



**Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
South Central Region, National Garden Clubs, Inc.**

The Arkansas Gardener

JUNE 2026

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Find it fast...

AFGC website:

arkansasfgc.net

SCR website:

scrgardenclubs.org

NGC website:

gardenclub.org

(input email&password
- set up the 1st time
accessing)

NGC Member Services

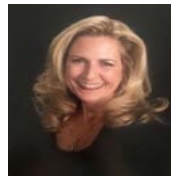
1-800-550-6007

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News from Nancy Rana, AFGC State President 2025-2027



"Cultivating Flowers & Friendship"

As I reflect on the past few months, I am amazed by the energy, enthusiasm, and dedication of our Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs members. Spring is always a busy season, but this year has been especially rewarding as we celebrated achievements, welcomed new opportunities, and shared our love of gardening across the state and beyond.

Our annual convention, hosted by the NW District, in Hot Springs was a wonderful success. With our "Run for the Roses" theme, members enjoyed educational presentations focused on roses, a festive style show, and plenty of laughter during the club presidents' pool noodle horse race. It was a perfect blend of learning, fellowship, and fun—everything that makes garden club membership special. A very special thank you to convention co-chairmen, Ann York and Melissa Dean, for their hard work and attention to detail to ensure a fabulous meeting.

One of the most exciting developments for AFGC is the launch of the Arkansas Zoom N Bloom Hybrid Garden Club, which begins in August. This innovative club combines virtual and in-person participation, making it possible for individuals from every corner of Arkansas—and even beyond our state borders—to become involved. We hope this new format will help us reach potential members in areas where traditional clubs are not readily available while providing additional educational opportunities for everyone. We are also pleased to welcome Grow Native Bella Vista as our newest garden club. Growth and outreach remain important priorities, and these additions strengthen our organization for the future.

Arkansas members also represented our state proudly at both regional and national meetings this spring. Eleven members traveled to San Antonio for the South Central Region meeting, where we enjoyed fellowship with gardeners from across the region and celebrated numerous award-winning accomplishments. Our sincere thanks go to Awards Chairmen Sherrie Eoff and Debbie Main for their tireless efforts in preparing our award submissions.

Soon afterward, twelve Arkansas members attended the National Garden Clubs Convention in St. Louis.

We were especially proud of Ronna Smith, Rose Schultz, and Nancy Voyles, who participated in the Patriotic Petite Flower Show, "America the Beautiful." We also celebrated Debbie Main's recognition as the recipient of the South Central Region Service and Recognition Award and Rose Schultz as a Five Star Award recipient. Arkansas continues to be well

(Continued on Page 2)

(Cont. from page 1, **News from Nancy Rana, AFGC State President 2025-2027**)

represented at every level, and our members' achievements bring great pride to our state organization. The awards we received at SCR and NGC will be presented at the Mid Year Board meeting on August 4-5 at the Wyndham Grand Hotel in Little Rock.

The season concluded with our state flower show, "Down the Rabbit Hole of Gardening," written by Teresa Shannon. This outstanding show featured design classes, botanical arts horticulture, botanical arts design, horticulture exhibits, and educational exhibits. Thanks to the hard work of our chairmen, members, judges, vendors, and sponsors, we came close to reaching our goal of 400 horticulture entries. The many compliments we received reflected the creativity, talent, and dedication that AFGC members bring to every project.

As we look ahead, I encourage everyone to make plans to attend our Mid-Year Board Meeting, which will be held August 4–5 at the Wyndham Grand Hotel in Little Rock. Hosted by the Pulaski District, this promises to be an informative and enjoyable meeting that you won't want to miss. Please be sure to complete the registration form included in this issue.

National Garden Week was celebrated June 7–13. Many of our clubs planned special activities to promote gardening, engage their communities, and celebrated the many benefits that gardens bring to our lives. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the work of our clubs and inspire others to join our mission of beautification, conservation, and education.

As summer unfolds, I hope you take time to enjoy your gardens, share your knowledge with others, and find inspiration in the beauty that surrounds us. Thank you for all you do to support AFGC and your local communities. Together, we continue to grow friendships, promote gardening, and make Arkansas a more beautiful place.

