

**NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**  
**90<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

Biloxi Rivage Resort, Biloxi, Mississippi

May 1-2, 2019

Call to Order                      President Nancy Hargroves called the meeting of the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 9:01a.m. on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 in the Camellia A/B rooms, at the Biloxi Rivage Resort in Biloxi, Mississippi and welcomed those in attendance.

Mary Owen, Secretary, was present.

Opening Exercises              Chris Wood, President of the Alaska Garden Clubs, gave the invocation.

The colors were presented by the Ocean Springs High School Junior ROTC Color Guard of Biloxi, Mississippi.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Bud Qualk, Edible Gardening Chairman.

Mayor Andrew Gilich brought greetings from the City of Biloxi, Mississippi.

Ann McCormick, Deep South Region Director, gave the welcome to the Region.

Lynda Dickerson, President of The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc., welcomed all to the state of Mississippi.

Lynne Ehnert, President-Elect of Wisconsin Garden Club Federation, gave the response.

Preliminary                      Suzanne Potts, Credentials Chairman, gave the Preliminary Credentials Report as of  
 Credentials Report              9:00 a.m. May 1, 2019 showing a voting strength of 283 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	7
Alternate Region Directors	1
Advisory Committee	5
PH&E Trustees	5
State Presidents	44
Representatives of State Presidents	6
NGC Chairmen	43
NGC Standing Committee Members	162
Delegates	<u>74</u>
Subtotal	357
Less duplications	<u>74</u>
Total Voting Strength	283

**ADOPTED**

Quorum                              The Chair declared a quorum present.

Standing Rules of the 2017      Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian, read the Standing Rules of the 2019 Convention  
 Convention                              for adoption.

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

Convention Program              Rhonda Rosetti, 2019 Convention Chairman, moved the adoption of the convention agenda.

**ADOPTED**

Preliminary Registration Report	<p>Amye Kelly, Registration Committee Chairman, gave the preliminary registration report as of 9:00 a.m. May 1, 2019 for information only.</p> <table><tr><td>Registration</td><td>283</td></tr><tr><td>Spouses</td><td>31</td></tr><tr><td>Guests</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>Non-voting Garden Club members</td><td><u>216</u></td></tr><tr><td>Total Registration</td><td>550</td></tr></table>	Registration	283	Spouses	31	Guests	20	Non-voting Garden Club members	<u>216</u>	Total Registration	550
Registration	283										
Spouses	31										
Guests	20										
Non-voting Garden Club members	<u>216</u>										
Total Registration	550										
Committee to Approve Minutes	<p>The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2019 Convention Meeting:</p> <p>Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President, as Chairman Brenda Moore, Third Vice-President Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary</p>										
Timekeepers	<p>The President appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:</p> <p>Nancy Bahn, Nominating Committee Member Betsy Steele, Organization Study and <i>PLANT AMERICA</i> Committee Member</p>										
Tellers	<p>The President appointed the following to serve as tellers:</p> <p>Sue Bennett, Youth Gardening Projects Chairman Becky Hassebroek, Wildlife Gardening Chairman, Membership Committee</p>										
Welcome	<p>The President welcomed former Presidents Lois Dupre Shuster (2001-2003), Kitty Larkin (2005-2007), Barbara May (2007-2009), Shirley Nicolai, (2011-2013) and Immediate Past President Sandra Robinson.</p> <p>The President recognized the Region Directors: Susan Hinkel, New England; Dottie Howatt, Central Atlantic (Alternate Director); Judy Barnes, South Atlantic; Ann McCormick, Deep South; Fran Stueck, Central; Isabel Olsen, South Central; Jackie Watts; Rocky Mountain; Peggy Olin, Pacific.</p> <p>The President presented the PH&amp;E Trustees: Marge McGoff, Jeanette Pruin, Barbara Baker, Shirley Nicolai and Sandra Robinson.</p>										
Report of the Committee To Approve the Minutes	<p>Mary Warshauer, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the 2018 Convention meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, reported that the minutes were approved and circulated.</p>										
Reports of Officers	<p>The following officers reported (copies on file):</p> <p>Nancy Hargroves, President Gay Austin, President-Elect, Liaison to State Garden Club Presidents and Region Directors. Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee and Internal Audit Committee Chairman Brenda Moore, Third Vice-President, Organization Study and Award of Excellence Committee Chairman Mary Owen, Recording Secretary Betty Grimes, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary Shane Looper, Historian Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian Sandra Robinson, PH&amp;E Trustees Director</p>										

