

Newsclapes

National Garden Club Landscape Design Consultants' Newsletter

Editor Janice Doyle Winter 2008

FROM OUR NGC LD CHAIRMAN

To All LDC Members and Event Chairmen:

Operations Guide Revisions were sent out to all state Landscape Design Chairmen in late November to close several loopholes in the information regarding school courses and refresher events. Specifically the changes made were in the Mini-Guide (Summary) for the Landscape Design Program (LDSP 15) and pages 2 and 3 of the Guide. In effect this added information says that attendance is mandatory at all lectures for a school or refresher program to receive credit. Further, the committee decided that exam questions can come from the TNG article (question 10 usually), the text, "Stewards of the Land", or the lectures of the instructors. Please be sure that students are aware of these requirements.

When planning a refresher event or tour please allow sufficient time for boarding and unloading buses, lunch, traffic or other contingencies in addition to the required eight (8) hours of instruction or tour time. An 8-hour day will usually not meet the minimum requirements.

School courses must be registered with the Schools Secretary in the St. Louis headquarters for students to receive proper credit. Refresher programs for LD must be registered, including a detailed schedule approved by me for Landscape Design and by

Elizabeth Coffey for a Multiple Refresher.

The next NGC Tri-Refresher will be offered just before the National Convention in Memphis, TN from April 26-28, 2008. This is an opportunity for Gardening Study, Environmental Study, and Landscape Design Consultants to earn refresher credit while visiting the special gardens at the Memphis Zoo, an Old Growth Forest, the Memphis Botanic Garden with a walk through the Woodlands Wildflower Garden, a look at the River walk plantings and a kitchen garden along the Mississippi River. The date is Friday, April 25 from 8am-5pm. The fee is \$95 and includes lunch and entry fees.

Again, the NGC Committee is available to help as you plan landscape design events in your area. We want you to be successful and enjoy the camaraderie that a shared interest brings. Let us hear from you.

Marion Ryan, NGC LD Chairman 2/08

FROM THE READING/LITERATURE CHAIRMAN

After taking a few landscape design classes, have you found yourself more interested in the yards you drive past? These may range from ultra artificial ones, like the white rocked front yards around Phoenix inset with black rocks placed to resemble playing card symbols, to all

natural landscapes, like those planted with cacti and desert shrubs in New Mexico.

We notice, too, that older homes are often outlined with ruler straight hedges of whatever plants do well in the area while more attractive, newer landscapes exhibit plant groupings that provide rhythm and balance to the home setting. With some knowledge gleaned from our schools, we find more enjoyment in our travels.

Our Landscape Angle has presented many suggestions and projects to enrich our own homes as well as public landscapes outside the home. Look for future articles that will continue to stimulate our imagination and beautify our surroundings. We hope you will enjoy them.

Lucy Hendy, Chairman LDSP
Reading/Literature

LET'S PARTY, LANDSCAPE STYLE

I came across an article written by Paula Brown in *Northern Neck Cooperative Living* (March/April 2008) *“Exchanging Rates”* pp 36-37. Mrs. Brown lives in Richmond, VA, where she lectures, is a freelance writer, and runs her design business, *ImagineThat*.

The article was fun and charming and I would like to share some of Mrs. Brown's ideas with you.

Host an annual rite of spring that everyone will eagerly anticipate. In Mrs. Brown's case her friend held a Daphne party. The time depended on the season and had to be a last minute function. Invitations were addressed and prepared in advance so when the magical time arrived they could be instantly taken to the post office. Previous invitees anxiously looked forward to receiving their invitation. Party participants on the long awaited day joined their hostess and the beloved Daphne shrub and enjoyed dining on aromatic teas and cakes.

Another function suggested in the article was a

springtime garden party, a “get-together that would spark interesting conversation and the sharing of gardening advice.” Attendees would bring a photograph of what the plant looked like along with cultivation tips. The main ingredient was to bring a division of a perennial to share with other guests.

