Editorial, subscription, advertising and all other information available through The Colorado Garden Connection, same. Contents COPYRIGHT © 2017 by the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., or individual authors/artists. Permission is granted to clubs of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., to reprint material not otherwise copyrighted by an individual author, providing wording similar to the following is also printed: “By (author name) Reprinted from The Colorado Garden Connection, the newsletter of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.”. Please send two (2) copies of reprints to Editor at 425 W 18th St, Pueblo, CO 81003. All opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. or its officers and members.

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 appear in the events section.

Visit Our Web Site: coloradogardenclubs.org

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

Theme: "Grow and Share Colorado"
 Project: "Befriend Our Pollinators"

Hello,

It's one year and three months into my term of office with only a few short months left to go. Our Southern District under the leadership of Audrey Coyle, President, has formed a convention planning committee. Aurora Glaze, President of Cheyenne Mountain Garden Club, is the capable chairman, and she is working toward the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs annual meeting which will be held in Colorado Springs on June 8-9, 2019. I'm looking forward to having our National President, Gay Austin, and our RMR Director, Darla Anderson, join us for a fun time.



Eight members of CFGC attended the Rocky Mountain Region Meeting in Ft. Robinson, Nebraska, in late August. We were treated to two days of excellent hospitality, super programs and delicious food.

A portion of a program presented by Robin Pokorski was a clever reminder of the importance of parliamentary procedure. I was glad that Robin mentioned that signing minutes and reports with "Respectfully submitted" is no longer done. All the while we were surrounded by fantastic table decorations which were given away in drawings. I was the lucky winner of a neat succulent planting which Doris Duckworth delivered to me at a later time. I was also the high bidder on a beautiful butterflies and birds handmade quilt which Audrey Coyle delivered to my home. Thanks, ladies!



I was pleased to return to Colorado with a number of awards which were given out at our September meeting. They are as follows:

- 6A South Dakota Award – Birds
 First Place — Dig and Dream Garden Club
- 9A John Johnsrud Membership Award
 First Place — CFGC
- 8C Utah Award – Garden Tours
 First Place — Dig and Dream Garden Club
- 11F Conservation and Environmental Concerns
 First Place — Queens of Spades Garden Club
- 3A Montana Award – Writing
 Second Place — Douglas County Garden Club
- 3A Montana Award – Writing
 Award of Merit — Dig and Dream Garden Club
- 3A Montana Award – Writing
 Third Place — Greeley Morning Garden Club
- 3A Montana Award – Writing
 Second Place — Happy Transplants Garden Club

Our Judges Council under the leadership of Audrey Coyle held a mini horticulture flower show and critique, "Harvesting Our Talent", for our September program.

This past year, we have had a total of 20 clubs and 389 active members.

Our garden clubs have been busy as little bees and butterflies. Members have designed and/or planted and continue to maintain a total of 12 public gardens that include a Friendship Garden, two rose gardens, and a butterfly garden.

Three clubs had special events to help the elderly. One club provided 200 bouquets to seniors, one club delivered 30 gift bags to seniors, and one club assisted with Meals on Wheels.

Douglas County Garden Club purchased 22 copies of The Saved Seed and distributed them to Douglas County Elementary Schools. Two clubs sponsor a scholarship, as does our Federation.

Our Blue/Gold Star Chair plans to place a plaque at Fort Logan National Cemetery, and our Chairman, Jeanette Hunt, will be in touch regarding the date.

In support of my project, several clubs had programs on bees and other pollinators. Others clubs had programs on learning which plants attract pollinators.

The common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) is great for attracting Monarch butterflies. High Country Gardens says this is “a gorgeous plant that produces purple/pink (sometimes white) flower clusters that wildflower gardeners love and spreads quickly”. The flowers are fragrant, and this plant is deer and rabbit resistant. Be happy! Help the Monarchs!

Your friend in gardening,
Betty

From the Editors

My Dear Fellow Gardeners,

One of the good things about an organization like the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs is the opportunity to learn more about gardening and techniques. You get this by such things as programs, either at your club meetings or at annual meetings at the district and state levels.

Another way is in club web-sites and newsletters, most especially in this newsletter, or rather, magazine. We are always interested in innovative devices that make gardening easier and more productive. Something for the Garden Gadgets column.

We're also very interested in hearing about you or your club's successes. As an example, the article in this issue of Cheyenne Mountain Garden Club winning a city-wide competitive award for their Memorial Park garden project.

