

New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc.



2020

Awards Book

Awards Year

January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

Awards Presentation held

October 27-28, 2021

Las Cruces, New Mexico

Christine Longthorp, President

Nancy Hartwick and Nannette Tanner
Awards Co-Chairpersons

DESIGN OF THE YEAR

*Name placed on The Betty Folan Memorial Plaque.
Award sponsored by the New Mexico Judges Council, Inc.*

Not Awarded

MEMBER OF THE YEAR

*Name placed on the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., plaque
and “Member of the Year” award presented by NMGC, Inc.*

2020 Member of the Year

Not Awarded

HORTICULTURIST OF THE YEAR

*Name placed on the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., plaque and
“Horticulturist of the Year” award presented by NMGC, Inc.*

2020 Horticulturist of the Year

Isabel Olsen

Home Garden Club and Lincoln County Garden Club

My interest, passion and love for horticulture began as a child because of the influence of my two grandmothers. My maternal grandmother lived in the country on a farm where she grew fruits, vegetables, herbs, almonds and raised livestock. I learned the importance of growing food for ourselves and not relying solely on merchants. My paternal grandmother lived in the city and loved growing roses and a variety of other perennials. She was more of a Floriculturist. Having lived in four different states, I learned that the weather, soil, and gardening conditions were all very different. As with all gardeners you learn through books and a lot of trial and error. Being a garden club member for nineteen years I have learned a great deal from the program speakers and other members. I became a Master Gardener in 2008 through the New Mexico State University Chaves County Cooperative Extension service. I attended and completed all four classes of environmental Schools in 2018 and Gardening Schools in 2019. I am a member of the American Iris Society and President of Pecos Valley Iris Society. Currently, I am AIS student judge and have learned a great deal about cultivars, seedlings and hybridizing in order to be a show judge. I am always looking at various ways to continue my education in the field of horticulture, by applying the knowledge and skills I have obtained by sharing with members and youth. In 2020, I have given programs on growing Iris in New Mexico and floral arranging with iris.

In previous years I have given programs to the Pecos Valley Youth Club on various subjects such as “Lady Bugs”, the Good Bug in Your Garden”.

Conserving water for me is extremely important not only because of where I live, but because I feel it to be a moral obligation due to drought and shortage of water. I make sure my faucets are not leaking by replacing seals when needed. I check that the irrigation system is working properly, and I use natural wood chips and pecan shells to mulch my garden to help keep the moisture in the ground. I harvest rainwater in barrels and large buckets and when I boil eggs or pasta, I let the water cool and use it in the garden.

HORTICULTURIST OF THE YEAR – Contd.

With the pandemic occurring in 2020, I have had more time to work in my gardens and complete some new projects. I have seven separate growing areas at my home. Many of the plants that I grow multiply and then I separate and divide to transplant in other locations or share with other members and friends. Cultivating is important as a gardener, and I do several cutting and root stem methods. I propagate seed in container trays or with wildflowers I sow them directly in the soil. I like to always have something blooming in my gardens throughout the four seasons.

MENTOR OF THE YEAR

Recipient is chosen by the NMGC President

The Mentor of the Year award is given to the member of NM Garden Clubs that has shown themselves to be a “Mentor” to others by their actions as a trusted guide and teacher to all members - conveying their experience and expertise while increasing confidence, performance, and leadership abilities in other Members of NM Garden Clubs,

2020 Mentor of the Year

Suzy Andrego

Uptown Garden Club

A letter from Christine Longthorp, President

During these past two years I have needed a very different kind of support as we faced shut down and months to years of pandemic uncertainty due to Covid 19. To maintain contact and keep clubs viable as NMGC President at this time has been uncharted and at times I have felt discouraged and unsure how to proceed.

The person I have chosen for this award has been a mentor for many people over a number of years in a myriad of ways. Her list of accomplishments is long and extensive and through the years she has been recognized and admired by so many and for so much. For me she was always available to ask a quick question, text or phone call. She warmly welcomed me into her home to listen and encourage me to use my personality and reach out to keep NMGC operable and ready to move into action once we were ready to meet. Not once did I feel I was a burden to her or

MENTOR OF THE YEAR – Contd.

criticized for needing to lean on her shoulder. She met me on the same level of love for New Mexico Garden Clubs and our common goal was for the life of our organization to be successful and a source of joy for all members.

Her attitude of “Mi casa e Su casa” and her supreme generosity in almost every area of her life is unmatched in my friendships. I happily and gratefully award Mentor of the Year to Suzy Andrego.