Partying further one might hold a “Plant Shower” for a new neighbor or newlywed. Each friend would bring a perennial for the honorees garden with a plant marker stating the plant name and on the back the name of the person giving the plant. Mrs. Brown says, “No matter what the name of the plant is, it assumes the name of the one who gave it—”

For a fall party instead of plants host a party with a seed exchange—“a great way to leave part of yourself in a friend's garden.” Mrs. Brown suggests that with the invitation the host might include a story, poem, or quote about flowers such as “Emerson's “Earth laughs in flowers.”

Janice Doyle, *Newsclapes* Editor/NGC LDC
Chairman



JUDGING LANDSCAPE DESIGN PROJECTS /READING FOR PLEASURE

One dreary Friday in February, a box containing books of evidence for National Garden Club, Inc. arrived at my front door. Better than a John Grisham mystery novel, those books held my attention all weekend.

Be they large or small clubs, the feats accomplished by Garden club members within their individual communities makes one proud.

The grounds of one nursing home had a lovely space in the rear, surrounded by buildings, making access only from within. Not to be deterred, this garden club had plants, bushes and trees moved straight through the building and created a beautiful multi purpose garden for the residents who may now sit and relax, work in their new vegetable garden or weed the perennial bed.

An historic building is now seen much more frequently because a local garden club helped design a walking path, using native plants, which passes that building, an old railroad station.

Nine oak trees were planted in memory of eight United States Presidents by a garden club which was privileged to have the ancestors of two of the Presidents attend the dedication ceremony of The Oak Grove. Each tree was a different variety of oak.

In the weeks prior to the planting ceremony, the schools participating were instructed on the different oaks, their growth habits, shown the different leaf patterns and acorns. Needless to say, the community loved it!

Pictures of those participating in all these wonderful projects tell another story- Beaming smiles above dirty knees and gloved hands. Before the raised bed there was a grungy parking area and after the flowerbed was completed, the town repaved the area. Truth that beauty is contagious!

Sally DeSimone, NGC Accrediting Chairman,
SC, RM, P

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Laugh-In

After climbing a high hill, Ziggy sees a pretty daisy. After thinking a bit he says to the flower "Make you a deal—I'll share my lemonade with you, if you share your hilltop and sunshine with me!"

Sitting next to a drooping house plant Ziggy says, "I really DO love you-honest I do. Those annuals are only a passing fancy."

Happy and all smiles in his garden of many flowers Ziggy says, "You can complain because roses have thorns OR you can be grateful because thorn bushes have roses."

Ziggy is planting his vegetable garden with many seeds. As he plants the birds swoop down and eat the seeds right after he plants them.

Ziggy says, "I love garden fresh vegetables but this business of planting seeds is for the birds!!"

Plants Are Some of My Favorite People by Tom Wilson



NEWS FROM OUR STATES

Alaska has one consultant. Their president says that perhaps in the future there will be an interest and we can have a Landscape Design program. Carol Norquist, Alaska President

Arkansas does not have plans for a school at present. Their president is looking for a person to handle Landscape Design programs. Nancy Voyles, AFGC, INC President

California's Course 1 of Series 22 in San Andreas took place on October 13 and 14, 2007 with sixty-nine students registered. Fifty-six students took and passed the exam. Three consultants refreshed. Co-Chairmen, Marian Coahran and Lynda Kuykendall, with the help of LD Consultant John Randell (members of the Calaveras County Garden Club of the Valley Lode District) did an excellent job! Course 2 will be held on May 3 & 4, 2008 with Steve McNeil and Dale Pollard as instructors. The special interest topic will be "Victorian Garden Design."

Regarding proposed Courses 1 and 2 of Series 23 in Southern California which is planned to run on consecutive days in September 2008, NGC agreed to permit this "arrangement on a one-time basis for these two courses only." NGC has requested special provisions which must be met regarding these consecutively-running courses. When final approval is given by NGC, it will be announced that the courses

will be held on four consecutive days at Temecula's new state-of-the-art public library on September 2-3, 2008 (Course 1) and September 4-5, 2008 (Course 2). This will be a great location (wine country) for garden club students, non-garden club students and refreshing consultants from the surrounding districts to learn about landscape design. The school's chairman is Felicia Hogan of the Temecula Valley Garden Club. The school's sponsor is the Palomar District of CGCI. Work is now underway by the CGCI LDSP Chairman for the procurement of instructors for the twenty hours of instruction.