Happy gardening!

Nancy



Still Coming to Your Area – Zoom & Bloom Garden Club

We are still working out the exact details, such as day of the week to meet, time, online membership dues, etc. but our first Zoom & Bloom meeting will be in August. Virtual clubs allow membership at the State level and provide garden club activities via online/ virtual means such as zoom, etc.

We will be reaching out to past clubs who for various reasons were not able to continue as AFGC affiliates, as well as contacts sent to us by NGC for people who are interested in joining a garden club but AFGC had no nearby clubs. Anyone, even if you are a current garden club member, is invited to join our virtual club also. There is some preparation for this type of project and that is where we are now, collecting data and setting up our processes. We would especially love to have videos of member gardens, local public gardens, vignettes, etc. We have a Zoom&Bloom YouTube channel set up so we can store these types of videos where they will be accessible to our membership. We will have signs and more information available at our August 4-5 Mid-Year Board meeting in Little Rock.

Anyone who is interested in helping with this type of project or who has videos please contact Terri Waterman, terriafgc@gmail.com, 405-821-9587 and let her know.

*******2026 AFGC MID-YEAR BOARD MEETING REGISTRATION*******

DON'T MISS OUR 2026 AFGC MID-YEAR BOARD MEETING IN LITTLE ROCK – THE REGISTRATION FORM IS INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE. WE ARE FINALIZING PLANS FOR ONLINE/ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION AND HOPE TO HAVE IT GOING SOON. BE SURE TO CHECK THE AFGC WEBSITE OFTEN: www.arkansasfgc.net

YOU ARE STILL WELCOME TO PRINT AND FILL OUT THE FORM IN THIS ISSUE OR ON THE WEBSITE AT ANY TIME, AND MAIL TO OUR REGISTRAR BEFORE **JULY 15**, 2026.

THE PLANNING COMMITTEE IS SO EXCITED TO OFFER TWO FULL DAYS OF ENTERTAINING AND UPLIFTING EVENTS SO WE HOPE A RECORD NUMBER OF MEMBERS CAN ATTEND.