Reports of Region Directors and State Presidents      The following Region Directors and State Presidents reported. (copies on file)  
South Atlantic Region – Judy Barnes, Director

Paula Hyatt                      The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.  
Gail Hill                         The Garden Club of North Carolina, Inc.  
Donna Donnelly                The Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc.  
Marty Bowers                 Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Carolyn McCafferty         West Virginia Garden Clubs, Inc.

Rocky Mountain Region – Jackie Watts, Director

Betty Roberts                 Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Jean Tinberg                 Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Joyce Hendricks             Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Alice Hersath                Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska  
Les Westgard                 North Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs  
Virginia Sandmeier         South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Connie MacKay               The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.  
Lynette Jeffres               Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Reports of NGC Project Grants and Partnerships      The following Chairmen of NGC Project Grants and Partnerships reported (copies on file):

Betty Cookendorfer, *PLANT AMERICA* Community Project Grants Chairman reported \$75,000 distributed to 82 garden clubs.  
Judy Binns introduced Bonnie Satterthwaite, ESPOMA Grant Awards Chairman with Carol Bailey from Espoma who reported over \$7,000 worth of products distributed through State organizations.  
Nancy Fulk introduced Ames Director Karen Richwine who reported that there had been 104 applicants for AMES Grant Awards in 33 states with 21 winners in 16 states.  
Idalia Aguilar, IA *PLANT AMERICA* Projects Chairman reported.

Special Award                      A Special Award was presented by President Hargroves to *PLANT AMERICA* Community Grants Committee members Chairman Betty Cookendorfer, Shane Looper, Ellen Spencer and Betsy Steele.

A check for a \$240 donation was presented to the President for *PLANT AMERICA* from Claudia Bates in absentia by Gina Jogan.

Adjournment                        The meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m. to meet again on Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Call to Order                        The President reconvened the business meeting at 9:01 a.m. on Thursday, May 2, 2019.

Invocation                         Karen Blackmore, President of The Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc., gave the invocation.

Interim Credentials Report      Suzanne Potts, Credentials Chairman, gave the following interim Credentials Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 2, 2019 with a voting strength of 298 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	7
Alternate Directors	1
Advisory Committee	5
PH&E Trustees	5

State Presidents	44
Representatives of State Presidents	6
NGC Chairmen	43
NGC Standing Committee Members	165
Delegates	<u>91</u>
Subtotal	377
Less duplications	<u>79</u>
Total Voting Strength	298

**ADOPTED**

Interim Registration Report Amye Kelly, 2019 Convention Registration Chairman, gave the interim Registration Report as of 9:00 a.m. May 2, 2019 for information only.

Voting Strength	298
Spouses	33
Guests	48
Non-voting Garden Club members	<u>264</u>
Total Registration	643

Nominating Committee Report Bonnie Borne, Nominating Committee Chairman, introduced the members of the Nominating Committee and read the slate of officers for 2019-2021 as nominated by the committee:

- Mary Warshauer, First Vice-President
- Brenda Moore, Second Vice-President
- Donna Rouch, Third Vice-President
- Donna Donnelly, Recording Secretary
- Lynette Jeffres, Treasurer

Election of Officers Mary Owen, Recording Secretary, read the bylaws pertinent to the election of officers.

As there were no other nominations from the floor, the chair declared all the above nominees elected with Gay Austin, President-Elect, to serve as President.

Smokey Bear Smokey Bear joined the meeting. Jennifer Moreno, Chairman, announced the winners of the Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl Contest.

