



Federated Garden Club of Nebraska, Inc.
92nd Annual Meeting
June 5-6, 2026



Call to Order: 9:06 am CST

Presiding : President Rod Ruzanic

Attendees:

Rod Ruzanic, FGCN President

Robbie Kupper, FGCN Treasure

Donna Rouch, Secretary

Jim Rouch, FGCN New Editor

Mary Carlson, Blue and Gold Star Chairman

Bob Carlson

Alice Hemsath

Marcia Croffut, Co-President Ogallala Garden Club

Debbie Suess, Treasurer, Kearney Garden Club

Julie Lester, Convention Planner

Marlene Mahoney

Chris Martin, Convention Planner

Marcos Stoltzfus, Speaker

Derek Rohm

Heather Rohm, President Sidney Garden Club

Grant Nielsen, Scholarship winner and Guest Jocleyn

Welcome: Rod Ruzanic called the meeting to order and welcomed all who were attending. He introduced Marcos Stoltzfus, The Center's Director at Rowe Sanctuary. He believes in the power of nature to spark curiosity and wonder, which can provoke care for the natural world.

Invocation: Marlene Mahoney

Pledge of Allegiance: Bob and Mary Carlson

Credential's Report: Chris Martin

State Officers ,3

State Chairman, 7

Life Members, 7

District Directors, 2

National Officers, 0

Regional Officers, 0

Club Presidents, 5

Flower Show Judges, 1

Past State Presidents, 5

Garden Club Members, 14

Regional Chairman, 2

Parliamentarian, 1

Guests, 2

Rules of the Meeting: Julie Lester

Rod: Without objection, I move the adoption of the program with flexibility. Adopted

Secretary Minutes Report: Donna Rouch

The 91st Annual Meeting June 7, 2025 was distributed electronically in the Nebraska Garden News. No corrections reported. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Robbie Kupper

Treasurer's Report, Fund Balances at May 31, 2026

(Unaudited)

General Fund	\$3809.00
Blue Star	\$1986.00
General Fund Savings	\$7172.18
FGCN Scholarship	\$944.53
Scholarship CD	\$10,304.54 (due December 2026)
Ameriprise Brokerage Scholarship	\$26,198.14
ACC Flexible Saving Certificates	
2397	\$2133.72
2398	\$2136.27
2399	\$2134.15
2400	\$2819.87
Total,	<u>\$,9224.01</u>
Total-All Funds	<u>\$59,638.40</u>

Scholarship Funds Summary:

Ameriprise Brokerage Funds	\$26,198.14
Scholarship CD Total	\$10,304.54
Scholarship Checking	<u>\$944.53</u>
Total Scholarship Funds	<u>\$37,447.21</u>

Time Keeper: President appointed Marica Crofutt
Debate is 3 minutes.

President's Report: Rod Ruzanic

Encourage Members, Clubs, and Districts to plant a Memorial Tree to celebrate someones life, or the celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence 250 birthday. The RMR is in Fargo, North Dakota. If you have a report, please send a copy to Donna Rouch so it can be recorded in the minutes.

Finance Committee:

The Finance Committee met on March 17, 2026, via Zoom. Those present were Donna Rouch, Debbi Suess, Bob Carlson and Robbie Kupper. Per our Bylaws, scholarships may be awarded each year. The amount to be awarded each year shall be determined by the Finance Committee. The Committee Voted to increase the scholarship from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Membership Directory and Website: Donna Rouch

The Membership Directory is ready to launch on the website. If you see errors please let me know and I will correct them. The website is password protected. Contact your club president or Jim Rouch (jim@rouchpartners.com) if you do not currently know the password.

Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policies: Executive Committee reviewed all Bylaws, Standing Rules and Policies. The typos were caused by Donna Rouch and will be corrected as stated by the motion by Bob Carlson and seconded by Marcia Croffut.

Approved.