Mary Lou Goodwin, CGCI LD Consultants Council Chairman, reports that eighteen Landscape Design Council honors will be awarded by June 1, 2008. The Council's goal of twenty-four for two years is well ahead of schedule. The honors include several home gardens and botanical gardens; a church; a certified NWF wildlife habitat; a university campus; a Veterans memorial rose garden (all roses having military names); and a garden center. All were toured and awarded commendations. Mary Lou also reports that the Council now plans to go wine-tasting and select several wineries for next year's landscape design winners.

Patricia Claves, CGCI LDSP Chairman

The Federated Garden Clubs of **Connecticut** will present Course II of Series 8 on March 25, 26 and 27, 2008 at the Jones Auditorium in the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, in New Haven, CT. For more information, please contact Margery Winters at margerywinters@comcast.net or call 860-658-5416. Margery Winters, CT LDSP

Colorado Federation of Garden club planned to hold a Landscape Design School toward the end of February in 2008. Joan Sapp **Delaware** is looking into the possibility of holding a symposium involving the AHS Children & Youth Gardening Group with the projected dates of July 24-25. The location will be in the greater Philadelphia area. Esther

Martin, President Delaware GC

Florida's Landscape Design Consultants continue to be involved in the Habitat For Humanity Landscape Projects. District X landscaped a community of Habitat houses and then proceeded to place a Blue Star Marker at the entrance to the community. This project involved several community groups as well as youth. This was submitted for the Deep South Public Relations Award.

Several groups have indicated they will participate in the new award "Color Our Garden" which is for Habitat Landscapes.

Our group is also looking at getting involved in the Adopt A Pond Program.

Darcy Stottlemeyer,
President Florida Landscape Design Council

Georgia will host "Augusta In Bloom." This is a Tri-Refresher for Environmental Studies, Gardening Consultants, and Landscape Consultants planned for April 25 and 26 in Augusta, GA. It will be a part the Sacred Heart Garden Festival. The program includes well-known speakers, a visit to the Standard Flower Show sponsored by the Augusta Garden Council, and tours of at least four of nine private gardens plus Living History Park and Sensory Garden. Detailed program and registration will be sent to members on The Garden Club of Georgia list in late March. Others please contact Bobbie Reid at bareid@bellsouth.net.

Landscape Design program, Series XXV, Course I was cancelled due to of lack of enough students to meet financial requirements. It is hoped that they will try again soon. Betty Lawrence, LDS Chairman, Georgia

Kentucky's Louisville Council voted last to co-sponsor a Garden Study School with Yew Dell Gardens. Martha Mengel, President of The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.

The LDSP held a school for Course IV, Series

XVI, at the Baton Rouge Garden Center in Baton Rouge, **Louisiana**, January 10-12, 2008. Forty-seven registrants were in attendance -- fourteen were garden club members and thirty-three were non-members. Eight members tested successfully; three achieved consultant status; and six members refreshed. Only one non-member tested. For the course topic "Evaluating Landscape Design." They were able to tour a home landscape. The garden had many evergreen trees, shrubs, and some flowering shrubs as camellias.

The LGCF state annual convention will be held in April. At the convention, during a scheduled luncheon, the Landscape Design Consultant's Council and the LDSP chairman will present a landscape program. Also, at that time, the garden club members that have recently become consultants are recognized and issued orange cards. State LDSP Chairman, Betty Foret

Maine is planning a LD School Course 2 for September 4-5. For further information contact the chairman at bettyw@wildblue.net. Betty Wilson, LD Schools Chairman

The **Maryland** Landscape Design Council held its spring meeting in April 2007 following the first day of Landscape Design School, Course II. Forty consultants and students attended a wine and cheese reception. The guest speaker, William Vondrasek, Chief Horticulturist of Baltimore City, reviewed the master plan for the landscape and new trees planned as part of the renovation of Cylburn Arboretum and the new visitors' center. The consultants were asked for their input before the plan was finalized. The future offices of the Federation of Garden Clubs of Maryland will be part of the new visitors' center when it is finished. The Council members voted to contribute \$500 to the building fund sponsored by the Federated for Cylburn's new visitors' center.