OUR MINI BREAK-OUT SESSIONS ON TUESDAY ARE DESIGNED TO RELAX, REFRESH AND REJUVENATE YOUR MIND AND BODY.

~~~ FOR ALL OUR EVENTS, YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO WEAR RESORT WEAR THAT IS RELAXING AND COMFORTABLE. WE CARRY OUR RELAXATION THEME INTO THE TUESDAY EVENING PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION AND JUDGES COUNCIL DINNER.~~~

OUR JUDGES COUNCIL HAS PLANNED A DELICIOUS DINNER AND AN EXCITING PROGRAM, 'THE MAGIC OF MOSS'. HOW TO MAKE AND USE KOKEDAMA MOSS BALLS TO GROW AND EXHIBIT HORTICULTURE, AS WELL AS USING THAT KOKEDAMA TO BUILD INTERESTING TABLESCAPES FOR YOUR HOME OR EVENT.

YOU MAY HAVE SEEN OUR WEDNESDAY LUNCH PROGRAM SPEAKER ON GARDEN SHOWS SUCH AS GARDEN SMART OR VARIOUS YOUTUBE CHANNELS – WE ARE VERY LUCKY TO HAVE TODD LASSEIGNE, DIRECTOR OF BELLINGRATH GARDENS IN ALABAMA, AS OUR SPEAKER. HE WILL TALK ABOUT AND SHOW PICTURES OF THE BEAUTIFUL RESTORATION OF A LEGACY GARDEN. HE IS AN ENGAGING SPEAKER AND EXPERIENCED HORTICULTURIST WHO CAN ANSWER QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT HAVE ON DESIGNING OR REJUVENATING YOUR OWN LANDSCAPE.

PLEASE MAKE TIME ON YOUR BUSY CALENDARS TO JOIN US IN AUGUST.





## 2026 AFGC Mid-Year Board Meeting

August 4 – 5, 2026

Wyndham Grand Executive Center Little Rock Airport

3201 Bankhead Drive, Little Rock, AR

Call 501-490-1000 Block Code #080326AFG

\$102.00 + tax includes breakfast

**'Renew – Refresh – Rejuvenate'**

Registration Info: make checks payable to 'Pulaski District'

Mail to Registrar: Brenda McGee, 615 Garnett Road, Star City, AR 71667

(870) 510-4344 - Brendamcgee5858@yahoo.com

### Agenda:

**All Events to be held in the Kittyhawk Ball Room**

#### Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>

Registration from 11-6

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. Finance Committee Meeting

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Executive Committee Meeting

11:30 - 12:00 p.m. District Directors Meeting

1:00 p.m. Welcome

#### **1:30 – 3:45 Breakout Sessions – Rejuvenate Your Senses**

#1 - Make Your Own Lavender Bath Salt and Enjoy Rosemary Tea

#2 - Massage Therapy - Tips and Techniques to ease your gardening aches

#3 - Design A Sensory Garden

5:00 – 5:45 p.m. President's Reception Bi-level "Blooms and Bubbles"

6:00 - p.m. - Arkansas Judges Council Dinner and Meeting, **Program: "The Magic of Moss"** presented by Jean Moser, Marsha Oliver and Terri Waterman

#### Wednesday August 5<sup>th</sup>

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. - Business Meeting

12:00 p.m.- Lunch

12:45 p.m. - **Program: "Rejuvenating a Legacy Garden"** presented by Dr. Todd Lasseigne, Director, Bellingrath Gardens, Theodore, AL

1:30 Unfinished Business

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#### **Return Check One**

**Pre-registration and payment required by July 15, 2026**

Full Registration: (Includes registration fee and all events) \_\_\_\_\_ \$125

One Day Registration for Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ \$85

One Day Registration for Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ \$85

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ . Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ . Garden Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_ . City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Meal Restrictions:** \_\_\_\_\_ please note that efforts will be made to accommodate your dietary requirements to the best of our ability.

CHECK ALL CLASSIFICATIONS THAT APPLY: AFGC Member \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
Club President \_\_\_\_\_ District Director \_\_\_\_\_ AFGC Life Member \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Time Attendees

**AFGC STATE CONVENTION APRIL 14-15, 2026**  
**'RUN FOR THE ROSES'**  
 DOUBLETREE BY HILTON, HOT SPRINGS, AR



Lovely themed tablescapes

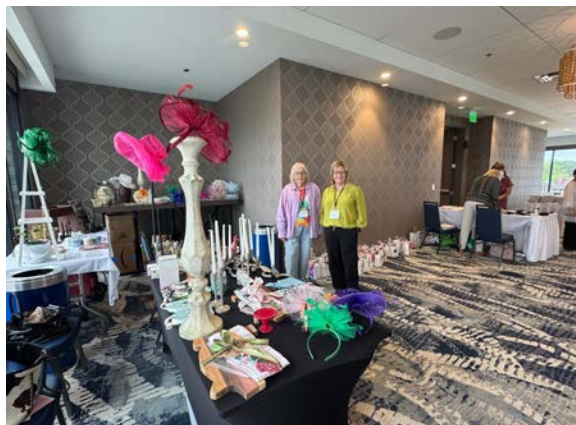


Above: Ready for their AFGC knowledge question & answer 'race' to the finish.  
 L-R: Teresa Shannon (Hughes Town&Country GC), Amber Bunker (SE District Director/Lake Village GC), Ronna Smith (GC of Rogers), Rita Bintliff (Iris GC)



L: Gerri Hoerner (NW District Director/ GC of Rogers), looking chic while modelling in a fashion show fundraiser provided by Accessory Gallery in Hot Springs.

R: Ann York (President-Elect) & Melissa Ennis (GC of Conway) 'horsing around'



L: Candy Rowe & Gail Williams (Friends & Flowers GC), State Ways & Means Chairmen. Derby Hats for sale as well as garden related items donated by many AFGC members. Monies from Ways & Means go towards meeting expenses.

