

Newsclapes

National Garden Clubs Landscape Design Consultant's Council News

Editor Janice Doyle Winter 2009

FROM OUR NGC LD CHAIRMAN

To Landscape Design Schools Chairmen and Students:

Several questions have come up regarding information in the *Operations Manual*.

I would like to clarify two items.

On page 2, under II- Students and Consultants, A., 1., a. Requirements for Consultant certification, the text reads

:

(2) These four courses must be completed within not fewer than two years or more than seven years

The calendar year is used to determine refresher and exam dates. Thus, if someone takes their first course in 2001, they should complete the fourth course in calendar year 2008 at the latest.

Further down on the same page under 1. Non-member students:

Many non-garden club members attend the Landscape Design Courses.

The Certificate of Achievement is issued to them upon the satisfactory completion of one course (that is, passing the exam with a grade of 70 or above.)

The Certificate of Completion is given to non-member students upon the satisfactory completion of the four Landscape Design courses (again,

passing each of the four exams with a grade of 70 or above).

If these students become garden club members, we then have their records to accredit them as Landscape Design Consultants with the privileges that go with this status.

The following recommendation was made to the NGC Executive Committee and approved at their winter meeting in January of 2009. This change applies **ONLY** to refreshers (single and multi) that are offered at national conventions.

The change reads (1) that seven (7) hours of instruction time will be accepted for approval of State-sponsored refresher programs offered at NGC national conventions, (2) that this 7-hour requirement of instruction time does not include lunch/snack breaks or time allotted for shopping, (3) that bus time may be included if knowledgeable docents are on board sharing prepared notes during travel time, and (4) that these Refreshers and Multi-Refreshers should be chaired only by consultants who have previously chaired a school or refresher.

This change does not affect the current 8-hour requirement for other state regional or locally sponsored refresher programs.

This information will be incorporated into the *Operations Manual*.

As an extra at the closing to this issue of *Newsclapes* is a **SUMMARY OF

GUIDELINES 1999-2005 that were issued for the Landscape Design Schools Program. This explains the routine for issuing certificates for school and refresher attendance.

The NGC LD Committee is very appreciative of the time and effort involved in organizing the refreshers and schools. We are grateful to the chairmen and their committees who work hard to offer these programs that are so vital to the garden club membership. Thank you all.

Marion E. Ryan, NGC LD Chairman

FROM THE INSTRUCTORS' CHAIRMAN

Last winter there were thirteen Landscape Design Schools from January through the end of May. This year seventeen schools have been scheduled February through the end of May. All of the state/course chairmen are working very hard to make the courses a huge success.

Just as a reminder, Form LDSP 2b must be filled out in the same sequence as is shown on the Curriculum Course Forms LDSP 19, I – IV. How the subjects are set up on the two days usually is set by the availability of the instructors.

Don't forget to tell your instructors that true/false, yes/no, questions are not allowed. (See Operations Guide, page 5.)

Thanks go to all involved in running these courses.

Janet Kinney, LDSP Instructors' Chairman

FROM THE READING/LITERATURE CHAIRMAN

State LDSP chairmen who are sending in Event Announcements should include

the name, phone number and postal and e-mail address of the Course Chairman. These do change and if one is not listed, material is sent to the State Chairman, who may not be the one needing it. This causes unnecessary delay and is easy to prevent.

We welcome back former Texas Course Chairman Nell Zeigler who is replacing Charlie Marr. Charlie had to resign due to illness and we wish her well.

We also welcome back Mississippi as host for a school after many years. Congratulations and best wishes in the new series!

We'd love to see the return of other state schools. In these times of economic stress and cutbacks we have much to learn about maintaining our landscapes, fitting in an attractive garden and working efficiently with what we have. If you don't have a school in mind, please discuss it and see what you can do to help green America.