Such stories are not just grand standing for a club's success. Such stories delight us in their joy of success. Such stories inspire us with new ideas for our own projects, club or personal.

Such stories also make it easier for us, at The Connection, to provide interesting copy for the magazine.

Chuck & Susan Pelto
Pueblo, CO

Garden Gadgets

Drip Tape Irrigation

Drip irrigation was first documented being used in First Century BC China. Where they filled unglazed clay posts that were semi-buried in the ground of their agricultural efforts. In the mid-1800s German researchers began experimenting with sub-surface irrigation techniques.

In the 1960s, the Israelis—in their rather arid environment—developed a system using plastic tubing with emitters spaced along the length to distribute water over a large area without a great amount of loss to evaporation.

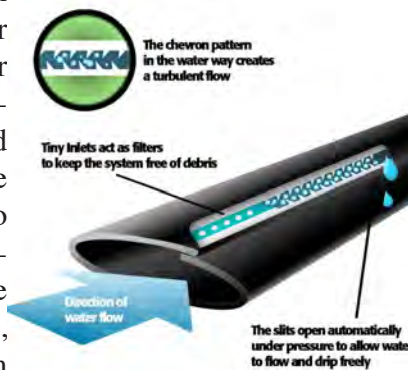
The civic display garden that is along Abriendo Boulevard in Pueblo occupies a 60x40 foot block of median between two two-lanes of traffic.

Over the years, we had used a number of different approaches to distributing water to the flowering plants in the plot. We tried:

- Manual Watering — Using buckets to move water from 55-gallon tanks on the back of a light duty truck. This was when we were having trouble getting water delivery to the plot because the anti-siphon valve's plastic parts kept rupturing. It's too time consuming.
- Soaker Hoses — Spread over the plot. But during maintenance, they would be stepped on and would develop bad leaks or outright breaks. Too fragile. And too costly in time to maintain or replace.
- Drip Lines — Those 1/4" plastic tubes you punch emitters into at specific points where there are plants that need water. Worked pretty good. Durable. Good water control. But as we went from a regimented display of regularly positioned plants to a more natural—survival of the finest—approach, difficult to maintain, with having to take emitters out of where they weren't needed any more and putting new ones in where they were.

What we've discovered was Drip Tape. This is the current version of what the Israelis developed. We've found it to be highly effective. As well as durable and easy to install as well as maintain. We've had it in place for four years now. And the garden is thriving.

The tape comes in rolls and has cleverly designed emitters within that—when under pressure—open up a flap valve to let the water out. Not under pressure, it keeps dirt from getting in and clogging it. Clever design of the water path through the emitter slows, agitates and lowers the water pressure to send it directly into the ground. No evaporation. The emitters are 6 to 12 inches apart, depending on the design of the tape. The tape is



flat until water pressure is applied. Then it expands to be round, if not buried in the ground.

The system is simple. You need water under pressure. You need to step that pressure down to 25 pounds per square inch. You need to have a controller, as with any irrigation system. You need a manifold, to distribute the water. You can make the manifold out of standard 3/4" PVC pipe and fittings. Of course you'll need the drip tape and its fittings

as well.

You can find sources on the web. We found a number of different companies that are offering the tape and fittings for it. Just search the web for "Drip Tape". The tape comes in rolls of 100 to 10,000 feet. I saw one source advertising the 100 foot roll for \$15. So it's not that expensive. When we first invested in it, it was \$200 for almost a mile.



End Cap - Fold the tape over and stick it in to close off a length of tape.

End caps are used to close off the ends of running sections of



Union - Used to connect two lengths of tape. Slip a section onto each side and screw the blue knobs down to fix.

Unions are used to mend breaks and leaks. Though they don't occur very often, they could be

Emerson House Workday

On July 30, 2018 the Douglas County Garden Club (a Member of the Federation of Garden Clubs) organized a workday at the Emerson House in Denver. The volunteers included 5 members (Carol Ihli, Susan Willis, Ann Bozeman, Marsha Amick and Kathe Jackson) who came out on a beautiful cool summer morning to clean, trim, deadhead, and weed the gardens. The workday went very quickly with lots of conversation and laughter



Other Members Prettifying Up Emerson House

These were there the day of the Board of Directors meeting....



