



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

The Arkansas Gardener



SPECIAL 2026 FLOWER SHOW EDITION "Down the Rabbit Hole of Gardening"

A big thanks to Dennis Ellis, Margaret West & Nancy Rana for some of the pictures that were used.



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Find it fast...

AFGC website:

arkansasfgc.net

SCR website:

scrgardenclubs.org

(password needed for Members section for AFGC/SCR – Check with your club president)

NGC website:

gardenclub.org

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

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News from Nancy Rana, AFGC State President 2025-2027

"Cultivating Flowers & Friendship"



Dear AFGC Members,

What an extraordinary flower show! A heartfelt thank you to those of you who poured your time, talent, creativity, and dedication into this event. The results were truly remarkable.

Together, we not only accomplished our goal, but beautifully brought to life our theme, "Down the Rabbit Hole of Gardening," through breathtaking staging and outstanding presentations.

The countless compliments and accolades we received are a reflection of the incredible work each of you contributed — whether by entering designs, horticulture, botanical arts, educational exhibits, or by assisting with staging, clerking, and entries. Every contribution played an important role in making this show such a memorable success.

Visitors and judges traveled from across the region to experience our show, including guests from Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky, and South Carolina. We also welcomed attendees from all corners of Arkansas, from Rogers and Garfield to Lake Village, Horseshoe Lake to Dumas, Heth to Arkadelphia. It was inspiring to see such widespread participation and enthusiasm.

As we look to the future, I encourage even more members to become involved in upcoming state flower shows. Whether you are a seasoned exhibitor or someone considering participating for the first time, your talents, ideas, and enthusiasm are valued and needed. Flower shows are not only an opportunity to showcase creativity and horticultural excellence, but also a wonderful way to build friendships, inspire others, and promote the mission of AFGC throughout our communities.

Together, we can continue to grow, expand our reach, and make future shows even more successful. With your continued support and participation, the possibilities are endless.

Most importantly, please know how deeply grateful I am for each of you. Your passion, teamwork, and commitment were instrumental in making this state show such a tremendous success. It was truly a joy and privilege to work alongside such talented and dedicated men and women.

With heartfelt appreciation and gratitude,

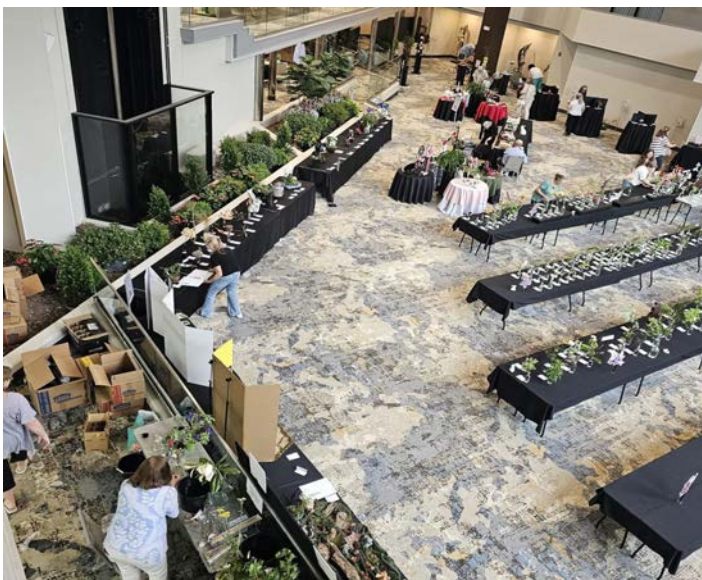
Nancy

It takes a lot of volunteers to put on a flower show at this level – the Committee Chairmen below were an important aspect for coordination and communication:

FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEES

General/Schedule Chairman:	Teresa Shannon
Staging/Properties Chairman:	Nancy Rana
Horticulture Classification/ Entries/Placement Chairman/ Consultant:	Jean Moser
Design Entries/Classification Chairman/ Consultant:	Nancy Voyles
Education Chairman/ Consultant:	Pam Ellis
Botanical Arts Chairmen/ Consultant:	Horticulture: Jean Moser Design: Ronna Smith
Publicity Chairman:	Tracey Bonds
Theme Staging/Table Dressing:	Teresa Shannon/Nancy Rana
Artwork/Signage:	Terri Waterman/Teresa Shannon
Show Inspection:	Nancy Rana/Jean Moser/Rose Knight
Judges Chairman:	Rose Knight
Hospitality Chairman:	Margaret West
Clerks Chairman:	Ann York
Awards Chairman:	Tracey Bonds
Photography/Book of Evidence::	Terri Waterman/Nancy Rana

Think about volunteering for a committee/chairmanship for next year's State Flower Show; it's a great way to experience the flower show process.