Lucy Hendy, Chairman
LDSP Reading/Literature

FROM THE MULTIPLE-REFRESHERS CHAIRMAN

TEN EASY STEPS FOR SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTING NGC MULTIPLE REFRESHERS (BI- or TRI-Refreshers)

1. Download from NGC Website (www.gardenclubs.org Schools Multiple Refreshers) the packet containing information and forms (or call Member Services, NGC (page 1, *The National Gardener*).
2. The Multiple Refresher will have an Event Chairman, appointed by sponsor, who will select Local Chairmen for each participating school

- (Environmental Studies, Gardening Study and Landscape Design).
3. Submit Application Forms 1a-05 & 1b-08 with agenda/program to NGC Multiple Refresher Chairman (see Directory Issue, *TNG*) for approval.
 4. When approval is received:
 - a. Send a copy of approved Forms 1a-05 to the Schools Secretary (page 1, *TNG*) with a check, written to NGC, covering \$5.00 fee for each participating school. The event will be listed on the NGC Website and in *TNG* only after the approved form is received by the Schools Secretary.
 - b. Send copies of approved Forms 1a-05 & 1b-08 with agenda/program to NGC School Chairmen (Directory Issue, *TNG*) of each participating school.
 5. Consultant Forms ES 2a-06, GS 2b-06 and LD 2c-06 are to be filled out by Consultant for school in which he/she is seeking credit. Master Consultant will fill out a form for each school in which he/she is refreshing.
 6. Roster Forms ES 3a-06, GS 3b-06, and LD 3c-06 for the participating schools are compiled from the consultant forms by the Local Chairmen, who are familiar with the eligibility of each refreshing consultant, and submitted to the Event Chairman.
 7. Summary Form 4-06 is the compilation of attendance at the refresher and is made up from the roster forms by the Event Chairman.
 8. The Event Chairman sends copies of the rosters with the

summary to the NGC Schools Secretary including one check for all Consultants seeking credit (\$5.00 each).

9. Copies of these rosters and summary are ALSO sent to the NGC Multiple Refresher Chairman and to each NGC School Chairman (roster for that chairman's school only).
10. NGC Schools Chairmen will forward their respective rosters to the appropriate Accrediting Chairmen for their official record of all consultants.

IMPORTANT: The NGC Multiple-Refresher Chairman and the appropriate NGC School Chairmen must receive copies of the rosters and summary before participating consultants will receive credit (via NGC Accrediting Chairmen) for having attended the refresher. The Event Chairman, NGC School Chairmen, or the NGC Schools Secretary distributes the refresher cards according to each school.

Libby Coffey Multiple Refreshers Chairman

What Can Bee Today's Biggest Buzz Words?

Answer: "Bee Friendly Gardens"

You may recall a summer afternoon's nap with bees crooning you to sleep. You may remember a garden wedding with the buzz of bees as background music.

We all know that bees are pleasant little creatures in our flower gardens.

Bees are in a terrible fix these days. Fewer and fewer can to be found. In fact scientists have sent up an SOS because of the loss of honey bees known as "Colony Collapse Disorder."

But did you know how important they are to commercial food growers? Honeybees are greatly needed by large-scale agriculture. They are also important to local farmers and

“orchardists.” The honeybee shortage is a problem to the average food purchaser too. Most of us are buying local produce and for that produce, farmers need honeybees. We can help the farmers in our areas. Even a small 10-foot plot of ground planted with bee loving plants can help. The bees pollinate these flowers enhancing the seed and fruit production and often stimulating the plant growth as well. This will result in better produce at your local farmers market or in your own vegetable/fruit garden.

I must say here that growing your own produce is a most exciting and satisfying experience that the whole family can enjoy. Plus you have the added advantage of the saving of a few dollars in a struggling economy.

How can you attract those bees to your garden? Bees like native plants for the most part. How easy is that? What about flower color? Did you know that bees see an infrared spectrum? They like blue plants but not white ones. Your bees will drone happily with lavender blue vitex, hollyhocks, asters, coneflower, salvia, black-eyed Susans, cosmos, sunflowers, and monarda. To get double-duty from bee-attracting plants try some herbs such as thyme, lavender, mint, chives, and strawberries. My personal bee-attracting favorites are sunflowers. They lend me some shade while picking my vegetables. It is quite a show to see 20 or so bees swaying to and fro on a big happy sunflower-maybe even worth a prize-winning photo. (See my photo below.)

I am not alone in liking the sunflower to coax bees into a garden. There are many environmentally conscious groups that are promoting interest in bees. “The Great Sunflower Project” is underway. You can visit the web site at www.greatsunflower.org to receive seeds for native sunflowers and a kit that explains how to track bees in the garden. Please join the campaign to

attract bees to our gardens.

Janice Doyle, Editor

**March/April 2009 Cooperative Living*



Do you see the bees?