The Landscape Design Council sponsored a bus tour on May 9. The day featured a bus tour of the Washington, DC monuments and a walking tour of the Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia led by the chief horticulturalist. Lunch was followed by an afternoon tour led by docents at Brookside Gardens, a twelve-acre public garden and conservatory in Wheaton, MD.

The Landscape Design Council held its fall meeting on a gorgeous fall day in early October 2007. The consultants toured two historic gardens and houses in Prince George's County, MD. At Riversdale in Riverdale Park, MD, the gardener led a tour of the recreated early 19th century gardens followed by a tour of the mansion. The lunch and meeting was held at Montpelier, an early 18th century mansion in Laurel, MD, followed by a tour of the house and historic boxwood garden. Rumor has it that George Washington loved the boxwood garden so much that he planted one at Mount Vernon after visiting the Snowden family at Montpelier.

Two clubs have applied for the Landscape Design Award for 2007. They will share \$250.00 for the first and second place awards. Silver Fancy Garden Club of Carroll County designed and planted two demonstration herb gardens, featuring kitchen and medicinal herbs of the nineteenth century, at the new Maryland visitors' center in Emmittsburg, MD. Country Garden Club of Harford County planted and continues to maintain a shrub and native perennial border along the historic Ma and Pa Rail Trail. The results will be announced in March 2008, at the annual meeting of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland.

Anne Maddin

Maryland's Landscape Design School, Course III will be held April 1, 2, and 3, 2008 at Hilton Garden Inn – White Marsh, Maryland. The theme is "Drifts & Waves." Special Interest topic will be Night Blooming Gardens. Course IV, which always features garden tours as part of the curriculum, will be held on October 14, 15 and 16 of 2008. For information contact the

chairman at (410) 848-1015. Mary Ellen Bay, Chairman

The Garden Club Federation of **Massachusetts** sponsored Course II, Series 13, held on November 1- 3, 2007 in Weston, Massachusetts. One hundred five attended. The 62 students included 19 enthusiastic new students. Nine completed their fourth course to become Landscape Design Consultants. Six of the 43 refreshers achieved Master Consultant status.

Course III will take place on October 23 - 25, 2008 at Regis College in Weston. The course registrar is Mary Nokes, sekon_mary@yahoo.com

In June, Landscape Historian Virginia Lopez-Begg will lead an educational three-day tour of landscapes and estates along the Hudson River, the birthplace of the Hudson River Valley School of landscape painters. Landscape Design Council consultants will receive refresher credit. Among the sites to be visited are Olana, Montgomery Place, Kykuit, Lyndhurst, Van Cortlandt Manor, Boscobel, and Stonecrop Gardens. Terese D'Urso, Chairman, LDSP Massachusetts

Massachusetts Students are eligible for \$1,000 Landscape Design Council Scholarship. The Landscape Design Council (LDC) of Massachusetts seeks qualified students to apply for the Landscape Design Council Scholarship, a scholarship designed to assist college juniors, seniors, and graduate students majoring in landscape architecture, city planning, or related fields of interest, such as horticulture and conservation. The Landscape Design Council Scholarship Fund was established in 1986 by the LDC membership to encourage students to pursue the study of landscape design and related fields. It is one of a number of scholarships administered by the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts (GCFM), the parent organization of LDC.

Adriana O'Sullivan is the Chairman of

Massachusetts Landscape Design Council. The Landscape Design Council of Massachusetts has approximately 250 members, the largest state Council in the country.

The St. Louis Landscape Design Council in **Missouri** is sponsoring L.D. School IV, Oct. 14 and 15 with the examination being given on Thursday the 16th. The registrar is Jean Kovarik, 13544 Sunset Ridge Lane, St. Louis MO 63128. If interested phone 314 843-6646 or email Jckov@juno.com Marlene Whiteman

National Capital Area's Landscape Design Council's educational goal this year is "Getting Greener". To narrow down this topic it has been decided to study deforestation in Northern Virginia and the nearby Maryland counties in the past 35 years. A brief history in Maryland: In 1991, the State of Maryland passed a Forest Conservation Act. In 1992, Montgomery County, Maryland, one of the largest areas, enacted a similar law designed to save, maintain and plant trees and forested areas; establish procedures, standards and requirements to minimize tree loss as a result of development and to protect tree and forests after construction etc. But the developers found big loopholes in the law and the deforestation continues. Even the proposed new regulations are woefully inadequate.

