

# Rocky Mountain Rambler

## Greetings from your Director



It saddens me that this will be the last time I'll write to you as Region Director, but I'm leaving you in the very good hands of Margie Soileau. She is very organized and a great leader! Thank you for entrusting me and allowing me the experience and education I've gained over the past two years. I've been impressed with your efforts and fortitude as you faced new challenges. I express appreciation to all you that helped in whatever capacity you were assigned to. We make a great team, and I'm proud to be a part of the Rocky Mountain Region membership!

I'm hoping that you found joy in "Planting America's Dream in your own backyard." Who knew you would be quarantined there! I hope it was a reprieve full of peace and contentment. Gardens are a great escape to another dimension as I'm sure you've experienced. Now is the time for new starts... so get planting!

With love and admiration,

Darla Anderson  
RMR Director



A garden speaks no language,  
yet many gardeners still listen .

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### Special points of interest

- RMR Convention info
- Registrations forms
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**Rocky Mountain Rambler** is the Official Publication of the Rocky Mountain Region Garden Clubs. Issues available at our Region's **Website:**

<https://sites.google.com/site/rockymtngardenclubs/>

### NGC Conservation Pledge

I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the planet earth and promise to promote education so we may become caretakers of our air, water, forests, land and wildlife.



Our beautiful Rocky Mountain Region includes the following States:

**Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming**

## In Memoriam



It is with a heavy heart that we must inform you that former NGC President, **Sandra H. Robinson** passed away, March 22, 2021. Sandy served as President of National Garden Clubs, Inc. from 2015-2017 with a theme of **“Leap Into Action”**. Sandy may have been small in stature but had a heart as big as the outdoors. She was quick to share a smile from ear to ear and a story. She lived and loved the garden clubs, and never met a garden club member she did not like or miss an opportunity to promote NGC to anyone, anywhere, and at any time. She was the best traveling companion throughout the United States and abroad. Sandy held a special place in her heart for the IAs and never could believe the lavish attention and admiration they showered on her.

She truly did “Leap into Action” before, during and after her administration. Give her a job, ask her to enter a flower, or travel less than 24 hours after returning from an International Wafa show to judge a flower show, hoping she could get someone else to drive so she could catnap, but look totally refreshed and engaging when arriving at her destination. Sandy was game for any experience, as long as it didn’t involve chicken or shellfish. She was a mentor to many people, helping solve problems of all sorts. Truly, she was a “rock” to her friends and family, someone you could always count on.

Sandy was a longtime and dedicated member of NGC and many lives have been enriched by her friendship. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

## In Memoriam



### **BRENDA SLAUGHTER**

**3/7/58 – 11/12/20**

November 12th of this past year, as many of you know was a very sad day for KAGC, RMR, and National. We lost our longtime friend and fellow garden club member, **Brenda Slaughter**.

As her local garden club members stated: “Brenda was the heart of Prairie Garden Club, serving as president three different times with a total of ten years. Even when other commitments and health problems held her back, Brenda’s support and dedication could always be counted on. We will miss her leadership, confidence and calm wisdom, but most of all we will miss her friendship. Our monthly meetings will continue, but a big part of our club will be forever changed.”

KAGC Secretary 2007-09, stand in secretary 2014, and Secretary again in 2017 to present.

KAGC Environmental Poster Chair 2008 to present.

RMR Convention Chair 2012.

RMR Smoky Bear, Woodsy Owl Chair 2013 to present

West District Director 2015 to present. KAGC Convention Chair 2016.

KAGC President Elect 2019 to present.

Many of you knew Brenda through the Smoky Bear, Woodsy Owl Poster contest. She spent hours making certain those who entered were recognized.

KAGC has commissioned a bench in Brenda’s honor to be placed in one of Hays garden areas. Anyone wishing to contribute may do so by sending their check to KAGC Treasurer; Andrea Staudenmaier, 8325 Marty St., Overland Park, KS 66216. Brenda’s family will be notified of any memorial given, please show Brenda Slaughter in the Memo of the check. (Picture of bench no page 3)

## Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



Spring is here, along with the snow, but that is Springtime in the Rockies! I always look forward to Spring as it is a rebirth of all things wonderful for everyone. Spring is the symbol of life with the promise of blooming flowers, and trees start getting new and tender leaves while the bees and butterflies fly about with vigor.