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Recipient is chosen by the NMGC President.

Award: Silver Medallion depicting the NMGC, Inc. Seal.

This award was begun in 1990 at the 41st State Convention. Twenty-three Silver Medallions were a gift from Dr. Thomas Todson and were presented to members who had made special contributions to NMGC, Inc. in the past. Medallions for the continuation of this Special Achievement Award from 1991-1999 were given by June Wood. One Gold Medallion (also donated by Mrs. Wood) was presented at the 51st Anniversary Convention in the year 2000 to the member deemed to have done the most for NMGC, Inc., during the years 1991 – 2000. The winner was chosen by a committee consisting of the NMGC, Inc., President, 1st Vice President and the NMGC Inc., Awards Chairman.

This award continued from 2001 to 2010 through the generosity of Sue Graves with one Silver Medallion awarded each year to a member who has made special contributions to NMGC, Inc. This Special Achievement Award is given at the Annual Convention. The winner will be chosen by the NMGC, Inc., President. Colleen Hinker has continued the tradition of the Silver Medallion Award to 2020. Sally Warner, former, NMGC President, has generously provided for the Silver Medallion award to be continued, through the year 2030.

2020 Special Achievement Award

Not Awarded

BEGINNING DESIGNER

Kate Yu

*High Desert Design Club
Design 'Green Wonder'*

BIRDS

1st Place Individual

Selvi Viswanathan

Los Alamos Garden Club

2nd Place Individual

Dorothy Duff

Valley Garden Club

3rd Place Individual

Shar Marquez

El Jardin Encanto Garden Club

HM Individual

Ginny Longbotham

Petal Pushers Garden Club

BUTTERFLY GARDENING IN NEW MEXICO

1st Place Individual

Selvi Viswanathan

Los Alamos Garden Club

2nd Place Individual

Shar Marquez

El Jardin Encanto Garden Club

BUTTERFLY GARDENING – Contd.

3rd Place Individual
Shirley Tetreault
High Desert Design Garden Club

CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

*NGC, Inc. Certificate for individuals who have been members
of an accredited garden club for 20 or more years.*

No Entries

CIVIC DEVELOPMENT

*This award is for landscape projects in public areas. Such areas include:
schools, civic buildings, hospitals, shopping areas, cemeteries, roadsides,
historic sites, enhancement of parks, trails, small pocket gardens, street plantings,
etc.*

Artesia Garden Club
1st Place, Class I

Pecos Valley Youth Garden Club
1st Place, Youth

CLUB HISTORY

Best Club History
Sunshine Valley Garden Club

Sunshine Valley Garden Club
1st Place, Class I

CLUB HISTORY – Contd.

Artesia Garden Club
2nd Place, Class I

Santa Rosa Garden Club
3rd Place, Class I

Petal Pushers Garden Club
1st Place, Class II

Morning Garden Club
2nd Place, Class II

Los Alamos Garden Club
3rd Place, Class II

High Desert Design Garden Club
1st Place, Class III

Lincoln County Garden Club
2nd Place, Class III

FAIR FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULES

No Entries

MEMBER OF DISTINCTION CITATION

Individual Award nominated by Club President. Candidate must have been an active member of NMGC, Inc., for 14 years and still be actively participating in Club activities

No Entries

FOOD GARDENING

Julie Foster

Artesia Garden Club

1st Place

Renate Reisel

Home Garden Club and Morning Garden Club

2nd Place

GARDEN THERAPY

Artesia Garden Club

1st Place, Class I

LITTER CONTROL AND RECYCLING

Pecos Valley Youth Garden Club

1st Place, Youth

LONGEVITY AWARD

This award is for a Club project that has been maintained by members for over three years. This award gives recognition for the patience and dedication it takes to continue a program or project for many years.

No Entries

MEMBERSHIP INCREASE AWARD

The club gaining the most members.

Petal Pushers Garden Club

1st Place Percentage new members

1st Place Most New Members

6 new members (29% Increase)

High Desert Design

4 new members (14% Increase)

Valley Gardeners

4 new members (12% Increase)

Uptown Garden Club

3 new members (10% Increase)

Morning Garden Club

2 new members (10% increase)

New Mexico Floral Artists

1 new member (8% Increase)

Artesia Garden Club

1 new member (6% Increase)

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT OF THE YEAR

Selvi Viswanathan

“Juniper Hairstreak on Black-eyed Susan”

Los Alamos Garden Club

1st Place

Bird Photo

Xuelan Lopez

Santa Rosa Garden Club

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT OF THE YEAR – Contd.