**NATIONAL GARDEN CUBS, INC.
2007-2009 LANDSCAPE DESIGN
COMMITTEE**

For your reference and for a call for help, your LD committee is here for YOU.

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LAUGH-IN

Scott Price a VA LDSP instructor tells a funny story about Color in the Landscape. It seems that he lived in Richmond's "Fan District" in a restored row home. Every time he filled his porch planters with lovely colorful flowers they would "disappear." After repeatedly replacing the plantings he had an idea on how to get even with the thieves. He made a colorful planting of patio tomatoes and **poison ivy!** His planters although tampered with were left alone thereafter. He also tells the story of not liking the close up view of his neighbors' activities and having little money for a privacy screen. What was fast and did a fine job of providing privacy for him were tall sunflowers and corn!

NEWS FROM OUR STATES

Alabama has scheduled a meeting at their state convention on Wednesday, April 22, 2009. Our guest speaker is a Master Gardener, Jean Inscho, and her topic is "Landscaping with Bulbs".

They have scheduled our next Landscape Design Study Course 2, Series XI for May 5-6, 2009, at the Auburn University Campus. The cost is \$35 for both days, \$20 for one day, \$20 for LDC Refresher and \$5 for credit for the Study Program. Registration should be sent to: Virginia Hurst, Registrar, 10026 Greenview Dr, Huntsville, AL 35803, E-mail: vmhurstr@hiwaay.net phone number: 256-883-8928. Linda Stephens

Arizona has not held any LD schools.
Fran Harkey

Beautiful wineries have been the topic of the **California** GCI Landscape Design Consultants. Eight gardens have been honored with Landscape Design Commendations presented to the winery owners at district meetings throughout California -- some feature plantings of 6,000 tulips or acres of lavender. The most outstanding is Ferrari-Carrano's spectacular five acres of gardens surrounding the winery. The gardens are Italian/French parterre in style with classic, geometric shapes that form the architectural backbone. No matter the season, the gardens are a delight -- changing constantly in color scheme and beginning each year with over 10,000 tulips and daffodils on display. Also featured are meandering paths, foot bridges, a rippling stream, waterfalls and fish-filled ponds.

Each council meeting precedes a State Board Meeting and includes a featured speaker for all of the board members to enjoy. Council members are looking forward to the announcement of the "Landscape Design Consultant Of The Year," presented at the state convention, and clubs will be honored for their civic beautification projects. An award also encourages clubs to establish a "Garden of the Month" contest. Mary Lou Goodwin CGCI Landscape Council Chairman

Course 3 of Series 22 (San Andreas) and Course 3 of Series 23 (Temecula) were recently held with fabulous instructors. Many master gardeners attended the courses and sought NGC garden clubs to join -- yes, CGCI is accommodating these non-garden club members with local clubs. What a great way to obtain new members and start new clubs. The two series are winding down, and clubs and districts have been encouraged to start Series 24 and Series 25 somewhere in California in the near future.

A fun Tri-Refresher was held in Grass

Valley during CGCI's fall board meeting with consultants from all over the state refreshing their credentials -- eleven refreshed in landscape design. Many others refreshed their credentials in the other two disciplines. It is hoped that more Tri- and Bi-Refreshers will be held in connection with future CGCI board meetings and conventions.

Patricia Garrison Claves CGCI
Landscape Design Study Program
Chairman

Delaware's Landscape Design Council is so small (only about 6-7 members) we usually tie in with one of our State meetings when the program relates to gardens or horticulture -- reserve a table for our group -- and discuss any current business.

The Council does present a \$50 check to the most outstanding club-landscaping project each year.

The Council also coordinates the Habitat for Humanity project supported each year by National by contacting all of our clubs and encouraging them to design, plant and deliver a Container Garden to a new HFH homeowner during National Garden Week in June. Last year our small state delivered 31 gardens to HFH homeowners.

Gini Pellegrini, Delaware Landscape Design Council

LaGrange **Georgia** garden clubs and Redbud District will be holding the Landscape Design School in 2009-2011 in LaGrange, Georgia. The dates for the school are September 25-26, 2009, March 19-20, 2010, September 24-25, 2010 and March 11-12, 2011.