This past year has been challenging, at best. My garden kept my spirits up; I am looking forward to a new, happier, healthier year.

I have been receiving reports from garden clubs all over the state. As, I am sure, with other states, technology has been at the forefront to keep in communication with members. Websites have been expanded, more clubs have Facebook pages, and have even had virtual plant sales. I can only say WOW! Another big push has been the PAT (plant a tree) program. Trees are so important for all of us, and this has been a great way to encourage others to plant a native tree.

My term as President is coming to an end in June. These last two years have been so fulfilling, educational, and fun. I have had so much support from all garden clubs and thank everyone for making this experience so fantastic.

May your year be full of love, happiness, and bountiful gardens.

**Margie Soileau, President ,“Plant, Beautify and Protect Colorado”**

## Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.



As this is my last official article for the Rambler as KAGC President, I look back at my apprehension of writing these with a smile. It has been like pinning notes to old friends, letting y'all know what's going on in Kansas and keeping up with the rest of our region through the articles which each of the other state presidents write. I will, of course, continue reading the Rambler with new appreciation for those who share the events of their state.

Thankfully, 2021 is showing signs of getting back to a “new normal”. Local clubs are again beginning to meet in person, two of our three districts are meeting this month and we look forward to our rescheduled and much delayed KAGC and RMR Conventions. Zoom was a much appreciated and necessary way to get together during this past year but being able to see everyone in person is so much preferable.

After the past year, this spring has been so very much anticipated. It has not disappointed! The colors have been vibrant and the smell of hyacinths, lilac, and daffodils, glorious. I received new dahlia tubers last week and can hardly wait to get them in the ground in hopes of growing some beautiful dahlias such as we saw in Missoula, MT at our last RMR Convention.

Suburban Garden Club purchased and placed a Gold Star Marker at Botanica in 2020, the plan is to have a dedication in September of this year. KAGC commissioned a bench for our President Elect, Brenda Slaughter who passed away in November, 2020 and her local garden club plans a dedication this summer in her honor.



Kansas is looking forward to hosting the **RMR Convention in August** (see the information for the convention in this month's publication) and hope to see everyone at that time. Until then, happy gardening!

**Maxine Wells, KAGC President**

**“To Reap the Harvest, First Plant the Seed for Gardening as Well as for Friendships”**

## Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



Spring is in the air! The meadowlarks are singing, robins are in the yard, and I have daffodils and tulips ready to bloom. However, we here in Eastern Montana are quite dry. We have had no significant moisture all winter. I am hoping and praying for rain this spring so we can continue to play in the dirt. Please say a rain prayer for Eastern Montana and Western North Dakota. "April showers bring May flowers". **Sherry's spring crocus**



Our District meeting dates have been changed from April to June. Hopefully, most of us will be immunized by then and we can feel safe meeting face to face. We start our meetings on June 16 and travel to seven towns in two weeks for these meetings. I am looking forward to seeing a lot of our garden club members at these meetings. To kick off these meetings and to help celebrate **National Garden Week, June 6-12**, the Glendive Garden Club is inviting Eric Bergeson, author, speaker and horticulturist, from Fertile, MN to do a public presentation June 15 at 7 pm in Glendive, MT. Eric has published two garden books on gardening on the northern prairie. All interested gardeners are encouraged to attend.

In Montana for the past few years, we have compiled a "Club Report Booklet" where each club prepares a report of accomplishments for the year. This year we are including chairmen reports. I find it helpful to refer to it throughout the year, and it saves us report time at our annual meeting.

Great Falls has offered to host our Annual Meeting, September 10-11. This meeting will be a combination of Convention and Fall Board like we did last fall. A highlight will be a tour of the CM Russell Museum along with his home and studio. I am looking forward to that.

**National Garden Week is June 6-12, 2021.** It is a good time to have an event, put up posters, share flowers with city and county officials and let people know we are in the community.

I am looking forward to seeing a lot of you **Rocky Mountain Region people at the RMR meeting, August 27-28 in Kansas.** Will be nice to get together.

Stay safe and healthy my gardening friends and remember to "Bloom Where You Are Planted".

**Sherry Corneilus, MT President**

**"Bloom Where you are Planted"**



## Upcoming Conventions

**NGC Convention: May 17-20, 2021**, installation Convention. You can attend this **convention virtually**.

Find information on the NGC website. <https://www.gardenclub.org> Check it out!!