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGION CONVENTION, APRIL 27-29, 2026**

SEVERAL OF OUR AFGC BOARD & MEMBERS ATTENDED THE SCR MEETING IN SAN ANTONIO, TX WHERE THEY ENJOYED A TOUR OF THE ALAMO AND A CANAL RIDE \*\*\*\*\*. CHECK OUT OUR AFGC FACEBOOK PAGE FOR MORE PHOTOS \*\*\*\*\*  
(A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO DENNIS ELLIS FOR MANY OF THE PICTURES OF THE MEETINGS)



L-R: Brenda McGee (Star City GC), Rose Knight (Primrose GC), Debbie Main (GC of Rogers), Nancy Rana (AFGC President/Iris GC), Deb Williams (formerly Petit Jean GC), Pam Ellis (NE District Director/Hughes Town&Country GC), Sherrie Eoff (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/GC of Rogers), Ronna Smith (GC of Rogers), Jean Moser (Designer's GC)

**NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS NATIONAL CONVENTION, MAY 4-5, 2026**

OUR AFGC BOARD & MEMBERS HAD A BUSY FEW MONTHS  
THIS TIME THEY ATTENDED THE NATIONAL NGC MEETING IN ST. LOUIS, MO WHERE OUR NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS IS HOUSED AND SEVERAL ENTERED A PETITE FLOWER SHOW THAT WAS PROVIDED.



Seated L-R: Ronna Smith & Rose Schultz (GC of Rogers), Marsha Oliver (VG Design Study Club), Nancy Voyles (Harrisburg GC)  
Standing L-R: Amber Bunker (SE District Director/Lake Village GC), Nancy Rana (AFGC President/Iris GC), Rose Knight (Designer's Study Club)  
Not pictured: Ann York & Melissa Ennis (GC of Conway), Pam Ellis (NE District Director/Hughes Town & Country GC)

## THE 2026 AFGC SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

The AFGC Scholarship is awarded to offer financial aid to a college student pursuing a master's degree in Horticulture, Landscape Design, Environmental Concerns, Botany, Agricultural Education, and/or other allied subjects. The Arkansas Scholarship winner is then sent through SCR, which winner is then sent to NGC for consideration.

Our Arkansas Scholarship winner first won \$3,000 from Garden Club of Rogers, then won \$1,000 from AFGC, monies from SCR and then won the national scholarship of \$4,000. That is quite a help with today's educational costs – Full details are on our arkansasfgc.net website, and scholarship applications must be submitted to AFGC Scholarship Chairman by February 1<sup>st</sup>.



My name is Sophia Mahmoud, and I will be a junior at the University of Arkansas in the Fall, where I am double majoring in Earth science and philosophy. Being awarded the Garden Club scholarship at the local, state, and national level is a great honor, and I am grateful for this recognition and support.

I have previously volunteered at the Jane B. Gearhart Full Circle Food Pantry's Community Garden at the University of Arkansas and been part of the Philosophy Club. Last semester, I had the opportunity to study abroad in England and am currently an Environmental Intern with the Federal Highway Administration Massachusetts Division. In the Fall, I will begin my honors thesis.

This scholarship will allow me to concentrate more of my time on learning and pursuing my extracurriculars. After my undergraduate studies, I plan to attend graduate school to study atmospheric science or Earth science, with a focus on atmospheric chemistry and pursue a career in public service and research.

I appreciate the Garden Club's commitment to supporting students' success, and I am proud and grateful to be one of this year's recipients.

Sincerely,

Sophia Mahmoud

### **FOR YOUR GARDEN LIBRARY**

*Hydrangeas for American Gardens*, Michael Dirr

*Viburnums, Flowering Shrubs for Every Season*, Michael Dirr

*The Reference Manual of Woody Plants*, Michael Dirr

*The Essential Guide to Bulbs*, Jenny Rose Carey

*Glorious Shade*, Jenny Rose Carey

*Containers in the Garden*, Claus Dalby

*The Rose Bible*, Rayford Clayton Reddell

*Buffalo Style Gardens*, Sally Cunningham/Jim Charlier

(If you have a favorite garden book, drop me a line and I'll add to the next newsletter...Terri)

## A Gardeners Guide to Fantastic Containers!



Hello, AFGC Friends. I am Ray Owens, and I am a horticulturalist, President of the Night Bloomers in Central Arkansas, and an avid gardener. I have heard from so many of you who liked my last piece in the Arkansas Gardener. It was about mycorrhizal fungus products as a way to help build healthy soil and plant roots, and I truly appreciate all your positive comments. Many of you have asked for more articles, and I am always willing to talk gardening! Since it is summer, I thought it would be a fantastic time to share my tips and tricks for creating and taking care of healthy and beautiful containers for your garden.