Volunteers worked for several days getting the show ready for exhibitors and the public.



The Wyndham Grand Executive Hotel was a wonderful space to present our flower show.

An NGC Major Flower Show
Show
"Down the Rabbit Hole of Gardening"

The entrance to the show invited visitors to 'go down the rabbit hole' into a world of creativity, beauty and wonder.



VOLUNTEERS AND EXHIBITORS ARE VITAL TO A FLOWER SHOW



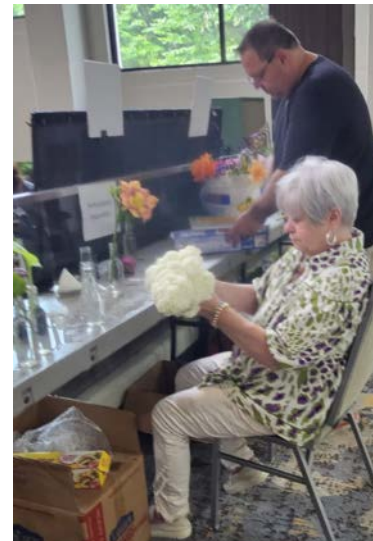
Debbie Main & Sherrie Eoff, GC of Rogers, arriving with their entries



Cynthia Thompson & Jane Holloway, Verandah GC, setting up their Education Exhibit, Smokey Bear/Woody Owl Youth Posters



L: Even the family gets pulled in. Richard Shannon, assembling the photo stop bench.



R: Ray Owens, Nightbloomers GC, & Ann York, GC of Conway, preparing their horticulture exhibits at the prep station.



Bringing in design materials:
L: Marsha Oliver, Verna Garvan Design Study Club
C: Nancy Rana, Iris GC
Background: Amber Bunker, Lake Village GC





L: Ann York, GC of Conway, working on her underwater design

Middle L: Ronna Smith, GC of Rogers, working on her floor design

Middle R: Nancy Voyles, Harrisburg GC, setting up her exhibition table

Bottom: The Design Division fit well into the venue space allotted.





L: Jean Moser, Jacksonville GC, updating her very important horticulture entry book.



The box lunches provided by hotel for pre-purchase were very helpful for Susan Elliott, Little Rock GC, busy prepping her horticulture entries.

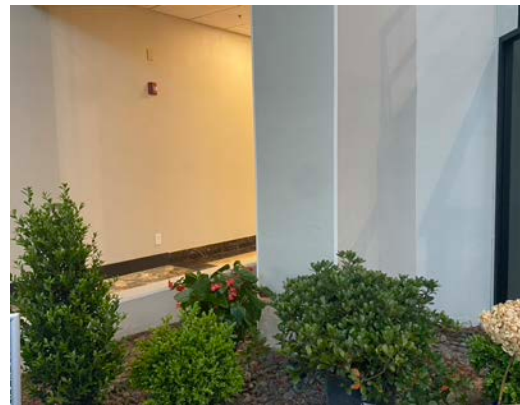
It takes a lot of help to classify and place horticulture in time for the judging.



OUR SPONSORS & VENDORS HELPED MAKE THE SHOW EVEN MORE EXCITING



The generosity of Good Earth Garden Center in loaning us plants helped add a woodland garden feel to the show.



OUR SPONSORS & VENDORS HELPED MAKE THE SHOW EVEN MORE EXCITING



Nancy McGraw was a familiar face as she set up her Just For Pearls table. She also brought along some of her mom's, Nell Freeman, older garden objects to raise funds for Highway GC.



Grand Designs – Notes from the garden

Our planet is all we have!

Home [About Rand Retzliff & Grand Designs](#) [Landscape Photos – Let us create your sanctuary!](#) [Blog](#) [Contact](#)

Rand Retzliff and his wife provided wonderful native plants for sale at his Grand Designs table.