Cheyenne Mountain Garden Club Wins City Award

The Cheyenne Mountain Garden Club of Colorado Springs has won the Colorado Springs Golden Trowel Award for their civic garden project.

Every year the City of Colorado Springs Horticultural Department conducts the “Springs in Bloom” program. It votes on the best designed, best maintained and healthiest plants in the gardens that were adopted by the various service organizations and businesses that participate in the program. The City Greenhouse has a Horticulture and Education Center that oversees this program.

Springs in Bloom: Beautifying Our Community is the civic garden project of the Cheyenne Mountain Garden Club. This is the second year CMGC has committed to garden through the Springs in Bloom Volunteer Planting Program.

Our garden is located at Memorial Park and is planted and maintained by some of our membership. We donate soil and mulch to assist the health of the plants planted throughout the growing season from May through October.

This year, 2018, the Cheyenne Mountain Garden Club Team, led by Hedy Ducharme, was selected as a finalist in the service organizations category and then at the awards ceremony was presented the “Golden Trowel Award” as the Best Garden in the Springs in Bloom program for 2018 in the service organization category!



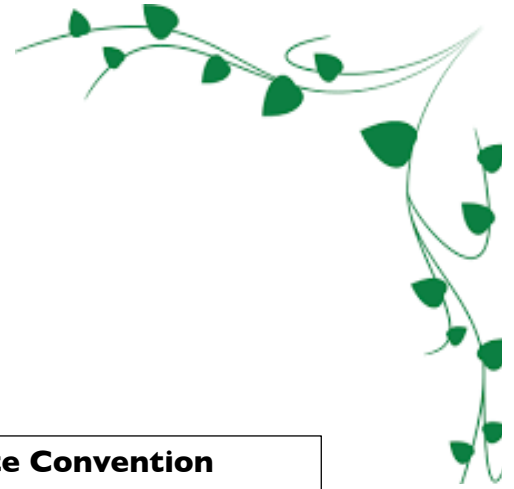
Hedy DuCharme is the project chairman..



The Golden Trowel Award with Picture of Display Garden



*From Left to Right:
Aurora Glaze, Naoko Kohlhepp, Sandy Bateman, Sharon Tracer, Hedy DuCharme,
Kathy Sharkey, Kathy Shafer.*



Invitation to the CFGC 2019 State Convention

The seeds have been planted and blooms of activities are sprouting!
Join us for the 2019 CFGC State Convention in Colorado Springs, CO.

“Grow Plants and Share Beautiful Colorado”

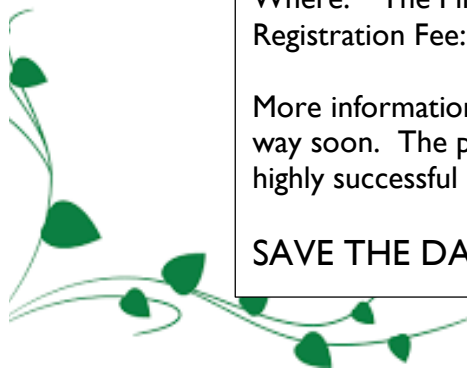
When: June 7, 8, 9, 2019

Where: “The Pinery at the Hill” – 775 W. Bijou St. CSC 80905

Registration Fee: \$35.00 per person

More information will be found on the registration form coming your way soon. The planning committee is working hard to make this a highly successful convention.

SAVE THE DATE – Join us for our upcoming event in June 2019.