Before we can start talking about putting plants into a container, we must cover some horticultural basics. First, you must know your growing conditions. We have all heard this before because it really is vital for success. Second, we must choose the right container for those conditions. Growing conditions really form the basis for all of our gardening decisions. As you walk around your space and decide where you want to place a container, you need to know if the planter is in full shade, full sun, or a mix of sun and shade. If the planter is in a mix of sun and shade, is it morning sun or afternoon sun? This can have an effect on growing success and can really make a difference. Is your container going to be sheltered? Really consider if the location is going to be protected from wind and pests. Does your garden require hand watering or can the container be on an irrigation system? If it is not watered using an irrigation system, how often will it be getting water? You have to consider your daily routine when choosing which plants to place in containers. Do not choose a plant that needs a high volume of water if your routine does not allow you to give it the attention it needs. All of this information will help guide your decisions and allow you to choose plant material that will thrive in containers.

Making the right decision with regards to the container itself is also important. Containers vary, not only in size, but in material make-up as well. There are many factors to consider when choosing a container. Do you want large or small, plastic or concrete, dark or light color? All these choices will make a difference in the amount of care you will need to provide and whether your plants will thrive or not. If you use a plastic container in a full-sun situation, it is going to dry out rapidly. This will be especially true if it is a dark color that absorbs heat rapidly. If you have access to concrete or double walled planters that provides more insulating ability from heat that container would be a better choice for full sun. If you use a porcelain container, it could freeze and crack in the winter, which will likely require you to empty it and put it away during cold months. Base your choice not only on the look of the container but also on your lifestyle and commitment level.

Soil is another important aspect that could help or hinder the success of container plants. This is not the place to skimp, and you will want to use a good quality soil blend. Do not use dirt out of the ground or existing garden soil. Both of these options tend to be dense and retain too much water. Using ground soil can cause nutrient binding issues. You need a lofty, well drained mix for container gardening that will allow your plant roots to be able to spread out, bulk up, and absorb nutrients. Mix in some good compost or use a starter fertilizer. As you all know from my last article, I use Espoma Bio-Tone!!

Plant choice is critical, and there are several things you need to consider when choosing the right one. Is the plant for full sun, shade, or a mix? Is the plant drought tolerant or a water lover? If your container is in an open area, are the plants resistant to pests such as deer and bunnies? Does the plant fit the esthetic in your mind? Container plants can be perennials, annuals, shrubs, or

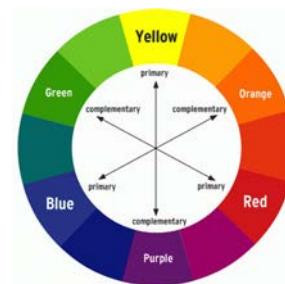
(continued on page

(continued from page 7 – A Gardener’s Guide to Fantastic Containers!))

vines. A good choice is anything that will work for the location and conditions of your planter. If putting more than one kind of plant in the container, choose the ones that need the same conditions. Keep light and water requirements in mind when making your plant selections. Do not put a shade-loving Hosta in a container with a sun-loving petunia. The Hosta will sun burn and wilt in the sun, and the petunia will struggle in the shade.

Keep light and water requirements in mind when making your plant selections. Do not put a shade-loving Hosta in a container with a sun-loving petunia. The Hosta will sun burn and wilt in the sun, and the petunia will struggle in the shade. As far as the aesthetics of the container, use a tried-and-true container plan, plant using a thriller, a spiller, and a filler. A thriller is your centerpiece plant. It should be the largest plant in the container or could be the most likely to stand out. Your thriller needs to provide upward visual interest and could be things such as shrubs, grasses, tall perennials, or roses. There are many possibilities! A spiller is a plant that will literally spill or drape over the edges of the container and provide visual interest downward. Use dichondra, sweet potato vine, petunias, or wire vine. A filler is the plant that fills the container and gives bulk and standard visual interest to the whole presentation. Use Hosta, geraniums, small shrubs, petunias, Angelonia, or baby’s-breath. The important thing to remember is pick things that look good to you.