More Information will be available shortly and a brochure will be prepared soon. The chairman of this series is Marilyn Mayer, 104 Brittany Lane, LaGrange 30240, 706-837-0013, garymayer@aol.com. Betty Lawrence

Idaho is in the process of recruiting (and

accrediting) a couple of instructors in preparation for Course 1, which we are tentatively planning to hold July 16-18, 2009. Our plans are to then present courses 2-4 at approximate 9-month intervals (April 2010, Jan 2011, Oct 2011).

Allen Deitz, State LD Schools Chairman
Idaho Garden Clubs, Inc. (208) 867-3345

allen_deitz@hotmail.com
www.IdahoGardenClubs.org

Iowa's Landscape Design Course II will be held at the Iowa Arboretum, Madrid Iowa on April 16-18, 2009. User-Friendly Landscape is the special interest topic.

Landscape Design Chairman is Erica Ng, email address is e.ng@mchsi.com

Landscape Design and Gardening Study Consultants (this is a joint group) will meet April 6, 2009 at the Ames Public Library, Ames, IA. Program will be on hosta and shade gardening. LSD/GS Consultants

Chairman is Ada Mae Lewis, email address lewis@isunet.net

Veronica Fowler (veteran garden writer/author/gardener extraordinaire wrote the book "Gardening in Iowa", among many other pubs) is part of a team that has just established a gardening e-newsletter that will feature cool and timely info specific to Iowa--best of all, it's free. Please take time to check out this website and sign up to receive updating information from Veronica. The website is <http://www.theiowagardener.com/>

The **Kentucky** Landscape Design Consultants Council has several ongoing projects. The Garden Club of Kentucky has as it's headquarters a lovely house in Paris, Kentucky, which was the home of Nannine Clay Wallis, the only National President from our

state.

The beautiful and historic grounds surrounding the house consist of several garden areas, structures, and landscape features, including an arboretum, which is open to the public. Our Council has for many years helped with the landscaping by both working there and contributing funds for special projects. These funds are raised by selling copies of a small concrete "Wallis Rabbit" statue which was featured in Mrs. Wallis' garden. One of our Council members, Judy Ferrell, has long been the Headquarters Chairman, and has been in charge of the rabbit project. At the September Council meeting, a donation was made to purchase mulch for the arboretum. In alternating years, the LDC Council sponsors a breakfast at our Garden Club of Kentucky State Convention. We arrange for a speaker, decorate the tables and provide favors for the large crowd in attendance. This year we will feature birds, both in the program and by decorating the tables with birdhouses decorated with fresh flowers.

Officers to be installed in April are: President, Martha Morgan, Vice President, Judy Ferrell, Secretary, Miriam Mann, and Treasurer, Joyce Burger. Several of our members plan to participate in the Landscape Design Refresher at the South Atlantic Regional Meeting in March at The Inn at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia. Martha Morgan, President, Landscape Design Consultants Council The Garden Club of Kentucky, Inc.

Maryland's Series XII of Landscape Design School is now finished. All four Courses were a great success. We had a total of 324 registrations for Series XII, 12 of those became Masters, and 29 students became new Landscape Design Consultants. Series XIII will be held in the National Capital Area. Mary Ellen Bay, Chairman Susie Heck, Vice-

Chairman

The **Massachusetts** Landscape Design Council visited an exhibit on LOST GARDENS OF NEW ENGLAND in September at the Heritage Museums and Gardens in Sandwich on Cape Cod.

In October we attended a Historic Preservation of Gardens Workshop and Garden Tour in Old Sturbridge Village and in November we enjoyed a lecture by John Furlong on The English Gardens of Jekyll and Jellicoe.

Our Landscape Design Study Program - Course III, Series 13 was held October. They look forward to the Rhode Island Flower Show, where we will practice our landscape judging skills. Adriana O'Sullivan Chairman LDC, MA

Mississippi has finished Course I of the LDCC Courses. Future LD courses are: Course II -July 13-14, 2009, exam on 15th; Course III - January 11-12, 2010, exam on 13th; Course IV - July 12-13, 2010 - exam on the 14th. They will be held in Louisville, MS at Lake Tiak-O'Khata Resort. On October 15, 2009, they had a Bi-fresher at MSU. They hope to get more into LDCC in the future.

The Landscape Design Council of the **National Capital Area** conducted a survey of the Forest Conservation Laws and Tree Preservation Ordinances of the District of Columbia, 3 Maryland Counties and 3 Virginia Counties all having members in our Council. The counties surveyed were large and small, urban, suburban and rural. The results were interesting and informative.