STANDING RULES 2026

Red = Remove Green = Added

Standing Rules	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
1-Finance A. Officers 1. President's Allowance A. Actual economy airfare round trip and the package plan plus lodging for each National Garden Clubs Fall Board Meeting and National Convention attending.	A. Actual economy airfare round trip and the package plan plus lodging for each National Garden Clubs Convention and National Garden Clubs Fall Board meeting attending or payment for National Garden Clubs Fall Board Zoom Meeting registration. Addition: Up to the budgeted amount Approved	A. Actual economy airfare round trip and the package plan plus lodging for each National Garden Clubs Convention and National Garden Clubs Fall Board meeting attending or payment for National Garden Clubs Fall Board Zoom Meeting registration up to the budgeted amount. Reason: When NGC offers a hybrid (in person or Zoom) meeting, the FGCN will reimburse for the in person or Zoom meeting. Approved
B. The current first class postage per capita for each adult member plus two hundred (\$200.00) dollars to pay for a rider to insure the State President's pin on his/her homeowner's insurance policy during per term. The rider must read, "lost or stolen". This is to be paid at the beginning of the President's term in office. A National Life Membership or equivalent, shall be given to the President at the beginning of his/her term. The Life Membership Chairman shall make application the State Treasurer so the fee can be taken from the State Treasury by January 1 of the odd year.	B. The current first class postage per capita for each adult member plus two hundred (\$200.00) dollars to pay for a rider to insure the State President's pin on his/her homeowner's insurance policy during per term. The rider must read, "lost or stolen". This is to be paid at the beginning of the President's term in office. A National Life Membership or equivalent, shall be given to the President at the beginning of his/her term. The Life Membership Chairman shall make application the State Treasurer so the fee can be taken from the State Treasury by January 1 of the odd year.	B. Deleted Reason: The president's pin has been appraised and the pin itself is not worth anything and the diamond is worth \$100 or less which no homeowners policy will cover for such a small amount. Approved
D. A National Life Membership or equivalent, shall be given to the President at the beginning of his/her term. The Life Membership Chairman shall make application the State Treasurer so the fee can be taken from the State Treasury by January 1 of the odd year.	D. A National Life Membership or equivalent, shall be given to the President at the beginning of his/her term. The Life Membership Chairman shall make application the State Treasurer so the fee can be taken from the State Treasury by January 1 of the odd year. A State Life Membership Memorial Tree and expense of planting shall be given to the President at the beginning of his/her term. The Life Membership Chairman shall make application the State Treasurer so the fee can be taken from the State Treasury by January 1 of the odd year. The fee shall not exceed \$200.	D. A State Life Membership Memorial Tree and expense of planting shall be given to the President at the beginning of his/her term. The Life Membership Chairman shall make application the State Treasurer so the fee can be taken from the State Treasury by January 1 of the odd year. The fee shall not exceed \$200. Reason: A State Life Membership Tree is given in lieu of a National Life Membership which is \$200.00. Approved

Standing Rules 2026

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Standing Rules	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
2. Vice-President A. The Vice-President shall be reimbursed for the package plan and lodging expenses, (double occupancy if possible) after attending the National Convention.	2. Vice-President A. The Vice-President shall be reimbursed up to the budgeted amount for the package plan and lodging expenses, (double occupancy if possible) after attending the National Garden Clubs Convention, National Garden Clubs Fall Board, RMR or State Annual Meeting.	2. Vice-President A. The Vice-President shall be reimbursed up to the budgeted amount for the package plan and lodging expenses, (double occupancy if possible) after attending the National Garden Clubs Convention, National Garden Clubs Fall Board, RMR or State Annual Meeting. Reason: States options to attend the National Fall Boards, RMR, or State Annual Meeting and to receive reimbursement as dictated. Approved
4. Editor of Nebraska Garden News A. Shall be presented a gift of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per year in recognition of service. B. Nebraska Garden Clubs shall be allowed to accept support for promoting the causes for the Federation.	A. Shall be presented a gift of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per year in recognition of service. B. Nebraska Garden Clubs shall be allowed to accept support for promoting the causes for the Federation.	A. Deleted B. Deleted Reason: No longer applicable. Have not done for years. Approved
4. Editor of Nebraska Garden News C. The Editor/Ad Chairman of NGC is permitted to seek advertising for the website: www.federatedgardenclubsofnebraska.com to raise funds for the FGCN general fund.	C.. The Editor/Ad Chairman of NGC FGCN is permitted to seek advertising for the website www.federatedgardenclubsofnebraska.com to raise funds for the FGCN general fund.	C. The Editor/Ad Chairman of FGCN is permitted to seek advertising for the website www.federatedgardenclubsofnebraska.com to raise funds for the FGCN general fund. Reason: This has never occurred by NGC. Editors of the Nebraska Garden News are allowed to seek advertisements FGCN. Approved