**National Garden Week: June 6-12, 2021**

**RMR Convention: August 27-28, 2021, Lake Milford, Kansas**

Registration forms are included in this issue of the Rambler



## North Dakota Garden Clubs, Inc.

Greetings from drought-stricken North Dakota. The Governor of North Dakota declared a Statewide severe drought and fire emergency which is threatening our farm and livestock industry. The need to conserve water and be good stewards of our environment is always important but it is imperative we do our part even more now.

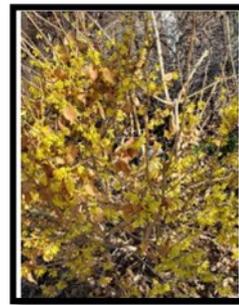
While working in my garden the other day, I could hear the cooing of a pair of turtle doves. This was such a pleasant sound of spring and reminded me why I love working outside in my yard.

Our Bismarck-Mandan Garden Club is very busy planning for our annual meeting. The Fargo Garden Society has been meeting in person and over Zoom which has doubled the attendance. It was very nice to see the members who had traveled south for the winter on Zoom. The educational sessions have been very informative, and our members enjoyed seeing everyone either in person or on Zoom. The club gave a local college student a scholarship and planned the meeting educational calendar for the rest of the year.

**Linda Anderson, President**

**“The Grass Isn’t Always Greener, Plant in North Dakota”**

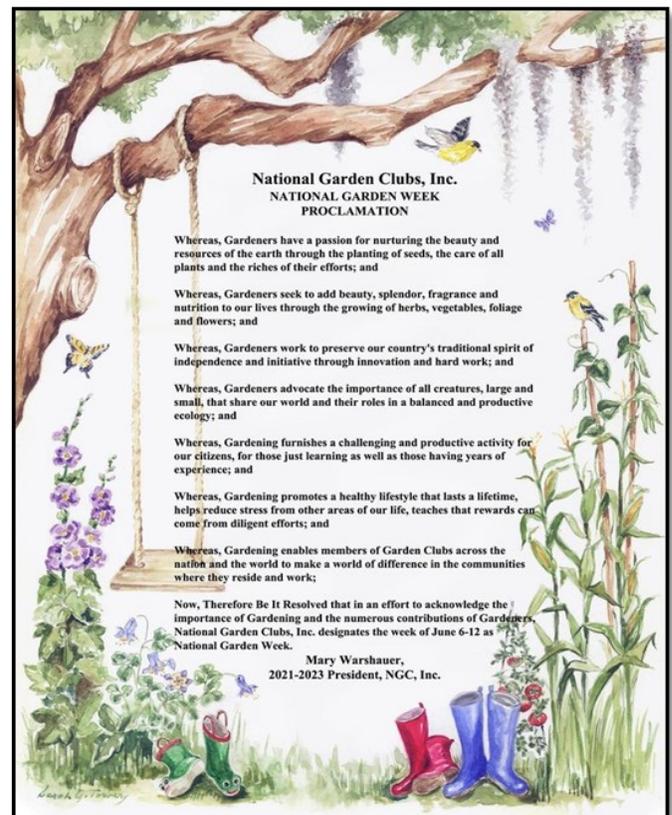
Scalia



Forsythia Bush



Crocus



**NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK**  
*June 6-12, 2021*  
Sponsored by  
**National Garden Clubs, Inc.**



**National Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK**  
**PROCLAMATION**

Whereas, Gardeners have a passion for nurturing the beauty and resources of the earth through the planting of seeds, the care of all plants and the riches of their efforts; and

Whereas, Gardeners seek to add beauty, splendor, fragrance and nutrition to our lives through the growing of herbs, vegetables, foliage and flowers; and

Whereas, Gardeners work to preserve our country's traditional spirit of independence and initiative through innovation and hard work; and

Whereas, Gardeners advocate the importance of all creatures, large and small, that share our world and their roles in a balanced and productive ecology; and

Whereas, Gardening furnishes a challenging and productive activity for our citizens, for those just learning as well as those having years of experience; and

Whereas, Gardening promotes a healthy lifestyle that lasts a lifetime, helps reduce stress from other areas of our life, teaches that rewards can come from diligent efforts; and

Whereas, Gardening enables members of Garden Clubs across the nation and the world to make a world of difference in the communities where they reside and work;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that in an effort to acknowledge the importance of Gardening and the numerous contributions of Gardeners, National Garden Clubs, Inc. designates the week of June 6-12 as National Garden Week.