The smaller and older jurisdictions with no large tracts of land to develop had strict tree ordinances, well enforced. These include the District of Columbia, **Arlington** County, VA, and Alexandria County, VA.

Charles County, MD, the rural county, had relatively minimum restrictions but

was not under much pressure for development.

The three large counties - Montgomery County, MD, Prince Georges County, MD and Fairfax County, VA are suburban with some rural forest cover left. Prince Georges County MD and Fairfax County, VA managed to enact some stricter forest conservation laws in the last few years. (In fact, the Fairfax law just went into effect in January of 2009).

Montgomery County, where the forest canopy has been reduced greatly in the past 25 years, has not been able to pass the stricter forest conservation recommendations and tree ordinance proposals of two councilmen, Mark Elrich and Roger Berliner (and their hardworking staff members.) The other seven councilmen and women appear to be either indifferent, uninformed or more interested in the rights of the developers than the ecological importance of reforestation or preserving the tree canopy.

Deforestation is second only to fossil fuel emissions in causing global warming. The trees absorb the carbon and add oxygen into the atmosphere, besides keeping the land from erosion and water run-off, etc.

I hope our survey will spotlight the problems and lead to solutions of our local forest conservation laws and tree ordinance problems. Dianne Gregg LDC President

North Carolina's Landscape Design School, Course 3 was held at the Sarah Duke Gardens in Durham on Feb. 16-18. Their chairman is Ed. Director for the Sarah Duke Gardens and teaches two of the classes for the school. Two LDSP courses are offered each year.

Consultants from **New York's** Regional Council of Districts 7 and 8 were asked by the Town of Victor to review the landscape plans for their new town hall.

Following the incorporation of the consultants' recommendations, the council agreed to write an article for the local newspaper, publicizing the joint experience and their availability for consultations within the community. Spring plans include garden tours of Linwood Gardens in Pavilion and Palmiter's Garden & Nursery in Geneseo.

District 3's Council will be judging a district-sponsored Civic Beautification Contest in which two of the districts' eight counties are eligible annually, on a rotating basis. Categories include both for-profit and not-for-profit properties.

Audrey Gregory, Landscape Design Schools Chairman, 2363 St. Hwy 51 Morris, N.Y. 13808.

pagregory@frontiernet.net

Ohio held a refresher on Oct 3-4, 2008 entitled Fossil Fuels, Water Power, Solar Energy and Gardens In Between. Marylanne Conner was the chairman. Jo Walker is their LDSP Chairman.

The Central Area LD Council and the Garden Club of **Pennsylvania** will host LDSP Course I on April 28-30 at King's gap Environmental Education and Training Center in Carlisle, PA. Their special interest topic will be Earth Stewardship. Barbara Duryea is the chairman.

Presenters for the include: Crystal Huff, a plant pathologist, with a concentration in ornamental plants, and a director of an agriculture education program.

George Weigel, a writer, horticulturist, as well as a lecturer and designer.

Erica Beadle Shaffer, who keeps a nursery running by offering a wide and diverse selection of landscape material, plus providing consults and designs for her customers.

Melissa Trocheck is a landscape architect, arborist, teacher and a former manager of the design division for a floral company.

Kirk Brown is a plant collector, author, business manager, and the National Director of Garden Writers Association of America.

Jim Lehman is a retired teacher of advanced placement biology and environmental science and chairman of a watershed association and edits their newsletter.

This is just a rough sketch of the expertise and talent of our presenters. Add to this the beautiful setting of the mansion at King's Gap and you have a recipe for an outstanding opportunity. If you haven't already registered for the school, you can do so by going to the GCFP website (www.pagardenclubs.org) or contacting Carol Dillon (717-761-6895, or ddillon1@aol.com).

The **Rhode Island** Federation of Garden Clubs does have a Landscape Design Chairman.. However, we do not run LD Schools but seem to rely on MA for our schools and activities. We do have six Accredited Landscape Design Consultants in our RIFGC.

One major event in April - our Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers - we will have the very accomplished Landscape Design/Historian, Marie Stella, as our guest speaker at Rosecliff mansion in Newport. She will speak on "Distinctive Ornaments in The Garden". We encourage anyone interested in Landscape Design to attend this very unique dinner meeting on April 23, 2009. We welcome inquiries about tickets and reservations. Please contact Marje Johnston at (508) 252-4528.