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Standing Rules	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
II. ANNUAL MEETING C. After all expenses of the annual meeting have been paid; any money remaining shall be deposited in the State Federation general fund. Annual meeting profits will be divided: 40% for the District hosting and 60% will go to the State Treasury.	C. After all expenses of the annual meeting have been paid; any money remaining shall be deposited in the State Federation general fund. Annual meeting profits (I,e, Registration Fees, Ways and Means, Auctions, Plant Sales, and donations less meeting expenses including reimbursement of advances of funds discussed in item II—A above). will be divided: 40% for the District hosting and 60% will go to the State Treasury.	C. After all expenses of the annual meeting have been paid; any money remaining shall be deposited in the State Federation general fund. Annual meeting profits (I.e. Registration Fees, Ways and Means, Auctions, Plant Sales, and donations less meeting expenses including reimbursement of advances of funds discussed in item II—A above) will be divided: 40% for the District hosting and 60% will go to the State Treasury. Reason: Clarification of definition and distribution profits from the FGCM Annual Meeting. Approved
III-Flower Shows IV— Symposium—Flower Show and NGC, Inc. Schools.	III-Flower Shows IV— Symposium—Flower Show and NGC, Inc. Schools	Reason: FGCM no longer has a Judges Council nor participates in Flower Shows. IV. Deleted. Approved.
V. Districts The membership in Nebraska shall be arranged in districts of counties as follows: A. West District B. East District C. West Central District D. Central District	The membership in Nebraska shall be arranged in districts of counties as follows: A. West ern District B. East ern District C. West Central District D. Central District	The membership in Nebraska shall be arranged in districts of counties as follows: A. Western District B. Eastern District C. West Central District Reason: Central District had only one club . The Central District was dissolved and the club and Central District counties moved to the West Central District.

Standing Rules 2026

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Standing Rules	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
Scholarships C. Honor and Memorial Books Two books shall be maintained which record gifts honoring living and deceased members. 1. The Honor Book records gifts that honor living members for their service to the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska. 2. The Memorial Book records memorial gifts to honor deceased members for their service to Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska. Gifts of ten dollar (\$10.00) or more are to be recorded in the appropriate book. The interest accruing in these funds and any gifts less than ten dollars (\$10.00) shall be given to the Scholarship Fund. The President shall appoint a chairman to maintain these books.	C. Honor and Memorial Books Two books shall be maintained which record gifts honoring living and deceased members. 1. The Honor Book records gifts that honor living members for their service to the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska. 2. The Memorial Book records memorial gifts to honor deceased members for their service to Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska. Gifts of ten dollar (\$10.00) or more are to be recorded in the appropriate book. The interest accruing in these funds and any gifts less than ten dollars (\$10.00) shall be given to the Scholarship Fund. The President shall appoint a chairman to maintain these books.	C. Deleted. Reason: FGCN no longer does Honor and Memorial Books. Approved.
D. A Scholarship Fund March shall take place at the close of the session at the annual meeting in which the Memorial Service is given. People being honored shall be on the Memorial Fund total list of that year.	D. A Scholarship Fund March (Silver March) shall take place at the close of the session at the annual meeting in which the Memorial Service is given. People being honored shall be on the Memorial Fund total list of that year.	D. A Scholarship Fund March (Silver March) shall take place at the close of the session at the annual meeting in which the Memorial Service is given. People being honored shall be on the Memorial Fund total list of that year. Reason: Clarifying the names of the Scholarship Fund March and the common name, the Silver March. They both mean the same thing. Approved.