Mary Warshauer,  
2021-2023 President, NGC, Inc.

## Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.



As I write this, snow flurries are falling outside my window, yet the tulips and fruit trees are in full bloom. Such is April in Utah, a mix of the winter almost past and the springtime yet to come. Our garden clubs are experiencing much the same thing, as they are still feeling the effects of last year’s pandemic, while coming to life again with the promise of renewed activities. Even though masks will need to be worn and other precautions taken, many in-person events are set to resume.

The Utah Iris Society is planning two iris shows and a tuber sale for this spring and summer. The Utah Orchid Society had to cancel their spring show, but they’re planning on a fall show as well as some Zoom meetings until then. It turns out that there is actually one advantage to Zoom: everyone can show off their favorite orchids without having to load them in the car and transport them.

The Spade and Hope Garden Club of Brigham City met at a local nursery to pot up containers for their homes, following their April tradition. The Utah Rose Society held a pruning demonstration in a local park, and the Park City Garden Club traveled down from the mountains to do a thorough spring cleanup of the gardens around our Sugar House Garden Center. Although the temperature was only in the 40’s, they marveled at the “warmth” and lack of snow.

The Garden Club of Cottonwood and the Neighborhood Garden Club have resumed in-person meetings, albeit with masks and that “pesky” social distancing. After a challenging year, they are looking forward to getting back to normal. In the meantime, “we were all still planting seeds,” writes Joey Archer of Cottonwood, “watching our gardens flourish, and enjoying our ‘safe’ attachment to nature. It has been the savior of our sanity.”

It is remarkable to me that my term as State President is almost over. The last year has been so strange, with none of the events that usually mark the garden club seasons. I hope that things will be more normal for my successor, Mary Holley. Recently retired from the florist business and an active member of the Park City Garden Club, she has the skills and the time for the job, and I know that she will make a great State President!

**Geoff Ellis, President**

**Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.**



Spring Cleanup



Apricot Delight Tulips



Nectarine and Pear Blossoms



Pansies with melting snow



Texas Scarlet Quince Blossoms

## Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



Wyoming garden clubs are having a busy spring. Dirt Digger Garden Club in Encampment held a luncheon with a bee theme. The presentation was on bee keeping by Billie Helwick. Very informative and I always learn something new when I see a presentation on bees. I enjoyed meeting members & their guests. What a wonderful way to start my gardening year.

Torrington Garden Club is planning a dedication for a Blue Star Memorial this summer.

Riverton Garden Club is busy with cleaning our project beds and they gave a presentation on tips for starting new gardens at the Riverton Museum. I am looking forward to visiting our other clubs this summer.

Thank you to Darla for her leadership as RMR director. You inspired us during this very challenging year. Hope to see you in Kansas.

**Have a great spring!**

Continue to **“Make Friendships Thru Gardening and Plant America Beautiful”**.

**Shirley Pursel, WFGC President**



## Two Cents Worth



While our returns for the last quarter may be down 3.13%, the returns we saw in 2020 were a WHOPPING 39.88%!

In 2018, RMR made the decision to move \$10,000 of our treasury from a very low-interest bearing checking/savings account to an investment account. Mick Pryor, Edward Jones Investments, was chosen to help us manage our funds. The money was invested with a conservative 60/40 split with some growth in mind. That original \$10,000 has now grown to \$14,389.69 as of 3/31/2021. I think we’re certainly on the right track!

Lynette Jeffres  
Treasurer

**Association - Select**  
Portfolio Objective - Account: Balanced Toward Growth

Account Value	
<b>\$14,384.69</b>	
1 Month Ago	\$14,974.68
1 Year Ago	\$10,173.99
3 Years Ago	\$0.00
5 Years Ago	\$0.00

Value Summary		
	This Period	This Year
Beginning Value	\$14,974.68	\$14,849.37
Assets Added to Account	0.00	0.00
Assets Withdrawn from Account	0.00	0.00
Fees and Charges	0.00	0.00
Change In Value	-589.99	-464.68
<b>Ending Value</b>	<b>\$14,384.69</b>	

For more information regarding the Value Summary section, please visit [www.edwardjones.com/mystatementguide](http://www.edwardjones.com/mystatementguide).