The LDC Chairman suggests for reading: is [Collapse, How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed](#), by Jared Diamond, Viking Press, NY, NY 2005. Dianne Gregg, LDC President

Nebraska is encouraging those interested in Landscape Design to participate in the school put on in Iowa.

Alice Hemsath, Nebraska Landscape Design Chairman

There is currently no chairman for Landscape Design in **Nevada**. Our state varies from top to bottom going from Ponderosa Pine to Desert Grasses. In Southern Nevada where most of our clubs are located, we are concentrating on

planting native in our Landscape Designs. The drought has forced us all in the southwest to change our thinking about exotic plants and lush lawns. Some are very creative in their desert landscaping and wisely using water to advantage. With the theme of National Garden Clubs being Plant Native, this gives our clubs an opportunity to educate and promote this way of thinking. Kristie Livreri, Nevada President

New Jersey has finished sponsoring Course IV. They are looking for a new chairman to start Course I. Onnolee Allieri, President

New York enjoys the creation of the Bay Shore Community Reflection Garden on a formerly debris and weed-filled lot in the middle of Bay Shore's Main Street provides a welcome respite for both residents and business people. This project, conceived by Bay Shore Garden Club members, Susan Boudreau and Gail Farrell, opened to the public in June 2007 after six years in the making. The wrought-iron fenced garden has brick and bluestone walk ways which lead around a central fountain to plantings along the perimeters and eventually to the back of the garden. Two-foot high brick retaining walls hold hand crafted tiles depicting images of various flora and fauna Stone stairs lead to a pagoda planned for installation in early 2008. On the west side of the garden stand four eight-foot trellises fashioned to resemble grapevines. In the midst of the surrounding stores and offices, the Reflection Garden serves the community as an open green space where residents can relax on the benches or on the grassy areas, have an outdoor place for lunch or use the concrete chess tables. Residents can memorialize and/or honor family and loved ones by sponsoring plantings or various engravings. The garden has been well received by the community and enjoys frequent use.

North Shore/ LIJ Southside Hospital of Bay Shore has invited the Bay Shore Beautification Society and the Landscaping Design Council of the Second District to work in concert to

suggest a new landscaping design for the hospital. The committee has been given carte blanche to come up with creative ideas to make the grounds more inviting and attractive to the community. Second District, Civic Development and Beautification, Chairperson: Susan Boudreau

Twenty-six consultants attended a multiple refresher held in Canandaigua, New York in September. Beginning at Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion State Historic Park, with small-group tours of the nine formal gardens, and ending at the lakeside gardens of two private homes, senses were dazzled and designs were discussed, photographed and admired. In November, District 2 completed Course IV of the Landscape Design Study Program in Westbury and New York welcomed twenty-one new consultants. Regionally, the combined council of Districts 7 & 8 continued their work on a 1920's garden at the Rochester Junction and explored the possibilities of "Roof Gardens" with an illustrated lecture at the Civic Garden Center.

Audrey Gregory, Landscape Design Schools Chaiman,
2363 St. Hwy 51 Morris, N.Y. 13808; 607-263-5746; pagregory@frontiernet.net

New Mexico is not planning a landscaping school soon as we are doing an Environmental school. A few of our consultants will be attending the refresher at Memphis. The knowledge received in our landscape schools have served us all well and is being put to use in our communities in public gardens as well as in private situations. Their resources are limited to supporting one refresher or school at this time. Colleen Hinker, NM President

Sallye Chambers is the chairman for the **North Carolina** Landscape Design Consultants SalChamb@earthlink.net. The North Carolina Landscape School, Course 1 was held February 11-13 at the Sarah P. Duke Gardens in Durham (on the Duke University Campus).

Okalahoma has an active LD council. They plan on having a refresher at their Wildflower

Workshop since planting Natives in the landscape is part of their Unified Project. Judy Grotts

Oregon has no plants at present for a LD School. Nan Jean Roller

Pennsylvania is sponsoring Course I of a Tri-school on July 25-27, on the campus of Millersville State University. Anyone may pursue any one of the three schools, Landscape Design, Gardening Study or Environmental Studies. Some topics will overlap, others will be specifically for one of the subject areas. Bring your friends---choose your interest area. More information will be out soon.