2nd Place

Bird Photo

Page Steed

Angel Fire Garden Club

1st Place

Butterfly Photo

Selvi Viswanathan

Los Alamos Garden Club

2nd Place

Butterfly Photo

Shirley Tetreault

High Desert Design Club

1st Place

Horticulture Specimen Photo

Page Steed

Angel Fire Garden Club

2nd Place

Horticulture Specimen Photo

Jacqui Binford-Bell

Angel Fire Garden Club

1st Place

Insect Photo

Page Steed

Angel Fire Garden Club

2nd Place

Insect Photo

Margie Lappin

Uptown Garden Club

PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINT OF THE YEAR – Contd.

1st Place

Landscape Scene Photo

Page Steed

Angel Fire Garden Club

2nd Place

Landscape Scene Photo

Patricia Williams

High Desert Design Club

1st Place

Wildlife Photo

Selvi Viswanathan

Los Alamos Garden Club

2nd Place

Wildlife Photo

Page Steed

Angel Fire Garden Club

SCHOLARSHIP

Laney White

Laney White is a Junior at New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, majoring in Ag. Business and Economics. Laney's goal is to receive a master's degree in Ag. Business with a concentration on Natural Resources from NMSU. As a lifelong rural resident of New Mexico and a farming community, she appreciates the everyday contributions that small community farms make in our lives. Laney will use her degree to help small farmers and ranchers gain access to the most up-to-date programs, in order to keep their operations successful for themselves and future generations of their families.

SCRAPBOOK

No Entries

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE

This serves as an evaluative overview for your Club's program year.

Program Year is January 1st through December 31st, annually.

Valley Gardeners Garden Club
Top Point Earner (500 Points)

Artesia Garden Club
1st Place Standard of Excellence,
Class I (350 Points)

Santa Rosa Garden Club
2nd Place Standard of Excellence,
Class I (120 Points)

Morning Garden Club
1st Place Standard of Excellence,
Class II (335 Points)

Los Alamos Garden Club
2nd Place Standard of Excellence,
Class II (250 Points)

Petal Pushers Garden Club
3rd Place Standard of Excellence,
Class II (145 Points)

Valley Gardeners Garden Club
1st Place Standard of Excellence
Class III (500 points)

STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE-Contd.

High Desert Design Garden Club
2nd Place Standard of Excellence
Class III (395 points)

TREES

Walter B. Suhr Memorial Award
Morning Garden Club
1st Place

WATER CONSERVATION

No Entries

WILDFLOWERS AND NATIVE PLANTS

No Entries

WORLD GARDENING

For Contributions to World Gardening, and International and National Disasters, e.g., Heifer International, Habitat for Humanity, Penny Pines, etc.

Artesia Garden Club
High Desert Design Club
Los Alamos Garden Club
Morning Garden Club
Petal Pushers Garden Club
Santa Rosa Garden Club
Valley Gardeners Garden Club

YEARBOOKS

Pat Edmonds Memorial Award For the Best Yearbook
Lincoln County Garden Club

Petal Pushers Garden Club
2nd Place Yearbooks, Class II

Lincoln County Garden Club
1st Place Yearbooks, Class III

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

No entries

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB AWARDS

New Mexico Garden Club – “New Mexico Gardener”
1st Place, Newsletter, Magazine or Bulletin 13-24 Pages
pub 1-3 Ci

New Mexico Garden Club – “New Mexico Gardener”
1st Place, Newsletter, Magazine or Bulletin Over 24 Pages
pub 1-4 Ci

New Mexico Garden Club - “Photography Awards”
1st Place, NGC Publication Award – Educational –
pub 2-2 Ci

Laney Eva White
NGC Scholarship Recipient, June P. Wood \$4000 Award

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION AWARDS

Jennifer Tekut

1st Place, High School Essay Contest, \$75.00 Award

New Mexico Garden Clubs

1st Place, State Newsletter, \$25.00 Award

Lincoln County Garden Club

1st place, Yearbook 30-40 members

**Special thanks are extended to the following generous sponsors of
the New Mexico Garden Clubs, Inc., awards program:**

Suzy Andrego
Lincoln County Garden Club
Nancy Hartwick
(in memory of Agnes A. Kelly)
Morning Garden Club
(in memory of Rene McCoy)
NMGC's Inc.
NM Judges Council
Dodi and Bryan Suhr
Summit Garden Club