South Dakota has not had a school for Landscape Design.

Virginia Landscape Design Consultants' Council met on September 3, 2008 at the South River Restaurant. The day started out at Melmont

Greenhouses Next we toured the Charles Gillette designed, recently restored garden of the late Mr. and Mrs. Fred Clemmer, who were the founders of Virginia Metalcrafters. The three-acre garden was entered from the back. Ten feet high American boxwood trimmed into a square hedge enclosed the entire garden.

The **Virginia** Landscape Design Consultants Council will hold its Spring Meeting in Norfolk, VA at the Fred Heutte Center on the 2nd of April at 11:00am. The Heutte Center is a 1860s ferry terminal and named after the late Fred Heutte, founder of the Norfolk Botanical Gardens.

The group will also tour Virginia Zoological Park with Marie Butler, horticulturist and LDS instructor. The will also tour Old Dominion University's Orchid Conservatory. housing 1,500 orchids and other endangered plants.

Virginia's Landscape Design School Course II will be held at the Quality Inn, 96 Baker Lane, Staunton, VA from 6-7 May in Staunton, VA. Visit

www.viriniagardenclubs.org for further information and a registration form, or contact Sue Patterson suepatterson@dishmail.net, at (540) 890-7477.

The Anniversary Symposium held at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden on February 3-5 with Twenty- three VLDCC members attended the two-day symposium titled "Gardening in an Era of Climate Change". The symposium was an accredited course for professional horticulturists, landscape designers, and landscape architects. Topics were "Green Roofs," Successful Gardening in an Era of Change and "Gardening Is a Four-Lettered Word." Bill Smoot billsmoot@cox.net

There will be a \$150 grant from the VLDCC for a community project. A grant will be awarded in the following categories: Public or Semi Public Buildings; Recreation; and Highways

and Median Strips.

Virginia is the host for the SAR convention held in Blacksburg, VA. A tri-refresher was offered with an exciting program Honor the Past...Re-Invent the Future of Gardening. Some topics for the refresher were: Energy-Smart Landscaping, Future Trends in Landscape Design: A Below-Ground View, From Mines to Wines, Climate Change, Global Warming-What Can We Do? Janice Doyle is the overall chairman.

Vermont doesn't have any LD committee. Sue Robinson

Wisconsin Garden Club Federation and their Madison District begin a new series of the Landscape Design Study Program (IX, Course I) April 2-4, 2009 at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum and Longenecker Gardens. The WS schools chairman is Carol Catlin and local chairman is Marcia Topel. For information: crcat@hughs.net

West Virginia Garden Clubs will hold Landscape Design School, Course IV, Series IX, at West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV. The dates of the school are May 20, 21, and 22, 2009. Contact Donna Davis, 64 Bryant Davis Lane, St. Mary's, @V 26170 for more information. (Phone and Fax 304-684-3136 e-mail dadodavis@frontiernet.net)

The South West Garden

New Mexico Style

Most of our landscaping projects are ongoing events. Many clubs are planning spring-cleaning and renovations on their gardens around the state. In New Mexico, we have had extreme weather and drought. The advice our Landscape consultants give people is to move toward a xeric plan.

Remove lawn and add low water ground cover. If you plan to replace older plants, consider native species or at least a drought resistant variety.

As some of us get older, we look for less maintenance also. Many Natives do not require pruning every year and need shaping only every 3 years or so. Lawns need cutting but bunch grasses, low growing herbs or flowers do not. Many of us in New Mexico use a lot of rock as hardscape. It is natural (never needs painting) usually free, and goes well with any plant plan! Some can be mightily heavy however! Also keep in mind pet needs. Enclosures can be artfully disguised or nicely designed for any sized dog or excavating cat. Be sure to keep your pet safe as well as happy. And do not try to attract birds if you have a pet that likes to 'hunt'. Some of our members have trouble with wild animals also. Deer can terrorize a New Mexico garden, along with bark chewing porcupine, digging gophers and nibbling squirrels and rabbits. Those cute little birdies can do damage to fruit and patio plants. Where the only green around is in our gardens, the animals as well as the bugs love to come and make it their home. Research carefully methods to control these problems and consider organic and less invasive ways to solve them. Did you know there is a bindweed mite that can terrorize your lovely pink flowered bindweed? Ask at your extension office for a sample. They are working in my garden! Colleen Hink NM State President

How Did They Do It-Over 300 LDSP Registrations?