Standing Rules 2026

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Standing Rules	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
Policy Sheet 1. All funds earmarked for the "Permanent Home" (NGC, Inc. Headquarters) shall be forwarded by the Nebraska Treasurer to the National Garden Clubs, Inc. These funds shall be identified for the Permanent Home (NGC, Inc. Headquarters) and shall be designated as a memorial honoring the Past State Presidents of the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska.	1. All funds earmarked for the "Permanent Home" (NGC, Inc. Headquarters) shall be forwarded by the Nebraska Treasurer to the National Garden Clubs, Inc. These funds shall be identified for the Permanent Home (NGC, Inc. Headquarters) and shall be designated as a memorial honoring the Past State Presidents of the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska.	1. Deleted Reason: We no longer support the NGC Permanent Home. Approved.
3. Each District shall pay the President and/or Vice President the minimum of twenty dollars (\$20.00) yearly as an honorarium for attending the annual District Conferences.	3. Each District shall pay the President and/or Vice President the minimum of twenty dollars (\$20.00) yearly as an honorarium for attending the annual District Conferences.	3. Deleted Reason: Each District can determine if they want to give an honorarium to the President and/or Vice-President. If the district decides to give something, they can determine what they give. Approved
5. All non-members attending any part of the Annual Meeting are to pay a registration fee, set by the host District. They may attend the Life Member Banquet for an additional \$10.00.	5. All non-members attending any part of the Annual Meeting are to pay a registration fee, set by the host District. They may attend the Life Member Banquet for an additional \$10.00.	5. All non-members attending any part of the Annual Meeting are to pay a registration fee, set by the host District. Reason: All non-members should pay the full fee or part time fee if they attend. Approved.

Standing Rules 2026

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Standing Rules	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
7. Nebraska State Flower Show Judges serve without charging mileage when judging State Flower Shows.	7. Nebraska State Flower Show Judges serve without charging mileage when judging State Flower Shows.	7. Deleted. Approved.

BYLAWS 2026

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Bylaws	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
ARTICLE V-ELECTIONS Section 1—State Meetings B. The nominating committee shall have four (4) members, one each from four areas: Western, West Central, Central and Eastern, who are elected from their district to serve as District Director.	B. The nominating committee shall have four (4) three (3) members, one each from four three three areas: West ern, West Central, Central and East ern, who are elected from their district to serve as District Director.	B. The nominating committee shall have three (3) members, one each from three (3) areas: West ern, West Central, and East ern, who are elected from their district to serve as District Director. Reason: Lost one district and now only have three districts. Approved
ARTICLE VI—QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS Section 6—Treasurer C. Compile a list of the Garden Clubs, Presidents and District Directors. This list is to be sent to the National Gardener and also to the state officers as early in the year as possible.	C. Compile a list of the Garden Clubs, Presidents and District Directors. This list is to be sent to the National Gardener and also to the state officers as early in the year as possible.	C. Deleted Reason: We no longer send this list to the National Gardener. Approved
Section 7 Dues Treasurer A. Dues Treasurer shall send each Club Secretary/Treasurer a copy of their membership list in January along with a notice of dues. This request will also include a request for changes in officers in all clubs.	A. Dues Treasurer shall send each Club Secretary/Treasurer a copy of their membership list by January March 1st along with a notice of dues. This request will also include a request for changes in officers in all clubs.	A. Dues Treasurer shall send each Club Secretary/Treasurer a copy of their membership list by March 1st along with a notice of dues. This request will also include a request for changes in officers in all clubs. Reason: Date changed for the Treasure to submit list along with notice of dues. Approved

BYLAWS 2026

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BYLAWS	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
Section 7 Dues Treasurer B. Receive all state dues money and reconcile the amount with the membership list and send the money to the State Treasurer. Club/State dues are non-transferable and non-refundable. (A member from one club cannot move to another city and join a club in that city and not pay club or state dues.)	B. Receive all state dues money and reconcile the amount with the membership list and send the money to the State Treasurer. Club/ State dues are non-transferable and non-refundable. (A member from one club cannot move to another city and join a club in that city and not pay club or state dues.)	B. Receive all state dues money and reconcile the amount with the membership list and send the money to the State Treasurer. State dues are non-transferable and non-refundable. Reason: If a member moves to another club, they pay club dues for the new club but if they have already paid the state for the year, they do not have to pay the state dues again. Approved
C. Compile a list of the Garden clubs, Preseidents and District Directors. The list is to be sent to the National Gardener and also to the state officers as early in the year as possible.	C. Compile a list of the Garden clubs, Preseidents and District Directors. This list is to be sent to the National Gardener and also to the state officers as early in the year as possible	C. Deleted Reason: We no longer send this list to the National Gardener, NGC Newsletter. Approved
ARTICLE VIII—STATE ANNUAL MEETING Section 2 A. Each officer and chairman shall prepare one (1) copy of a report of all activities connected with that office as a permanent record to be sent to the State President by April 1st in order to be compiled into a booklet to be distributed at the annual meeting.	A. Each officer and chairman shall prepare one (1) copy of a report of all activities connected with that office as a permanent record to be sent to the State President by April 1st May 1st in order to be compiled into a booklet to be distributed at the annual meeting.	Each officer and chairman shall prepare one (1) copy of a report of all activities connected with that office as a permanent record to be sent to the State President by May 1st in order to be compiled into a booklet to be distributed at the annual meeting. Reason: Change of date from April 1st to May 1st. Approved