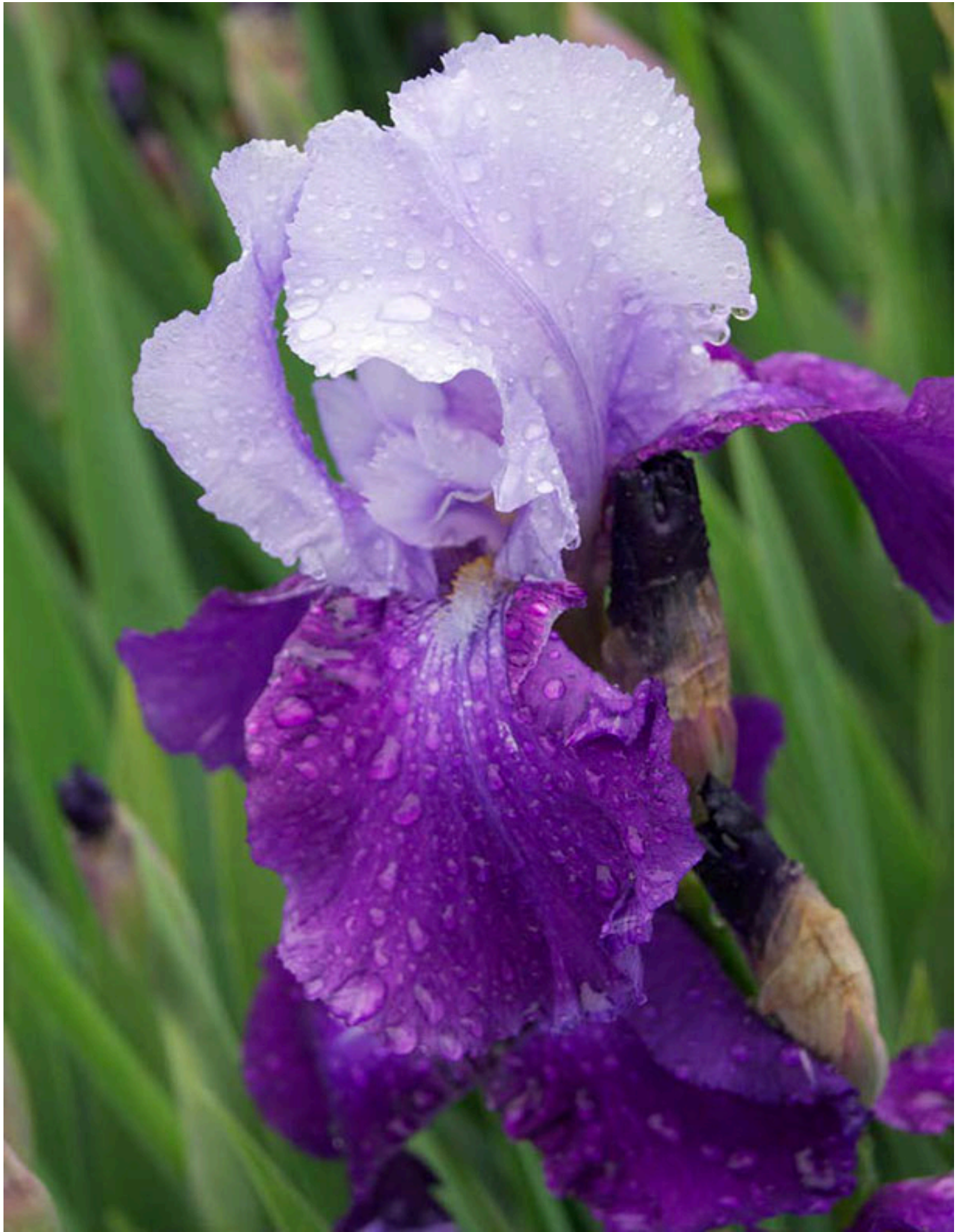


From The Glory of the Garden

*There's not a pair of legs so thin, there's not a head so thick,
There's not a hand so weak and white, nor yet a heart so sick
But it can find some needful job that's crying to be done,
For the Glory of the Garden glorifieth every one.*

*Then seek your job with thankfulness and work till further orders,
If it's only netting strawberries or killing slugs on borders;
And when your back stops aching and your hands begin to harden,
You will find yourself a partner In the Glory of the Garden.*

*Oh, Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees
That half a proper gardener's work is done upon their knees,
So when your work is finished, you can wash your hands and pray
For the Glory of the Garden that it may not pass away!
And the Glory of the Garden it shall never pass away! — Rudyard Kipling*



Minutes of Meeting
CFGC Board of Directors
September 4, 2018

The CFGC Board of Directors met September 4, 2018, at Emerson House. A quorum was present. President Betty Roberts called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chaplain Mary Schmitt offered a spiritual message. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer Kathy Petersen briefly reviewed the financial report, which was filed. (See separate report.)

Emerson House Chair Nancy Griffin stated that there are currently seven Trustees, although the Bylaws call for eight. One more is needed, someone who is able to attend meetings regularly. The next meetings will be in October and November, then off for the winter months. One club was working in the Emerson House yard during this meeting.

In her role as Membership Chair, Nancy said that CFGC's biggest response from potential new members came at the Garden & Home Show in February. Assistant Treasurer Sue Parker reported that we have 359 paid members. Her list of clubs and their officers is nearly complete.