Maryland's Series XII of Landscape Design School is now finished. All four Courses were a great success with over 300 registrations. Here is what they did to get such overwhelming participation:

We made a lot of changes to try to boost

the interest in this series of Landscape Design School. There are so many things going on that keep our members busy, the Course really needs to catch attention. First, the location was changed. Maryland's courses have been held in the same area forever. Picking a new location in our State gave a different segment of members the opportunity to take the courses hotel. Second, we sent our Course I brochures to every Garden Club Member in the State of Maryland, also to Garden Club leaders in the National Capital Area, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. It is very important to work with your surrounding states. Although most of our registrars were from Maryland, some refreshers did travel to us from other states. Along with advertising with many brochures, we were listed on the National & State web pages including all four course dates from the beginning so that students could plan way ahead of time. For the remaining courses, we scaled down the mailing some because the word was already out about this series. Third we acquired all new instructors for our courses. This insured that our refreshers would not be getting their instruction from someone that they had already heard. We advertised with flyers at State and District Meetings that all the instructors would be new and fresh. We got a lot of positive feedback for this change.

Fourth, we had a theme for each course, and for the entire series our color was lime green. All our paperwork was printed on lime green paper so that is stood out. The students even caught on and started wearing lime green. The Hilton Staff wore lime green and bought lime green bowls to serve our food. For each of the four courses our tables had centerpieces to match the theme. We had on display a tri-fold information board about each theme, and our speaker's incorporation the theme in

their lectures were possible. Themes included: The Year of Lettuce, The Year of Variegation, Drifts & Waves, and Fall and Winter Interest. To go with Course IV's theme we held the course in October and toured gardens with Fall & Winter Interest. Maryland's courses have always been in the spring, touring Spring gardens. Change is good. We had over 90 participants. Finally, with a program this large, cost is always an issue. To save money we used the Maryland Cooperative Extension Office for all our printing, we handed out our study guides to the students on the first day of the course (saving postage), and our exam was multiple choice so that the committee could grade it and mail it back to the students (saving time and postage). Mary Ellen Bay, Chairman and Susie Heck, Vice-Chair

DID YOU KNOW?

With the concentration on "Greening of America" here are some things that may surprise you. *

1. Turf-grasses each have ideal cutting heights that are individual to their varieties. To find out what height to cut your grass consult the turf producer, your extension office or landscape professional.
2. Slow-release fertilizers can save us money and not produce a huge growth spurt necessitating more cutting. It is needless to say but check you soil to find out what nutrients are needed.
3. Slow-release fertilizers are more environmentally friendly.
4. Gas powered lawn-mowers produce as much pollution per hour as 11 automobiles.
5. More than a million gas-powered mowers are buzzing each year in the US.

6. Reel mowers are not what you remember as a kid. They are now lighter and have more cutting power.
7. Electric mowers are improved and cost between \$200-\$500.
8. Solar mowers are ideal but cost more than \$700.

*March/April Cooperative Living
Growing a Leaner Lawn by Katie Jackson



REFLECTIONS

Thoughts *

Good thoughts bear good fruit,
Bad thoughts bear bad fruit and
Man is his own gardener.

James Allen

**Garden Blessings* by Debbie Mumm

Sunflowers*

I saw sunflowers in the morning.
Like lanky children in a line
Holding hands and waiting
for the summer sun to shine.

A Garden Room

A garden room is a special place
where a gardener can slip away.
Escape from mundane matters.
reflect on events of the day.
Enjoy the beauties of nature,
listen to mocking birds sing.
Observe the sunshine and shadows,
smell the freshness of rain.
Feel the enchantment of butterflies,
breathe in morning air,
Forget about everyday pressures
while cradled in a rocking chair.