BYLAWS 2026

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BYLAWS	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
C. Treasurer will set up a separate checking account for income and expenses concerning the Annual State Meeting. This account will be used exclusively for Annual Meetings and/or RMR when Nebraska hosts the meeting. The Secretary and President will have signing privileges. The Registrar for the event will send deposits to the state treasurer and all invoices will be sent to the treasurer for reimbursement.	C. Treasurer will set up a separate checking account for income and expenses concerning the Annual State Meeting. This account will be used exclusively for Annual Meetings and/or RMR when Nebraska hosts the meeting. The Secretary and President will have signing privileges. The Registrar for the event will send deposits to the state treasurer and all invoices will be sent to the treasurer for reimbursement. The State Treasurer and District Treasurer for the district hosting the Annual State Meeting will create an Excel Worksheet for income and expenses related to the Annual State Meeting and pay those expenses from the FGCN general funding checking account.	The State Treasurer and District Treasurer for the district hosting the Annual State Meeting will create an Excel Worksheet for income and expenses related to the Annual State Meeting and pay those expenses from the FGCN general funding checking account. Reason: Separate bank accounts and transactions add to the cost of doing business. By using Excel worksheet, we can reduce costs and time. Approved
ARTICLE IX—FINANCES Section 1 C. At the FGCN Annual Meeting in the Installation year (odd-number) the Finance Committee will write a letter to the financial institution which handles FGCN accounts listing the accounts and the appropriate FGCN members who will have banking access to the accounts. This letter will be approved by the FGCN members present and entered into the annual meeting minutes.	C. At the FGCN Annual Meeting in the Installation year (odd-number) the Finance Committee will write a letter provide the FGCN Minutes to the financial institution which handles FGCN accounts listing the accounts and the appropriate FGCN members who will have banking access to the accounts. This letter will be approved by the FGCN members present and entered into the annual meeting minutes.	C. At the FGCN Annual Meeting in the Installation year (odd-number) the Finance Committee will provide the FGCN Minutes to the financial institution which handles FGCN accounts listing the accounts and the appropriate FGCN members who will have banking access to the accounts. Reason: Most banks require a copy of approved minutes rather than a letter documenting banking access individuals for their organization. Approved

BYLAWS 2026

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BYLAWS	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
Section 2 A. The annual dues for member clubs and Junior clubs shall be set for the following year at each annual meeting and shall be due and payable before Apri1 and delinquent June I, after which time no further publications will be mailed. (NOTE: Dues amount passed in May 2010 was \$10.00)	A. The annual dues for member clubs and Junior clubs shall be set for the following year at each annual meeting and shall be due and payable before Apri1 May 1st and delinquent June I, after which time no further publications will be mailed. (NOTE: Dues amount passed in May 2010 was \$10.00)	A. The annual dues for member clubs and Junior clubs shall be set for the following year at each annual meeting and shall be due and payable before May 1st and delinquent June I, after which time no further publications will be mailed. (NOTE: Dues amount passed in May 2010 was \$10.00) Reason: Changing dates to be closer to the delinquent date. Approved
Section 3 A. Dues for members-at-large and contributing members shall be the current state dues payable April 1st and delinquent June 1st of the next year. They shall receive the Nebraska Garden News.	A. Dues for members-at-large and contributing members shall be the current state dues payable April 1st May 1st and delinquent June 1st of the next year. They shall receive the Nebraska Garden News.	A. Dues for members-at-large and contributing members shall be the current state dues payable May 1st and delinquent June 1st. They shall receive the Nebraska Garden News. Reason: Changing dates to be closer to the delinquent date. Approved
Section 4 A. Life membership in the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc. shall cost thirty-five dollars (35.00) each, payable at the time Life Membership is granted.	A. Life membership in the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc. shall cost thirty-five dollars (35.00) Fifty dollars (50.00) each, payable at the time Life Membership is granted.	A. Life membership in the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc. shall cost 50 dollars (50.00) each, payable at the time Life Membership is granted. Reason: Increasing the cost to obtain more revenue for the objectives projects of FGCN. There has not been an increase in many years.