Keeping a basic understanding of the color wheel will also help. Remember in the world of color, opposites attract. And do not forget to vary the textures you choose for your containers. The finished product looks best when you mix colors and textures. Use ornamental grasses, shrubs, perennials, or annuals with different foliage sizes and types to provide visual interest. The varying textures will elevate the look of your containers!



Lastly, let’s talk about care & maintenance. The number one rule for care is DO NOT forget to water your plants. Summer has longer days and warmer temperatures. Full-sun containers will sometimes need to be watered two to three times per day to keep them happy. At the very least, most containers will need daily watering. Be careful not to over saturate the soil if you have water-sensitive plants. Letting plants sit in water for extended periods of time may not be ideal, so allow them to dry out between waterings. However, for full-sun containers, this should not be a problem. Once you have the watering schedule figured out, be sure to fertilize frequently! Summer plants grow fast, and some varieties continually flower. Frequent flowering means they need LOTS of energy, so weekly or bi-weekly fertilization is recommended. Checking your containers daily is a great practice. This will allow you to track watering, promptly address issues like pests or disease, and make adjustments as the plants grow.

Whether you are new to container gardening or are a seasoned pro, I hope these ideas, tips, and tricks help! Most importantly, I hope this article will inspire you to get in the garden, get your hands dirty, and create something beautiful.



*Ray*

## 2026 FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL COURSE III REGISTRATION FORM

### WHO WE ARE

The Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. is a nonprofit educational organization founded in 1931. AFGC is a member of National Garden Clubs, Inc. with a membership of 150,000, as well as international Affiliates, making NGC one of the largest garden-related volunteer organizations in the world. Our members create a powerful voice and expansive network for advancing common interests.

### WHAT WE DO

Education-Horticulture-Conservation-Floral Design-Landscaping-Recycling-Youth Gardening-Historic Preservation-Roadside Beautification-Civic Service-Blue Star Memorials-Disaster Relief-Garden Therapy



### FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL

#### COURSE 3

August 24-27, 2026

Wyndam Grand Conference Center  
3201 Bankhead Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72206-3731

Sponsored by:  
**Arkansas Judges Council**

Rose Knight, FSS Chairman  
110 Maple Ct.  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923-9385  
jkknight@suddenlink.net  
501-519-3505

Nancy Rana, FSS Vice Chairman  
350 Plantation Drive E  
Heber Springs, AR 72543-9090  
nancygmrana@gmail.com  
501-206-7401

Rose Knight, FSS Registrar  
110 Maple Ct.  
Arkadelphia, AR 71923-9385  
jkknight@suddenlink.net  
501-519-3505

### Required Reading

*The National Gardener* (available online)  
*Handbook for Flower Shows 2017 Rev. Edition*  
July 24  
*Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging*  
*Designing by Types*

Credit students are required to bring Handbook for Flower Shows 2017 Revised Edition to class. 2017 Edition (Corrected July 2024) is available on the NGC website for free download. [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

### LODGING

Wyndam Grand, Little Rock  
3201 Bankhead Drive  
501-490-1000 Rate of \$103 + Tax  
Flower Show School (a link for reservations at hotel will be emailed later)

NOTE: Instructors and FSS Administrators will be staying here. All classes are held in the hotel.

If more information is needed please call Rose at 501-519-3505

### SUBJECTS TO BE STUDIED

Flower Show Procedure  
Instructor: Jan Griffin  
Horticulture – Succulents & Dish Gardens  
Instructor: Jan Griffin  
Design – Creative Design  
Instructor: Claudia Bates