A Tri-refresher will be held during the CAR Conference, October 24-27, 2008, which will be held at Seven Springs Resort in Champion, PA, near Somerset. This promises to be a peak time to enjoy the fall foliage in the mountains of PA. Bring your spouse and enjoy the amenities this resort area has to offer. Golfing, hiking, and fishing opportunities are there during the October fest Celebration.

Goodell Gardens in Edinboro is Pennsylvania's newest arboretum. The original gardens were begun in 1964 by the Goodell sisters. At the time of their deaths, the property was turned over to a group in Erie to continue the preservation of the plantings. The numerous unusual plants and trees for the area include Jeffersonian Pines and the largest paper birch in PA, according to the Director, Dana Atwood. It is open to the public. Dot Yard, PA President

Anne O'Neil is the LDC Chairman for **Rhode Island**. Since their state is so small they don't traditionally run their own programs. They regularly participate in LDC programs in the Boston area. All the LDC members in RI have

taken their classes through the Mass LDC and that way we get to know others in neighboring states and have a wider range of speakers and teachers available to us. Anne O'Neil

The Garden Club of **South Carolina**, Inc. held Course One in November 2007, at the South Carolina Botanical Garden. An enthusiastic group of thirty-two students took the course, with nineteen taking the exam. Along with very interesting lectures, the group enjoyed a wonderful tour of the SC Botanical Garden with emphasis on the native plants in the garden.

Landscape Design School, Course Two, will be held at the SC Botanical Garden, contact Marsha Alexander @ 864- November 3-5, 2008. For more information, please 576-1513 or marshaalexander@charter.net.

Texas held a Landscape Design Study Course I, Series XXI on February 18-19 in College Station, Texas. They had 190 students registered for the course. This was the largest course in some time, if not, the largest ever. Classes are usually cut off at 175. They had a waiting list of 25 but were able to accept 15 additional students.

There were a varied selection of speakers from Texas A & M University and professional individuals. The special topic for this course was Barron Rector, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist in the Department of Rangeland Ecology and Management, Texas A&M. His lecture was on "Native Grasses on the Texas Rural and Urban Landscapes".

A highlight was the lecture of Dr. William C. Welch, Professor and Landscape Horticulturist in the Department of Horticulture. Dr. Welch is the author of several books on heirloom gardens, tried-and-true Southern perennials and antique roses. His lecture focused on "The Private Garden".

Course II is scheduled September 15-16 in College Station.

Charlie Marr, Texas LD Schools Chairman

The **Virginia** Landscape Design Consultants' Council has a specially designed guided tour of two of Frank Lloyd Wright's famous homes - Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob - and their gardens. The tour will leave from Richmond, Virginia by chartered bus on Wednesday morning, April 30 and return to Richmond Friday evening, May 2. Participants will also be able to attend the morning session of the Pennsylvania Wildflower Symposium and have a wildflower walk along the Great Gorge in Ohio State Park in the afternoon. Registration deadline is March 28, 2008. For more information or registration, contact Kathleen Cole, 13704 Harbourwood Road, Midlothian, VA 23113-2016 or by telephone at (804) 739-6187 or by e-mail at jkathleencole@earthlink.net. This trip is a National Garden Club accredited Landscape Design Refresher. Jean Cole

VFGC Landscape Design Consultants' Council is offering grants for Virginia Federated Garden Club sponsored projects. Landscape Project Grants will be presented with first, second, and third place awards all being in the amount of \$100.