BYLAWS 2026

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BYLAWS	Additions or Corrections to the Rules	New Standing Rule
ARTICLE X—PUBLICATIONS Section 3 A. The Editor shall be responsible for assembling and editing material for the Nebraska Garden News and may accept advertising for the publication not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of space for any one issue. All advertising must be in keeping with the objectives of the organization. The editor is responsible for distributing the newsletter by email or other electronic mailing only.	ARTICLE X—PUBLICATIONS Section 3 A. The Editor shall be responsible for assembling and editing material for the Nebraska Garden News and may accept advertising for the publication not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of space for any one issue. All advertising must be in keeping with the objectives of the organization. The editor the Communication and Distribution Chairman is responsible for distributing the newsletter by email or other electronic mailing only.	ARTICLE X—PUBLICATIONS Section 3 A. The Editor shall be responsible for assembling and editing material for the Nebraska Garden News and may accept advertising for the publication not to exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of space for any one issue. All advertising must be in keeping with the objectives of the organization. The Communication and Distribution Chairman is responsible for distributing the newsletter by email or other electronic mailing only. Reason: The Communication and Distribution Chairman now is responsible for distributing the FGCN newsletter. Approved

(Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc.

Raffles, Auction, and Alcohol Policies

(Raffles and Auctions and Alcohol Policy)

In Nebraska, **raffles are legal** for qualifying nonprofit organizations and are regulated by the Department of Revenue's Charitable Gaming Division, with licensing requirements dependent on the value of prizes or proceeds. There is **no statewide license required for general auctions**; however, local regulations may apply.

Raffles (Lotteries)

Raffles are considered gambling in Nebraska and must comply with the Nebraska Lottery and Raffle Act.

- **Qualifying Organizations:** Only non-profit organizations recognized as charitable or religious pursuant to federal or state law can conduct raffles.
- **License Exemptions:** A license is generally **not required** if the total value of cash prizes is less than **\$1,000** or merchandise prizes are valued at **\$5,000** or less.
- **Licensing Requirements:** A state license is required for raffles that exceed these prize limits, or for any lottery or raffle with gross proceeds greater than **\$15,000**. The license fee is typically \$30.00.
- All prizes must be **merchandise prizes that cannot be redeemed for cash**. This directly conflicts with the nature of a 50/50 raffle where the prize is a split of the cash proceeds.
- The organization must become the owner of all prizes before determining the winner.

The Nebraska Department of Revenue has explicitly stated that Queen of Hearts 50/50 progressive raffles and lotteries are not an approved method of winner determination in the state because they do not meet the statutory requirements.

- **Online Ticket Sales:** Online ticket sales are permitted for licensed organizations, with specific authorization needed to enable web sales via an organization's website. Payment can be made with United States currency or a valid debit/credit card.
- **Prize Payouts/Use of Proceeds:** When gross proceeds exceed \$5,000, at least 65% of the gross proceeds must be awarded as prizes. The remaining profits must be used for legitimate charitable or community betterment purposes.
- **Winner Information:** The identity of winners of prizes of \$250,000 or more can remain anonymous if the winner chooses; otherwise, the name, hometown, and prize amount are public information.

Tickets: Tickets must be sequentially numbered. Online sales are permitted if the organization has the appropriate authorization/permit. Tickets must state whether the winner needs to be present to win.