Secretary Lynn Cleveland read two thank-you notes received from Hudson Gardens (\$50 donation) and Denver Botanic Gardens (\$250 donation).

Awards Chair Michele Gustin spoke about the rules and procedures for awards. The rules in the Manual of Procedures and Directory have not been updated since 2007. Michele suggested a number of revisions to simplify the awards process and encourage clubs to apply. Among other suggestions, the Bluebird Award will be broadened into Birds and Pollinators; all award applications will have the same deadline; Heartwarmer applications will use a small standard form; and the Scrapbook award will be eliminated, although clubs are still encouraged to display scrapbooks at Convention. Michele reminded clubs of the Garden Club Program award: if your club has an outstanding speaker or meeting, remember to apply for the award. She will also create a Social Media Evaluation Form to help clubs make the best use of social media. Michele would like

to finalize the changes by the December meeting. CFGC now has a Pinterest site.

Michele also called attention to the differing practices of the Districts concerning funding of annual District meetings. The consensus was that no change is needed; Districts may make their own decisions about their meetings.

President Betty Roberts announced several Rocky Mountain Region Awards won by CFGC clubs. Winners included Dig & Dream (3 awards), Greeley Morning Garden Club, Happy Transplants, Queens of Spades, and CFGC itself.

Colorado Garden Connection Editor Chuck Pelto reminded everyone that the deadline for submission of articles and photos is two weeks after the Board meeting.

Fort Logan Chair Jeanette Hunt stated that maintenance of the garden has been going very well thanks to the seven clubs who signed up to work. She has received the new Blue/Gold Star Marker that is to be installed at Fort Logan and hopes to hold the dedication ceremony this fall. Among other guests, a Gold Star Mothers group plans to attend. Jeanette would like volunteers to help organize the ceremonial event. She thanked Evergreen Moonlight club for a \$150 gift to help pay for installation of the marker, Dig & Dream for a spruce tree, and Douglas County Garden Club for mums to be planted there.

Betty announced that a CFGC Historian is still needed. Contact her if you wish to volunteer.

Southern District President Audrey Coyle and 2019 Convention Chair Aurora Glaze have held a successful planning meeting for next year's convention, to be held June 7, 8, and 9 at Pinery on the Hill in Colorado Springs. The theme will be "Grow, Plant, and Share Beautiful Colorado." Chuck Pelto made the following motion, which was seconded: MOTION: That the registration fee for the 2019 State Convention will be \$35. The motion passed.

Lynn moved that the following recommendation from the Ways & Means Committee be approved: That the \$5,000 grant from Colorado Garden Foundation be allocated as follows: \$1,000 to Environmental

Studies School and \$4,000 to Flower Show School.

It was explained that the other two schools (Garden Study and Landscape Design) did not appear to need additional funds this year. The recommendation was approved.

Louise Niekerk presented Betty a beautiful President's Pin, which each President hands on to her successor.

The meeting adjourned at noon. Following lunch, Betty showed photos of floral designs at this year's NGC convention.

Lynn Cleveland, Recording Secretary

Happy Faces at BoD Meeting



Fort Logan National Cemetery Gold Star Memorial Garden

The Gold Star Family Memorial Marker is a new initiative of the NGC, Inc. and CFGC.

Since World War I, a gold star flag hung in a home indicated the loss of a loved one serving in the armed services. To honor those fallen heroes, the CFGC coordinated with CFGC member clubs to erect a Gold Star Memorial Marker at Fort Logan National Cemetery.

The Fort Logan National Cemetery is one of the CFGC Community Projects where our clubs tend gardens around the Blue Star Memorial Marker, Flag Pole and now soon to be Gold Star Memorial Marker (dedication date to be announced later).

On Thursday, September 27, 2018, Jeanette Hunt, CFGC Committee Chair for the Fort Logan National Cemetery and member of the Dig and Dream Garden Club, Aurora; Ann Bozeman, Connie Huffaker and Susan Willis, Douglas County Garden Club, planted 5 mums around the location where the marker will be erected. The mums were donated by the Douglas County Garden Club.