Rate of Return					
Your Personal Rate of Return for Assets Held at Edward Jones	This Quarter	Year to Date	Last 12 Months	3 Years Annualized	5 Years Annualized
	-3.13%	-3.13%	39.88%	—	—

## Invasive Species—Chemical Control



Some invasive species cannot be controlled any other way except by the use of pesticides, whether herbicide, insecticide or fungicide. Not all of them are appropriate for every situation. The choice is based upon the target, stage of growth, presence of desirable species, water, and environmental conditions such as temperature and wind.

**PESTICIDES MUST ALWAYS BE APPLIED IN ACCORANCE WITH THE LABEL.** Rule #1! You also need the proper equipment and the knowledge to safely apply chemicals. Don't rule out hiring a professional licensed applicator. You need to protect yourself and be prepared for spills. I at one time went through the training. I think it made me more aware of the dangers of pesticides and I rarely use any type of pesticide if I can help it! I can't remember that last time I used a foliar application for insects or fungus.

Most gardeners used a foliar spray herbicide which is applied directly to the leaf surfaces of the plant. You need to use care to avoid applying to any non-target plant. I have had more than my share of "oops" moments when I accidentally killed what I didn't want to kill.

I use systemic pesticides in the form of granular or sticks for insects and fungus. A systemic pesticide works through the roots of the plants.

If the plant is large you can apply the herbicide as a basal bark ring around the base of the woody stem at least 6" wide. You need to apply enough to the point of run-off. The best time is fall and early winter.

If you are working with a stem plant such as grass you can bundle the stems together and cut the stems off and apply herbicide to the cut stem. You can apply herbicides with a sponge paint brush or spray bottle. Adding a dye to the solution helps keep track of where you have applied the treatment.

You may need to use a surfactant when the leaves are fuzzy or waxy leaves.

I must confess that I like to purchase my herbicides already mixed up with the spray attachment.

The best time to apply herbicide to cut woody shrubs is early in Jan.-Feb. or Sept.-Dec. Otherwise apply to most plants when they are actively growing April-Oct. More than one application may be necessary.

Spring Pre-Emergents should be applied when the soil temperature has been at 55°F (12°C) for 2–3 days.

Fall Pre-Emergents should be applied when soil temperatures come down to 70°F (21°C) for 2–3 days.

Next issue: "How to control a selected list of common garden weeds".

**Alice Hemsath, Chairman**

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The luckiest gardeners are often the hardest working  
and most prepared gardeners.



## Penny Pines



This information on evergreen trees is for Nebraska but probably fits into most of the RMR region as we all have experienced similar weather conditions.

Many evergreen trees throughout the state are showing signs of winter injury as we emerge into spring. This is likely due to a variety of conditions stemming from the weather. Due to drought conditions experienced last summer, it is likely that many trees not receiving supplemental water were stressed headed into winter. Dry winter winds will have made this problem worse and could have resulted in winter desiccation. This usually presents as browning on the outside of the tree on the windward side. Early freezes in October may also have caused some injury as well. This occurs when temperatures drop too suddenly for a tree to cope with in contrast to a slow drop in temperatures spaced out over several weeks. In evergreens this will typically show up as browning at the tips in the early spring. Lastly, the extreme cold in February may have caused some damage, particularly to trees which are not as cold hardy or those that are otherwise stressed.

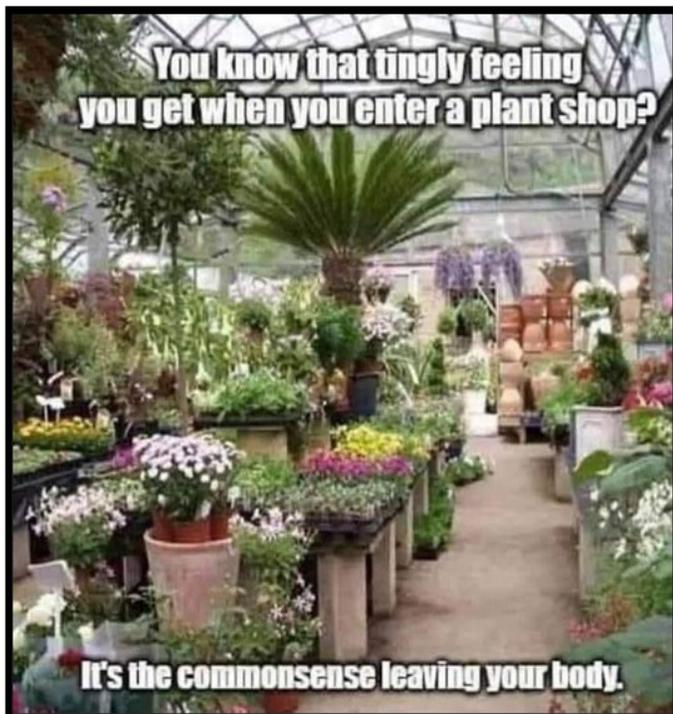
Tree species not suited to Nebraska's climate are likely to have experienced negative impacts from this as well. In all cases, the best thing to do is to keep the tree as healthy as possible to let it recover. Dead material can be pruned out at any time, but it is often a good idea to wait to see what has new growth and what doesn't.