Auctions

- **No Statewide License:** A state auctioneer license is not required for selling general, personal, and/or tangible property items.
- **Local Regulations:** It is crucial to check with the city or county clerk where the auction will be held, as local permits or licenses may be required.
- **Special Licenses:** Specific licenses are required to auction agricultural livestock or real estate.
- **Online Auctions:** Nebraska does not have specific state-level regulations for online auctions of general property.
- **Local regulations:** While there's no statewide license required, local counties or municipalities may have their own licensing or permit requirements for conducting auctions, and it is recommended to check with local authorities.

Do we have to pay sales tax, since we are a nonprofit and exempt from income taxes?

- Absolutely! The 501(c)(3) status applies only to Federal and State income taxes.

Alcohol Prize in Fundraising

Key points to consider:

- **Legal Raffles/Auctions:** Raffles and lotteries are legal for charitable organizations in Nebraska under the Nebraska Lottery and Raffle Act and the Nebraska Small Lottery and Raffle Act.
- **Licensing:** Non-profits can host raffles. A license is not needed if cash prizes are under \$1,000 or merchandise prizes are under \$5,000. For larger prize values, a license is required.
- **Age Restrictions:** Alcohol cannot be sold, given away, or furnished to any person under the age of 21. The winner of any alcoholic beverage prize must be 21 years of age or older and must provide valid ID to prove their age upon receiving the prize.
- **Licensing for Distribution:** While the *prize* itself is alcohol, the entity providing the prize must ensure it is done within the bounds of Nebraska's liquor laws. Generally, the organization hosting the event may need to have the appropriate permits or work with a properly licensed entity (such as a bar or restaurant with a liquor license) to distribute the alcohol prizes legally.
- **Control and Liability:** The organization must have controls in place to ensure alcohol is not served to minors or visibly intoxicated individuals, similar to any event where alcohol is present.
- **Local Ordinances:** Be sure to check local city or county ordinances, as they may have additional restrictions or requirements for events involving alcohol.

In summary, organizations must adhere strictly to age verification laws and ensure all required raffle and liquor licenses are obtained to avoid legal issues. It is recommended to contact the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission or a legal professional for specific guidance tailored to a particular event.

Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc.

Privacy Policy

Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc. (FGCN) is committed to safeguarding the privacy and security of members and online visitors. Our website, www.federatedgardenclubsofnebraskainc.com (Website), may collect information about your visit to improve website operations and services. FGCN collects, uses, and protects any personal information you provide. By using our Website, our consent to the collection and use of information as described in our Privacy Policy.

Information Provided to FGCN Online:

FGCN takes precautionary measures to protect the privacy of members and online visitors. FGCN will never sell, trade, or rent personal information to any individual or company.

WIX servers used by the FGCN website automatically log certain technical information, such as date and time, the name of website used for navigation, and the type of browser. Information is collected about how visitors use our website. These website analytics provide data on user behavior, traffic, and performance, enabling the webmaster to optimize the user experience, content, and marketing strategies. This information is used to improve the FGCN Website.

Using and Sharing Information:

FGCN will not share your personal information with third parties unless you permit us to do so or it is necessary to fulfill your requests for products or services, to protect rights, property, or the safety of FGCN or others, or as requested by law.

Cookies:

Cookies are anonymous, non-personal information used to provide insight into which areas of the website may need improvement, the technologies, and internet services our members and visitors are using, and which are their favorite sites. Members and visitors can disable cookies in their browser preferences.

Links to Other Sites:

FGCN provides links to independently owned and managed websites whose content may be of interest and benefit to our Website community. FGCN does not control the content of these links, nor do we prevent data collection, solicitation of personal information, or use of their cookies.

Children's Privacy Issues:

FGCN will not knowingly collect or solicit personally identifiable information from or about children under the age of 18 except as permitted by the Age Appropriate Design Code effective January 1, 2026 and the law.

Article and Photography:

FGCN welcomes members to submit articles and photographs for posting on the website. By submitting articles and photographs, we must remember that they may contain personal information available to the general public.

Contact US:

If you have any questions about this privacy policy, contact:

FGCNmanager@gmail.com

October 2025

FGCN Website Privacy Policy

Awards: Jim Rouch

The Federated Garden clubs of Missouri FGCM has listings of various awards that clubs may apply for and most awards have a monetary amount associated with the award and sponsored by individuals, in memoriam of individuals, and sponsored by clubs of individuals, or otherwise named and sponsored.