About Rand Retzliff & Grand Designs



A native of Little Rock, Rand began work in 1985 in the gardening/nursery industry. Since 1994 he has worked as owner/operator & landscape designer of Grand Designs, a small landscape company that specializes in shade gardens and native gardens in natural settings. Through the years Rand has received several Arkansas Flower and Garden show awards. The American Society of Landscape Architects has awarded him the "Contractor's Award of Excellence". Rand is an Arkansas Certified Nursery & Landscape Professional. His hobbies include golfing, fishing and playing drums for several bands. Our small crew of friendly, courteous professionals cares about your project and will make sure your experience with our company is a good one. Most of our business comes from referrals from satisfied customers.

FIND US

Address
1720 N. Mississippi Little Rock, Arkansas 72207

Phone 501.224.8580

Hours Nursery by appointment only. Call 501.224.8580 to set an appointment.

ABOUT THIS SITE

Grand Designs specializes in designing shade gardens that compliment the natural surroundings and utilize regional and Arkansas native plants. You can see some examples of our work on the Landscape Photos page. Appointments to visit the nursery are necessary as we are usually away creating someone's dream landscape!



Susan Rose, Designer's Study Club, manned the Central Arkansas Iris Society table, and even sold a few iris.

THE BEAUTY OF THE SHOW



There were 398 horticulture entries, including Cut and Container grown plants as well as Collections and Displays.



**ABOVE: Display of Ferns
AWARD OF HORTICULTURAL EXCELLENCE**



THE BEAUTY OF THE SHOW

**DESIGN DIVISION
SECTION A
BLUE RIBBON WINNERS**

**SECTION TOP EXHIBITOR AWARD
TABLE ARTISTRY AWARD**



TOP: FUNCTIONAL TABLE FOR 2, 1ST
MIDDLE: EXHIBITION TABLE, 1ST & TABLE
ARTISTRY AWARD
BOTTOM: FUNCTIONAL TRAY FOR 1, 1ST



THE BEAUTY OF THE SHOW

**DESIGN DIVISION
SECTION B
BLUE RIBBON
WINNERS**



L: Creative Design,
1st

**SECTION TOP EXHIBITOR
AWARD
DESIGNER'S CHOICE
AWARD**



Above: Underwater, 1st

R: Floor Design, 1st



THE BEAUTY OF THE SHOW

**DESIGN DIVISION
SECTION C
BLUE RIBBON WINNERS**



**SECTION TOP EXHIBITOR AWARD
ELFIN AWARD**

L: Petite Creative Design, 1st



Above: Petite Traditional Design, 1st



L: Petite Reflective Design, 1st

THE BEAUTY OF THE SHOW

BOTANICAL ARTS HORTICULTURE/DESIGN DIVISION



- Clockwise from Top Left:
- Dried Horticultural specimens
 - Fairy Garden, 1st place
 - Wrist corsage, 1st place
 - Pot-a-fleur, 1st place
 - Hat, 1st place



THE BEAUTY OF THE SHOW

EDUCATION DIVISION



Moss, The Soft Side of Wonderland
1ST place and Educational Award



Other Education Exhibits:

Top R: Youth Bird Poster winners

Bottom R: Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Youth Poster winners

Bottom L: Information on garden clubs and start of new State level hybrid club.



JUDGING

Judges are important for a flower show – this is why Flower Show School is so important. Judges for a State level show come from surrounding states: Texas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Mississippi and Missouri. Clerks are Arkansas Federation of Garden Club members and many are Student Judges.



Top: 6 panels of 3 judges each hit the floor Tuesday afternoon to judge all divisions. Some panels are seen judging the Horticulture Division.

Middle: Margaret West, GC of Conway, clerking for her panel of judges as they judge one of the sections of Design.

Bottom: Teresa Shannon, Hughes Town & Country GC and Flower Show Chairman, addresses the judges and clerks about anything specific to this flower show.





Nancy's
Floor
Design



Joanne Pegler, Verna Garvan Design Study Club, commissioned the Pat Haering Creative Design Award in 2017, to be voted on by any AFGC member attending the flower show. Voters can select any entry in the Design Division, regardless of judged ribbon, that they think is the most creative design in the show. Nancy Voyles was this year's winner for her floor design; the second time her name will go on the award. Jo Krallman, Designer's Study Club, graciously donated to the winner a ceramic design container that had belonged to Pat Haering.



A photo opportunity was available for Visitors to share their visit on social media, garnering attention for AFGC.

STAY TUNED FOR DATES AND DETAILS FOR OUR 2027 AFGC STATE FLOWER SHOW