Report of the Board of Directors Mary Owen, Recording Secretary, reported that the Board of Directors had met two times since the last convention - at Fall Board in Florida in September 2018, and in Mississippi Tuesday afternoon. Informational sheets reflecting actions taken were distributed to the board members and delegates.

Budgets Betty Grimes, Treasurer, presented the 2019-2020 annual budgets of the General Fund, the Scholarship Fund and the Operation Wildflower Fund for adoption.

**ADOPTED**

The 2019-2021 annual budget for the PH&E Fund, adopted by the Board of Directors, was presented for information only.

Bylaw Amendments Brenda Moore, Second Vice-President and Chairman of the Organization Study Committee presented the proposed bylaw amendments:

Amend by striking out words in ~~Strikethrough~~ font and inserting or adding Underlined words.

**ARTICLE IV- DESIGNATED GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS**

State Federations of Garden Clubs, State Garden Clubs, State Associations of Garden Clubs and the National Capital Area Garden Clubs shall, hereinafter in these Bylaws, be referred to as State Garden Clubs.

The State Garden Clubs shall be grouped into ~~not less no fewer~~ than eight (8) designated geographic Regions, as follows:

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

#### **ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of NGC shall consist of two (2) classes: Voting Membership and Non-Voting Membership.

##### **Section 1. VOTING MEMBERSHIP**

Voting membership shall consist of members of State Garden Club that are members of NGC.

##### **B. Eligibility**

A State Garden Club shall have been organized for a minimum of one year ~~and shall be recommended by the Director of Region in which it is located.~~

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

#### **ARTICLE VI - MEMBERSHIP**

##### **Section 2. NON-VOTING MEMBERSHIP**

Non-voting membership shall consist of ~~six five~~ classes: ~~Honorary Life Members, who are not members of a Garden Club;~~ Life Members who are not delegates; National Affiliates; International Affiliates who are not serving on the NGC Board of Directors; all categories of Youth Gardeners and E-Members at Large.

Non-voting members may attend all NGC Convention meetings but shall be ineligible to debate or to hold office.

##### **A. ~~NGC Honorary Life Members~~**

~~NGC Honorary Life Membership may be accorded to an individual who is not a member of a garden club upon recommendation of the NGC President and of the Life Membership Committee with the approval of the Board of Directors, A State Garden Club, a member club or a member may sponsor an individual for Honorary Life Membership by submitting an application and contribution through the NGC Life Membership Chairman.~~

Renumber

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

#### **ARTICLE VII – DUES, FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS**

##### **Section 3. – CONTRIBUTIONS**

The one-time contribution of ~~an Honorary Life Membership or a Life Membership in NGC shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00).~~

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

#### **ARTICLE VIII – OFFICERS’ ELIGIBILITY**

##### **Section 1. ELECTED OFFICERS**

A. The elected officers ~~of NGC~~ shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Third Vice-President, a Recording Secretary, and a Treasurer, ~~and a Director for each Region.~~

~~D. To be eligible for the nomination as Region Director or Alternate Region Director, each nominee shall have served as President of a State Garden Club for a minimum of two (2) years and shall have attended two (2) of three (3) previous Region Conventions/Meetings at the time of election. In the event the State Garden Club does not have a nominee who has served a minimum of two (2) years as President of a State Garden Club and willing to serve, the current President will become eligible for the Nomination.~~

E. All officers elected and installed at the NGC Convention in the odd-numbered years shall have attended two (2) of the previous three (3) NGC Conventions at the time of election. ~~All Region Directors shall have attended a minimum of two (2) NGC Conventions and may include the NGC Convention at which they are installed.~~

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

## ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS,

### Section 5. THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT

The Third Vice-President shall:

- F. Be responsible for publishing proposed bylaw amendments in the winter issue of *The National Gardener*.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

## ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

### Section 9. REGION DIRECTORS

A. Each Region Director shall:

- ~~1. Direct the activities of the Region~~
- ~~2. Coordinate and promote the activities of NGC.~~
- ~~3. Serve as a member of the NGC Scholarship Committee.~~
- ~~4. Conduct an Annual or Biennial Region Convention in rotation as established in the Bylaws, Standing Rules, Rules of Procedure, or Policies of the Region.~~
- ~~5. Appoint Region Chairman as necessary to carry out the purposes of NGC which shall conform, insofar as practical, to those of NGC.~~
- ~~6. Inform the NGC President of an anticipated absence from any required meeting and secure approval for the Alternate Region Director to represent the Region with all privileges of the Director.~~
- ~~7. Adhere to ARTICLE XI for election procedures within the Region.~~
- ~~8. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Region Director, the Alternate Region Director shall become the Regional Director. An Alternate Region Director shall then be elected as established within that Region According to prescribed procedure (Article XI, Section 2).~~

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

## ARTICLE IX - DUTIES OF OFFICERS, APPOINTED OFFICERS

### Section 11. HISTORIAN

The Historian shall:

- B. Obtain ~~H~~histories from States ~~and Regions~~ for placement in the NGC archives, effective with the 2019-2021 administration

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

## ARTICLE X – NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### Section 1. STRUCTURE

The Nominating Committee shall be composed of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman and two Members from each Region. There shall be one Alternate for each member position. The Vice-Chairman shall be a member of the Board of Directors and shall attend each meeting of the Nominating Committee as a non-voting member.

B. Members

1. To be eligible to serve as a Member or Alternate Member, each Member shall have served two (~~2~~) years as an officer of a State Garden Club, a minimum of two (~~2~~) years as a member of the NGC Board of Directors and shall have attended two (~~2~~) of the previous five (~~5~~) NGC Conventions prior to assuming that position. The Member or Alternate Member must reside within the Region represented.
2. The States from which the Members and Alternate Members are selected shall be determined, ~~by the Bylaws, Standing Rules, Rules of Procedure or Policies of each Region. in rotation, as~~ established in the NGC Standing Rules and must include each State Garden Club within the geographic areas designated in Article IV.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

## ARTICLE XI- ELECTION OF OFFICERS

### ~~Section 2. ELECTION OF REGION DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATE DIRECTORS~~

~~The State from which the next Region Director and Alternate Region Director shall come is determined by the Bylaws, Standing Rules, Rules of Procedure or Policies of each Region. The Region Director and the Alternate Region Director must reside within the Region they represent.~~

~~A. The Candidate for Region Director shall be:~~

- ~~1. Elected by the Governing board of that Director's State Garden Club in session during the even numbered year prior to assuming office.~~
- ~~2. Presented to the NGC Convention in the odd numbered year.~~
- ~~3. Installed at the NGC Convention in the odd numbered year an assume Office for a term of two years at the close of the NGC Convention.~~

~~B. The Candidate for Alternate Region Director shall be elected by the Governing Board of that State Garden Club in session during the even numbered year prior to assuming office.~~

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

## ARTICLE XIV – THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Section 1. – MEMBERSHIP

A. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, President-elect Vice-Presidents, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Region Directors, Corresponding Secretary, Historian, Parliamentarian and the Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees Director.

B. Region Directors serve as representatives of NGC designated geographic Regions and shall be elected by the governing board of that director's State Garden Club in session during the even-numbered year prior to assuming office and presented to the NGC Convention in the odd-numbered year. The States from which the Region Director is selected shall be determined, in rotation, as established in the NGC Standing Rules and must include each State Garden Club within the geographic areas designated in Article IV.

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

## ARTICLE XV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Section 1. – MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected and appointed Officers; Presidents of State Garden Clubs or a Vice-President as an alternate by permission of the NGC President; Region Directors; former Presidents of NGC; Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees; Chairmen and members of committees.

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

## ARTICLE XVI – COMMITTEE

### Section 1. – STANDING COMMITTEE

~~B. The Chairman may suggest to the Region Director a member to serve as Region Chairman.~~

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

## ARTICLE XVI – COMMITTEES

### Section 7. – SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee shall consist of a ~~past Region Director~~ as Chairman, appointed by the President, and the current Region Directors as members.