I suggest FGCM take a similar approach to administering the awards program.

The benefits may include the following:

1. Increased interest and attention to the awards program.
2. A means of honoring deceased or current long-time members for their service.
3. A means of financing much if not all of our awards program from other sources rather than FGCM operating budget.

After discussion, it was decided that there was no need for a formal action on this proposal. And Jim Rouch and Chris Martin, Awards Chair, would communicate via the Nebraska Garden News, email or other means about the opportunities to sponsor an existing or new award.

Jim Rouch also distributed a Federated Garden Club of Missouri check-list of criteria which a club could use to try to qualify as a blue ribbon or purple ribbon club. The check list is in a “yes or no” format. A club would check those items on the list that it had complied with during the year (e.g., host a garden walk; plant sale, etc.). If it accomplished a certain number of the criteria listed, it would achieve blue or purple status. No written reports are required and it is not competitive. All, some, or none of the state’s clubs could qualify as a ribbon club. Jim commented that FGCM might consider a similar approach, but noted the check-list should be modified to be more specific to Nebraska conditions and interests.

A Motion to have the President form a committee of approximately 7 individuals to research the awards program with recommendations and to present their findings at the Fall Board Meeting. Motion by Robbie Kupper, Seconded by Julie Lester. Motion Approved.

Silver March: Marlene Mahoney

Honoring our past members, Susan Lynne Suart Ryan, Charles Barron, Lori Ann Martin, and Del Hemsath.

\$90.12 was collected.

Silent Auction and Ways and Means proceeds were \$166.00.

Awards Luncheon: Honoring FGCM State Presidents

Grace: Marlene Mahoney

Scholarship:

Introduction to our FGCM Scholarship winner for 2025-2026 is Grant Nielson. He is studying plant biology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He plans to get his Master's in plant pathology, and to pursue a PhD.

Award Winners: Chris Martin and Julie Lester

Blue Star Memorial, Mary Carlson , Chairman
Jean Tobiasson winner

Yearbook, Alice Hemsath Chirman
Friendly Federated Garden Club

Photography had 5 members from 2 clubs submit 30 photos in three categories.

“Everything in Red”:

Judges Choice: Jane Marie, Celosie Celebration, Soil Sisters and Misters

1st Place: Chris Martin, Red Fower, Friendly Federated Garden Club

2nd Place: Julie Lester Red Clemenis, Sunset Hills Garen Club

2nd Place: Bob Martin, Indian Paint Brush

3rd Place: Chris Martin Wedding Barn

3rd Place: Jane Marie, Solar Particles

Honorable Mention: Mary Carlson, Iceland Has Colors, Sunset Hills
Garden Club

Honorable Mention: Bob Martin, Red Barn

Honorable Mention: Julie Lester, Red Berries

“Texture”:

Judges’ Choice: Mary Carlson, Texture from a Dead Tree

1st Place: Chris Martin, Dying Tree, and Spider Web

2nd Place: Jane Marie, Wolf Spider

2nd Place: Julie Lester, Textured Flower

3rd Place: Mary Carlson, Troll with Car

Honorable Mention: Bob Martin, Sleeping Turtle and Earth Works

“Trees:”

Judges’ Choice: Bob Martin, Grand Canyon

1st Place: Bob Martin, Grand Canyon

1st Place: Chris Martin, A Tree Grows in Delaware

2nd Place: Julie Lester, Red Bud

2nd Place: Chris Martin, A Tree with a View

3rd Place: Julie Lester, Pine Berries

3rd Place: Mary Carlson with Bird Houses

Honorable Mention: Mary Carlson, Pine Pollen

Honorable Mention: Jane Marie, On Guard

Link to see photography pictures: [2026 FGCN Photography Awards.pptx](#)

If the program does not open, click on hyperlink and in menu click on “open hyperlink”. To come back, click on “x” located in the upper right hand of the program.

Courtesy Resolution: President Rod Ruzanic

Invitation to the 93rd Annual Meeting: Chris Martin

**Adjournment: President Rod Ruzanic declares the meeting adjourned sine die at 2:40 pm,
Central Time.**

Submitted,

Donna Rouch

FGCN Secretary