**ATTENDEES ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING Specimens of succulents and dish gardens**

**Flower Show School** is a comprehensive program that teaches all you need to know about judging, entering, competing, and chairing an NGC flower show. There are four courses each scheduled over a 2-3 day period, and each with a specific curriculum that includes horticulture, design, and flower show procedure (FSP). If you are considering becoming a flower show judge, planning to chair a flower show, or simply want to learn more, your first step is to attend **Course I**. Subjects are taught by qualified instructors and outlines will be provided.

Interested in learning more about flower shows? Visit our [NGC FLOWER SHOWS PAGE](http://www.gardenclub.org) on the NGC website [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

Examples of horticulture and design are displayed and critiqued. Learn point-scoring to evaluate how entries are judged and see what it takes to get the blue ribbon. Learn about awards, types of shows, and what committees are needed to produce a show. We invite you to join this unique experience and become an active part of flower shows. See the *NGC Handbook for Flower Shows* and all related forms on our website.

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Garden Club: \_\_\_\_\_

#### PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| ___ Judges & Student Judges  | \$150.00 |
| ___ Entire Course Credit     | \$170.00 |
| ___ 3-day course Audit       | \$160.00 |
| ___ 1-day PT SC /FSP Audit   | \$100.00 |
| ___ 1 day-Horticulture Audit | \$100.00 |
| ___ 1 day-Design Audit       | \$100.00 |

(Dinner Monday, Lunches Tuesday & Wednesday Included)

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Registrations must be received by August 1, 2026**

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL  
MAIL TO ROSE KNIGHT, REGISTRAR  
110 Maple Ct.

Arkadelphia, AR 71923

Instructor Outlines for Course 3 emailed.

**Outlines which must be printed and brought to class.** Credit Students must attend the entire course, be on time and seated when lectures begin and remain until the end of lectures and point scoring.

**Registration and payment required to receive outlines.**

All local garden clubs are encouraged to sponsor and provide registration for at least one member. **Pre-registration & payment required.**

### FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL SCHEDULE

**Monday, August 24, 2026**  
2:30 pm Registration  
2:50 Announcements  
3:00-5:00 pm Flower Show Procedure  
Frances Thrash  
5:45 DINNER  
**Tuesday, August 25, 2026**  
8:00-9:00 am FSP Exam  
9:00-9:15 am Announcements  
9:15-10:45 Horticulture lecture  
Sue Kirkman  
10:45 am -11:00 Break  
11:00 am -12:00 Horticulture cont.  
12:00-1 pm Lunch  
1 pm-2:30 Horticulture cont.  
2:30-2:45 Break  
2:45-3:45 Horticulture cont.  
3:45-4:00 Break  
4:00-5:00 Point Scoring Exam  
**Wednesday, August 26, 2026**  
8:00-9:00 am Horticulture Exam  
9:00-9:15 am Break  
9:15 am-10:45 Design lecture, Frances Thrash  
10:45 am -11:00 Break  
11:00 am -12:00 Design cont.  
12:00-1 pm Lunch  
1 pm-2:30 Design cont.  
2:30-2:45 Break  
2:45-3:45 Design cont.  
3:45-4:00 Break  
4:00-5:00 Point Scoring Exam  
**Thursday, August 27, 2026**  
9:00-10:00 am Design Exam

**CAMDEN GARDEN CLUB STANDARD FLOWER SHOW**  
**"AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL"**  
MARCH 21, 2026

An inspiring memorial to all who have served their country was put together using artifacts from member's family memorabilia, fitting the theme perfectly.



The show was well attended by the public, who enjoyed the beautiful staging and homemade treats.





## NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK - JUNE 7 – 13, 2026

National Garden Week is an opportunity to encourage pride in your community, interest new members, and work with other groups to be part of those efforts. Every year NGC, via their [gardenclub.org](http://gardenclub.org) website, provide templates for posters to use and a proclamation that your city can use to declare the week

AFGC garden clubs around the state celebrated National Garden Week with some wonderful activities. Some examples of their events:

- Combining a membership drive with assembly line for the public to make “Rye Guys”, little cups with faces and planted with grass hair.
- Club and/or Community pot lucks, bringing members together or introducing the club to the community.
- A scavenger hunt where clues were placed at locations that had a tie to the club’s history.