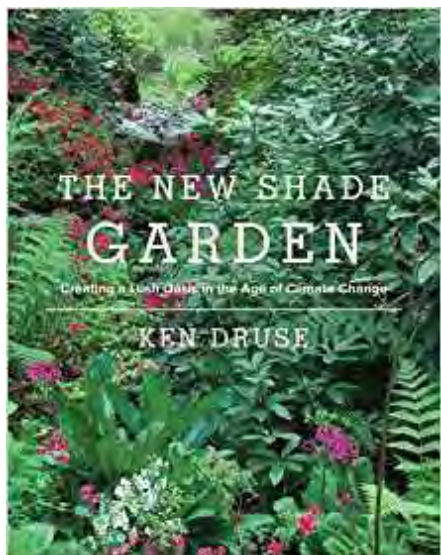
A Big Thank You to Jeannette Hunt for making the arrangements for the marker, and following through on this project, and to all the clubs that contributed towards this very important community project.

Book Review — The New Shade Garden

Rules for Using CFGC Emerson House:

by Ken Druse (1992)

The New Shade Garden is a gorgeous volume full of sumptuous gardens. Perhaps there's a little too much "forest floor" and not quite enough "dry shade" coverage in it for our climate and soil, but readers can still take away several good ideas. This book is available for checkout in CFGC's library at Emerson House. Remember, if you or a friend will be at Emerson House for a meeting, take time to peruse the bookshelves in the back of the auditorium. You can sign books out and return them on your next visit.



The CFGC Trustees have rented Emerson House to a photographer for his business. He schedules clients around CFGC needs but he must know not later than the 15th of the month prior to usage, earlier is preferred. The rent helps to cover expenses of Emerson House.

Contact Joy Kancir at jkancir13@msn.com or 303-814-0679 to reserve the date and time when you or your group need to use Emerson House for a meeting or event. Reservations are required not later than the 15th of the month prior to your need. Just dropping by to pick up something or for a short meeting is not in the agreement with the renter. This intrudes on his time and can create an unprofessional appearance of his business causing embarrassment for him.

If there is an emergency and you need to enter Emerson House and I cannot be reached in a reasonable time, contact Louise Niekerk at 303-278-3523. One of us will verify if the space will be available at the time requested. If already scheduled you will need to find another time.

The book is available at Amazon.com. [CLICK HERE.](#)

Thank you,
Joy Kancir

Password No Longer Needed on CFGC Website

It is simpler than ever to access CFGC's website, coloradogardenclubs.org, now that it isn't necessary to enter a password. The latest revised Bylaws and Standing Rules can be found on the website, along with the calendar and lots of ideas.

*Who are you, reader, reading my poems a
hundred years hence?*

*I cannot send you one single flower from
this wealth of the spring, one single streak
of gold from yonder clouds.*

*Open your doors and look abroad. From
your blossoming garden gather fragrant
memories of the vanished flowers of an
hundred years before.*

*In the joy of your heart may you feel the
living joy that sang one spring morning,
sending its glad voice across an hundred
years. -- Rabindranath Tagore**

** Won the first Nobel Prize given an Asian.
For literature in 1913*



Coming Events of Interest

- **Deadline for submissions for the Winter issue of the Colorado Garden Connection**, December 17, 2018.
- Front Range Designers Small Standard Flower Show, Westminster, CO Oct. 12-13, 2018 Rose Persichetti POC
- Landscape School II, Emerson House, Denver, November 16-17, 2018. 8am Gail Fischer POC
- CFGC Ways & Means, Ex. Bd. & BOD meetings, Emerson House, Denver, December 3, 2018, 9am.
- CO Garden & Home Show Design Specialty Flower Show “Rhythms In Bloom” at Denver Convention Center, Denver, February 8-17, 2019 Joy Kancir POC
- CFGC Ways & Means, Ex Board & Board of Directors meetings, Emerson House, Denver, March 4, 2019
- Northern Front Range District meeting, Hosted by Boulder Garden Club, April 6, 2019
- Southern District meeting, Colorado Springs, Audrey Coyle POC. April 23, 2019
- NGC Convention, (Installation) Biloxi, Mississippi; April 30-May 5, 2019
- CFGC Ways & Means, Ex Board, Board of Directors meetings, Emerson House, Denver, May 6, 2019
- CFGC Garden School IV classes at El Paso County Extension office, Colorado Springs, CO. May 8-9, 2019. Margie Soileau POC.
- CFGC State Convention, The Pinery at the Hill, 775 W. Bijou St., CO Springs, CO. Aurora Glaze POC. June 7-9, 2019
- Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) meeting, Missoula, Montana, August 23-24, 2019.

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.

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The Newsletter of The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
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