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

## ARTICLE XVII – FINANCES

### Section 1. – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of NGC shall be from June 1 through May 31.

### Section 2. – FINANCIAL REPORTING

All internal and external financial reporting will follow Generally Accepted



**ARTICLE XVII – FINANCES**

**Section 2. – FINANCE COMMITTEE**

C. Funds

2. Restricted and Endowment Funds

b) Scholarship Fund

Income shall be derived from one-half (~~1/2~~) of ~~NGC Honorary Life Membership~~ of NGC Life Membership contributions, Memorials, honoraria, donations from members or State Garden Clubs, and from investments.

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

**ARTICLE XX – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the proceedings of NGC in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws ~~and Standing Rules~~.

**ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE**

Reports of Region Directors and State Presidents

The following Region Directors and State Presidents or their representatives reported. (copies on file)

Central Atlantic Region – Dottie Howatt, Alternate Director

Lisa Arni	The Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs
Diana Bonner	The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.
Robin Hammer	National Capital Area Garden Clubs, Inc.
Louise Davis	The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.
Monica Hansen	Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.
Deanna Stearns	The Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.
Christine Leskosky	The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania, Inc.

New England Region – Susan Hinkel, Director

Arlene Field, Incoming President	The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.
Judith Tarbox	The Garden Club Federation of Maine, Inc.
Suzanne McCance	The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc.
Joyce Kimball	New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Blakeley Szosz	Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Caroline Frey	Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont, Inc.

Reports of Chairmen

The following Committee Chairmen reported (copies on file)  
Andrea Little, Blue and Gold Star Memorial Markers Chairman  
Mary Ann Bryant, Tours Chairman  
Julie West, School Database Project Chairman

Future Conventions

Becky Crow, Conventions Coordinator, and Pat Abercrombie, Vice-Coordinator, reported on future convention locations:  
2020 Milwaukee, Wisconsin – May 11-16, 2020 at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino  
2021 East Rutherford, New Jersey – May 17-20, 2021  
at Hilton Meadowland Hotel  
2022 Florida – Dates TBD  
2023 White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia at The Greenbrier Resort – Dates TBD

Invitation to 2020 Convention Meeting

Kitty Larkin, 2020 Convention Coordinator, extended an invitation to the 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention Milwaukee, Wisconsin entitled “Perfect Vision 20/20”.



Final Credentials Report

Suzanne Potts, Credentials Chairman, gave the following final Credentials Report as of 9:04 a.m. May 2, 2019 with a voting strength of 298 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Region Directors	7
Alternate Region Director	1
Advisory Committee	5
PH&E Trustees	5
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NGC Chairmen	43
NGC Standing Committee Members	165
Delegates	<u>91</u>
Subtotal	377
Less duplications	<u>79</u>
Total Voting Strength	298

**ADOPTED**

Final Registration report

Amye Kelly, Convention Registration Chairman, gave the final Registration Report as of 10:30 a.m. May 2, 2019 for information only.

Voting Strength	298
Spouses	33
Guest & Speakers	48
Non-voting Garden Club members	<u>271</u>
Total	650

Adjournment

The President adjourned the business session at 10:49 a.m. to reconvene at the Installation Banquet.

Adjourn Sine Die

The President called the meeting to order at the Installation Banquet and adjourned the 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of National Garden Clubs, Inc. at 10:09 p.m. on May 2, 2019 sine die.

*Mary Owen*

	<u>8/10/19</u>
Mary Owen, Recording Secretary	Date

*Nancy Hargroves*

	<u>8/10/19</u>
Nancy Hargroves, President	Date

*Mary Warshauer*

	<u>8/10/19</u>
Mary Warshauer, Second Vice-President	Date

*Brenda Moore*

	<u>8/10/19</u>
Brenda Moore, Third Vice-President	Date

*Robin Pokorski*

	<u>8/10/19</u>
Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary	Date