- Distributing bouquets or food around the community, focusing on supportive businesses, nursing homes or schoolteachers.
- Give Back Days, where clubs had work days at locations that have been supportive to their club activities – churches, public buildings/parks, etc.
- Specific activities with schools with garden programs, including providing tools and garden signs the club had made.
- Coordinated garden related programs through the city libraries.
- Planned specific garden activities for this week in their club’s year of programs.
- Put out social media posts highlighting the week and encouraging people to upload photos of favorite plants, garden spots, etc.
- Garden tours of members gardens during the week.

Above were just a few that I saw on social media so I know there were many more.

If your club had NGW activities be sure and send pictures and information to Ginny Vance, our AFGC Facebook administrator, so we can all get ideas for next year.

Some of the AFGC clubs that have Facebook pages are:

- Grow Native Bella Vista
- Bentonville Garden Club/Arkansas
- Garden Club of Rogers
- Night Bloomers Garden Club
- Fancy Plants
- Friends & Flowers Garden Club
- Verna Garvan Design Study Group
- Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



## PICTURES AND TOPICS FROM OUR DESIGN STUDY GROUPS



Verna Garvan Design Study Club members brought Low Profile designs for our June meeting and we studied and judged them. A Low Profile design is an Advanced Design type - a three dimensional design incorporating 3 or more design techniques. Completed design must be at least 4 times long and/or wide as it is high. Design is viewed and judged from above.



The purpose of a Design Study Club is to give NGC Flower Show Judges, and others interested in NGC Design Styles, the opportunity to study, exhibit and practice judging of floral designs and horticulture. There are 3 Design Study Clubs in Arkansas:

- ◇ Floralia Garden Club, Bella Vista
- ◇ Designer's Study Club, Little Rock ([designersstudyclub@gmail.com](mailto:designersstudyclub@gmail.com))
- ◇ Verna Garvan Design Study Club, Hot Springs ([vggardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:vggardenclub@gmail.com))

**"Blooming Art"  
The Garden Club of Rogers  
May 14, 2026  
Small Standard Flower Show  
Interpreting the art of Artists of  
Northwest Arkansas**



Stephanie Henkel's begonia was a Blue Ribbon winner, Grower's Choice award and Award of Horticulture Excellence



Debbie Main's design won a Blue Ribbon, Designer's Choice Section Award, and People's Choice Award



Ronna Smith also had a Blue Ribbon winning design

### **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

**August 4 -5 – AFGC Mid-Year Board Meeting**, ‘Rejuvenate,’ The Wyndham Little Rock, hosted by Pulaski District.

**August 24-27** – Flower Show School Course III, Wyndham Grand Executive Hotel, Little Rock Airport

**October 7** – NW District Meeting, United Methodist Church, Clinton

**October 12** -SE District Meeting, Civic Center, Star City

**October 15** – NE District Meeting, Jonesboro

**October 22** – SW District Meeting, Texarkana

**October 24** – Pulaski District Meeting, St. Stephens Episcopal Church, Jacksonville

**March 1 – 4, 2027** – flower Show School Course IV, Wyndham Grand Executive Hotel-Little Rock Airport

**April 23-24, 2027** – South Central Region Convention, Tulsa, OK

**May 15-17, 2027** – National Garden Club Convention, Madison, WS

**June 24-26, 2027** – Arkansas Judges Symposium, Wyndham Grand Executive Hotel-Little Rock Airport

**August 23-26, 2027** – Flower Show School Course I, Wyndham Grand Executive Hotel-Little Rock Airport

### **CLUB PRESIDENT DEADLINES**

Forms are available via President’s Packet, AFGC Website or your District Director

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**FEBRUARY 1** – Club President Report due to District Director.

**APRIL 1** – Club dues paid to State.

**APRIL 1** – Member listing due in State Office including mailing addresses and 9 digit zip codes. Make note of deceased, dropped, new members, and any changes in address or telephone numbers.

**AUGUST 4-5, 2026** – Attendance, or assigned delegate, at AFGC Mid-Year Board Meeting, Wyndham Grand Executive Hotel-Little Rock Airport, hosted by Pulaski District.

**April 12-13, 2027** – Attendance, or assigned delegate, at AFGC State Convention, Wyndham Grand Executive-Little Rock Airport. There will be a banquet the evening of the 13<sup>th</sup> for installation of State Officers and District Directors.