



September- December 2020
Volume 63 – Issue 4

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.



Elizabeth Cunningham was selected as the award winner of the FGNC UNL Horticulture Scholarship of \$1000. Elizabeth is pursuing a landscape design & management option.

From Elizabeth “With my degree, I would like to be a landscape designer. I would like to work for a company for a short time to learn about how to attain the plants I will be using in the landscapes and other things that will benefit me as I start my own design company someday. I would like to move to a small but growing community and eventually work independently.”

NEBRASKA GARDEN NEWS

Official publication of
The Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc.

Published at Kearney, Nebraska,
four times yearly:
Jan-Feb-Mar, Apr-May-June
Jul-Aug-Sep, Oct-Nov-Dec

Deadline for Copy

15th Feb, May, Aug and Nov

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Dates to Remember

DEADLINE FOR SPRING ISSUE

February 15 , 2021

Any Chair, member or Club President may
send a report, article or announcement
that seems timely!

Up Coming Events:

August 27-29, 2021 rescheduled Rocky Mt.
Regional Mgt, Flint Hills Splash Acorn Resort,
Lake Milford, KS



Find Us On The Web

[www.federatedgardenclubsof
nebraskainc.com](http://www.federatedgardenclubsofnebraskainc.com)

Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska is: to plant seeds of interest in gardening, landscaping, flower shows, environmental issues, community beautification, charitable activities and to cultivate those seeds through sponsored schools, correspondence and sharing of knowledge for the good life of Nebraska.



My Path to be an NGC Officer Donna Rouch

My journey into gardening started as a small child helping my Mother and Grandmother in their respective gardens. My Grandparent's farm was self-sufficient. We grew all our own food including vegetables, fruit, and meat. We had

hogs, cattle, chickens, and geese. Roosters were equipped with spurs on their legs for protection. A mean rooster who spurred you and left a gaping hole in your leg was called Sunday dinner! My first job was to pick potato bugs off potato plants. My sister and I had old coffee cans full of bugs. We were paid a handsome salary of a penny a bug. Little did I know this was growing "organically."

I always had a garden; always growing something. My path to a garden club occurred when my sister-in-law and I helped Mom prepare for a garden club meeting at her home. During the meeting we were asked to join. We were both working long hours but looking across the room at Mom beaming, how could we say, "No!" Then to our surprise, I was the next president, and my sister-in-law was vice-president! Mom kept beaming!

I traveled the garden path through club president, district director and state president. Many of the problematic issues were the same at every level. After the state presidency, I requested to be on the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Board of Directors. My interest was our declining membership which I soon realize was universal for almost all nonprofit organizations including National Garden Clubs, Inc. After serving on the Membership Committee, I was asked by several Board members to run for Third Vice-President. I received the support of the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska, Inc. President Alice Hemsath. I asked three other members for their recommendations and sent my resume to the eighteen-member Nominating Committee representing all regions of national membership. Every candidate for office was interviewed. I expressed my vision for National Garden Clubs, Inc. and my ideas for improvements in areas of management, marketing, website, increasing membership, communication, projects, and committees.

My path to become a National Garden Clubs, Inc. officer is serendipitous. This was not a goal I set for myself. The fact that I became an officer is due to the help and encouragement of members of this organization from the very first day I joined a garden club. I am very appreciative for every person who has helped me along the way. I will help those who desire to be on the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Board of Directors.

I am from the generation that believes as Albert Pine eloquently stated, "What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal."



Pandemic rules, quite confining,
Social distancing is so slow.

Masks and gloves we must wear.

But flowers all around us glow!

Jim, Jim, quite so busy.

How does your garden grow?

With horse tails rushing

And flowers hanging all in a row.

Mistress Donna, quite contrary.

How does your garden grow?

With daffodils and hyacinths

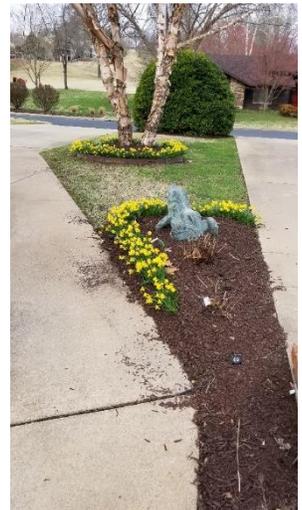
And other Spring bulbs in the snow.

Jim and Donna constant tending,

Mowing, and hoeing is so slow.

Always fun to work together

Kisses and hugs with my beau.



Penny Pines

National Garden Clubs, Inc. is a proud supporter of this
Reforestation / Forest Education Program

Re: Donating to the Penny Pines Reforestation / Forest Education Program

1. Make Checks payable to: NGC-Penny Pines
Must be in increments of \$68.00 each

Mail check and *copy of form* to:
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
National Headquarters
4401 Magnolia Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63110-3406

2. If you have any questions or concerns please contact NGC Headquarters.
headquarters@gardenclub.org

These donations are used by the USDA Forest Service or State Forester to replant burnt or otherwise damaged trees in conjunction with federal funds. Seedlings are replacement and /or trees native to that particular area not necessarily of the pine variety.