**Where Mocking Birds Sing* by Reba Wall

****LANDSCAPE DESIGN**

SUMMARY OF GUIDELINES 1999-2005

Certificate of Achievement: issued to non-garden club members who attend one course

Certificate of Completion: issued to non-garden club members who complete all four courses

Multiple Refresher Rules:

- (1) Names of representatives of sponsoring schools must be provided before approval by NGC Multiple Refresher Chairman will be granted for the multiple refreshers
- (2) There must be a qualified member (consultant) from each participating school on the Committee
- (3) Credit for more than one school will be given only to members who are already Master Consultants in these schools

Consultant Certificates/Cards: (7 in all)

NGC LD Accrediting Chairmen issues the following over NGC president's signature:

- (1) Orange-when a student becomes a Landscape Consultant after four courses
- (2) Yellow-Consultant Refresher Card: issued for NGC sponsored refreshers
- (3) White-Master Consultant Refresher Card: issued after Consultant has taken four (4) refreshers. (State LDSP Chairman submits Form 9a to NGC Accrediting Chairman)
- (4) White-Master Consultant Refresher Card: issued for NGC sponsored refreshers

State LD Chairmen issue the following over state chairman's signature:

- (5) Yellow-Consultant Refresher Card: issued for state-sponsored refreshers
- (6) White-Master Consultant Refresher Card: issued for state-sponsored refresher Cards may be ordered at no charge from NGC Schools Chairman)

NGC Schools Secretary issues the following:

- (7) White-Landscape Design Consultant Emeritus (State LDSP Chairman submits Form 9b to NGC Accrediting Chairman)

LD Refresher Rules:

- (1) The refresher must consist of a minimum of eight (8) hours of instruction, three (3) of which must be related to design. It may include as any additional hours of tours, instructions etc. as the chairman wishes.
- (2) If a multiple refresher, it must be approved by the NGC Multiple Refresher Chairman.
 - (3) The refresher must have a representative from each participating school on the organizing Committee.
- (4) LD Chairmen are responsible for notifying consultants when their accreditation is in jeopardy.
- (5) To maintain accreditation a consultant or master consultant must refresh at least once within the 5-year period from the year of the previous certification.
- (6) Waivers/Extensions: Requests must go to the NGC LD Accrediting Chairman for your Region.
- (7) Consultants may refresh (for credit) once every calendar year. After the fourth refresher is completed, the State LDSP Chairman will automatically apply for the Master Consultant Certification Card on behalf of the consultant.

Website:

- (1) All schools and refreshers are listed under Education/Landscape Design on the NGC website: www.gardenclub.org
- (2) All forms from the Operations Guide are on the website for downloading or filling out and sending electronically (via WORD or PDF which requires Adobe Acrobat Reader, a free download).
- (3) Landscape Design Angle articles are also found on this website.

Duties of State LDSP Chairmen: If your state has local Course Chairmen you should:

- (1) Advise them of the information in the Operations Guide and any Guidelines issued by the NGC Committee
- (2) Contact with the NGC LD Committee should be through you (the State Chairman)
- (3) Assist the local chairman in presenting the LD schools

Registration Fees: \$5.00 to register either a course or a refresher (send in with Form LDSP #1 to Schools Secretary) \$5.00 per student for course or refresher credit

Operations Guide Forms:

- (1) LDSP #1: copies should be sent to the following people:

- a) National Headquarters with \$5.00 fee
 - b) NGC LD Committee Chairman
 - c) NGC Instructors' Chairman
 - d) NGC Reading Chairman
 - e) NGC Accreditation for your Region
 - f) One for your files
- (2) LDSP #2 a/b: copies should be sent as follows:
- a) NGC LD Committee Chairman
 - b) 3 copies to the NGC Instructors' Chairman (after approval: 1 copy to Acc Chairman, 1 copy returned to LDSP State Chairman, 1 copy for Instructors' Chairman files, email to NGC Chairman)
 - c) One for your files
- (3) LDSP #9a: State President's Signature no longer required.
- (4) Special Interest Topics (formerly called Optional Topics): the NGC Instructors' Chairman reviews Topics not on the suggested list in the Operations Guide. This is a required lecture.

Communication: Please let the NGC LD Committee Chairman know of any changes in LD chairmanships for your state so that new information may reach the proper chairmen in a timely manner. It is also important that questions be directed to members of the NGC LD Committee rather than to the St. Louis headquarters office. The secretary there is responsible for all four of the school series, and is often overwhelmed if she receives too many queries.

Landscape Design Pins: Pins designating the various levels of accreditation are available from Members' Services.

Awards: Please check your state, regional and national award lists for recognition of Landscape Design programs and Projects.