Course 4 will be March 10-11, 2008, in Lynchburg, Virginia. The first Landscape Design School for this administration was July 30-31, 2007 on the Virginia Tech Campus. Participants toured the Hahn Horticulture Garden with the guidance of Stephanie Huckestein, Education and Outreach Coordinator for the garden. Sue Patterson, Virginia LDS Chairman

No Landscape Design Schools are planned in **Vermont**. Susan Robinson, FGCV President

West Virginia Garden Clubs will sponsor Landscape Design School, Course III, Series IX, on May 14, 15, and 16, 2008 at West Virginia University, Morgantown WV. Contact Chairman Donna Davis, 64 Bryant Davis Lane, ST Marys, WV, 26170 (phone and fax 304-684-3136; email dadodavis@frontiernet.net)

Last year, **Wisconsin** held a Tri-refresher and formed a Tri-Council. The first meeting of the Tri-Council will be April 1, 2008. An extensive tour of the Gardens at The American Club, Kohler, WI, will excite all of the members and provide ideas for landscaping our backyards. Wisconsin is hopeful to begin Landscape Design School Series IX in the spring of 2009. Carol Catlin WGCF Landscape School Chairman

Wyoming does not have a Landscape Design Chairman. **Newsclapes** will be published in Wyoming Paintbrush in hopes of promoting more interest in the NGC Landscape Design Program. Barb Yates, Wyoming Garden Club President

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB NEWS REQUEST

Rita Crane reports that Dr. Elias, Director of the National Arboretum, spoke to members at the February 4, 2008 board meeting regarding possible budget cuts that may affect the National Arboretum. A 40% cut was mentioned as a possibility. Will you please write a letter to each of the following with concerns about the impact such cuts will have on plans underway for renovations, new additions, educational programs and even maintenance of the garden. One or two paragraphs to be read quickly, is recommended.

The Honorable Rosa Delauro,
Chairman Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Dev.
Food and Drug Administration
United States Senate
Room 2262 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515
AND

The Honorable Herb Kohl Chair,
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Dev.
Food and Drug Administration
United States Senate
Room 330, Hart Senate Office
Building Washington, DC 20510

DID YOU KNOW?

In an effort to promote Greening in America, here are energy saving tips for home computers. **PUT YOUR PC TO SLEEP:** To save energy, configure your computer monitor and hard drive to turn off after 20-30 minutes of inactivity. Whenever possible turn your PC, monitor, and printer to off. If you use a power strip, switch it off or unplug it from the wall outlet.

TRADE UP AND POWER DOWN:

Today's PCs, monitors, and printers can do much more, but use much less energy than older models. New energy star-qualified models use up to 60 percent less energy. When trading up, consider a notebook or laptop instead of a desktop model, or a flat-panel LCD instead of a CRT monitor and enjoy even more energy savings.
(www.energystar.gov)

CHILDREN'S CORNER

It is never too early to involve children in gardening and landscaping. They are willing, enthusiastic learners and of course the future caretakers of our planet. Of course these projects may interest adults as well. Aren't we all just kids at heart?

A Living Wall:

Create a place of beauty and solitude along the edge of an existing garden. Erect lattice or fencing in a full-sun area of a garden. Plant black-eyed Susan vine seeds at the center of the support system. Space and sow morning glories on either side of the vine. Within 6-8 weeks your wall will yield a yellow and blue vision.

Cucumber in a Bottle:

Sow cucumber seeds as per package or use a plant from nursery. When the first yellow flowers appear, look for tiny cucumbers at the bottom of the plant. Select one and slide it into the bottle, making sure the bottle is completely shaded by the leaves. Watch the growth daily

as cucumbers fill out quickly. Just before it outgrows the bottle, snap the big cucumber off of the vine. Add vinegar and pickling spices and replace cap of bottle.

Chia Taters:

Scoop out the center of a potato. Use craft supplies to design creature features on the potato. Fill the potato with soil/grass seed mix. Keep moist and place in moderate light.
March/April 2008 Cooperative Living www.co-opliving.com

REFLECTIONS

Gardens Need Care

Keep your aspirations high.
You'll beat that crabgrass if you try.
Don't procrastinate and say,
"I'll plant my bulbs another day."
Or wait to scatter mulch around
'Till shrubs look up from frozen ground.
Gardens need constant care. It's true.
But they bring a world of pleasures, too.
Where Mocking Birds Sing by Reba S. Wall

I wish everybody had a garden, and would work in it himself.
The world would grow sweeter-tempered at once. Anna Warner

Show me your garden and I shall tell you what you are. Alfred Austin

As is the garden such is the gardener.
A man's nature runs either to herbs or weeds.
Frances Bacon

Garden Blessings by Debbie Mumm