In order for your donation to be properly noted please fill out the form below. Thank you for your participation in this wonderful program which helps Plant, Protect and Promote the Beauty of our Country. Per FS Agreement No. 15-MU-11132425-090 January 2015

Penny Pines Form

Name of Club: _____ Date: _____

District: _____ State: _____

National Forest this donation is to benefit: _____

State you wish this donation contributed to

Total \$ amount being sent : _____ Must be in increments of \$68.00 each

Check to have a certificate sent.

Please make this Certificate: In Honor of: _____

or In Memory of: _____

Sent by (Name): _____ Phone No. _____

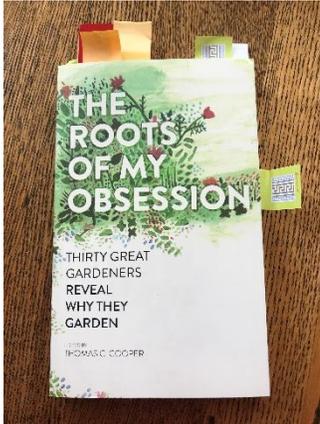
Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip + 4 _____

E-Mail: _____

BOOK REVIEW

The Roots of My Obsession edited by Thomas C. Cooper
Timber Press 2012



If you are curious as to how or why some people in the gardening world have developed a deep passion for it— this book is for you. Thirty great gardeners reveal why they garden. Each contributor is limited to about five pages (which makes for nice bite-size reading). All are unique insights into their personalities and relationships with the plant world. What's so wonderful about reading their stories is that you find echoes of your own reasons for loving the garden.

For example, Anna Pavord, an English gardener says “My garden not only gives me pleasure, it also instils calm, grafts patience into my soul. (p.112) A good garden lights more senses than any other art. You can smell it, touch it, listen to it, look at it, eat it.” (p.114)

I found myself agreeing with Marty Ross who writes gardening articles in the Kansas City Star and other publications. She says, “I am not a competitive gardener. I stage my most impressive flower shows on the kitchen windowsill, twirling each stem between my fingers to find its best face and choosing just the right container from the array on either side of the faucet.” (p.131)

And who among us cannot agree with Amy Stewart, author of *Wicked Bugs*, that ‘Garden’ is a verb, not a noun. A garden is not a thing you can buy or own or ever possibly finish. No, ‘garden’ is something you do.” (p.138)

Aside from the often entertaining aspect of these vignettes there's the bonus of being introduced to gardeners that are exceptional but perhaps unknown to you. Once discovered, you can follow them further. At the end of each contribution is a brief descriptive bio that includes their positions, books, etc. Reading this one collection of gardeners' stories has led to “following” my favorites through media and has added some treasures to my personal library.

Charlotte Swanson
swannson@daltontel.net



Happy Holidays to Everyone. I know this year has been less than normal; but if your club has participated in projects, please consider sending them in for judging. There are monetary awards as well as opportunities to be acknowledged by RMR and even nationally. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. My email address is dzrcc8@yahoo.com and my phone # is 402-540-2241. Hope to see lots of entries this year.

Chris Martin

**Awards Calendar
Due Dates**

December	1 = National – Youth Essays to Chris Martin 1 = National - School Garden Project to Chris Martin 1 = National - all awards to state chairs, see pages 7-17 in the Membership Directory
January	1 = National - all awards to Chris Martin 14 = National - Poetry to Colleen Gage 15 = National - Sculpture to Myra Ring 23 = National -Smokey/Woodsey Owl posters to Alice Hemsath
March	10 = State - applications to Chairs, see page 7 in this directory for all the Chairs 31 = State - all applications for all awards to Christine Martin
August	1 = Rocky Mt. Region all applications to Christine Martin
Awards & Youth Awards (National Regional and FGCN)	Christine Martin Box 86 Friend, NE 68359 402-947-4291 402-540-2241 c Dzrcc8@yahoo.com
NGC School and Youth Education (Poetry)	Colleen Gage 4601 Pony Express Kearney, NE 68847 308-234-9254 308-233-1747c colleengage@gmail.com
National Sculpture Award	Myra Ring 6683 Road 179 Oshkosh, NE 69154 308-772-9905 mring@vistabeam.com
NGC Woodsey Bear/Woodsy Owl Posters	Alice Hemsath 110 East 39th Street Apt. E1 Kearney, NE 68847 308-224-3771 dhemsath@charter.net



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**Kind Hearts are the Garden
Kind Thoughts are the Roots
Kind Words are the Blossoms
Kind Deeds are the Fruits.**

anonymous