I have not received any notices on donations to Penny Pines program in the RMR region.

**Del Hemseth**

**Penny Pines Chairman**

## What is Guttation?



The plant is expelling water due to a positive root pressure



## What? Parliamentary Procedure!!!



I think spring is here or at least near! I had a knee replacement about a month ago and even with that I have been out cleaning off the beds to prepare for new mulch! However, I was pretty slow and careful. I have a way to go yet to really “garden”!

This time we are going to talk about putting an item on the agenda and what goes into minutes of meetings. I think our club secretaries will appreciate what “Robert” says about that!

According to **ROBERT’S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED IN BRIEF, fully updated 2<sup>nd</sup> edition:**

**Question 14:** How can I get an item on the agenda for a meeting?

**Answer:**

For a proposed agenda to become the official agenda for a meeting, it must be adopted by the assembly at the outset of the meeting.

At the time that an agenda is presented for adoption, it is in order for any member to move to amend the proposed agenda by adding any item that the member desires to add, or by proposing any other change.

It is wrong to assume, as many do, that the president “sets the agenda.” It is common for the president to prepare a proposed agenda, but that becomes binding only if it is adopted by the full assembly, perhaps after amendments as just described. [RONR (11<sup>th</sup> ed.), p. 372, 11. 24-35; see also p. 16 of this book.]

**Question 15:** Isn’t it necessary to summarize matters discussed at a meeting in the minutes of that meeting in order for the minutes to be complete?

**Answer:**

Not only is it not necessary to summarize matters discussed at a meeting in the minutes of that meeting, it is improper to do so. Minutes are a record of what was done at a meeting, not a record of what was said. [RONR (11<sup>th</sup> ed.), p.468, 11. 16-18; see also p. 146 of this book.]

Respectfully

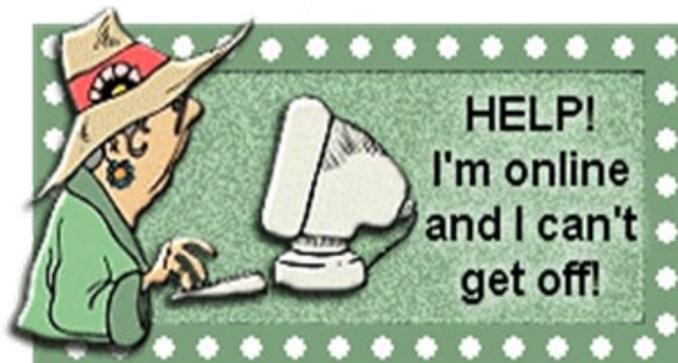
**Mary Lerssen, RMR Parliamentarian**



Ever notice, the older we get,  
the more we're like computers?



We start out with lots of  
MEMORY and DRIVE  
then we become outdated,  
and eventually have to get  
our parts replaced...;) )



## The Use of Line in a Design



In my last article “**What should an Arrangement Judge Observe**” I stated that how the arrangement exhibits the Elements of Design and any of degree of impairment is critical to judging an arrangement.

This concept needs to be expanded. An artist or designer manipulates the elements of design to construct their arrangement. A designer uses (**SPLLFCTS**) space, pattern, light, line, form, color, texture and size in interesting and pleasing ways to form their design. Choices are made as to placement of design materials.

**Space** is considered when decisions are made whether an area is filled or left empty. **Pattern** is when elements are being repeated or mimicked numerous times. **Light** is considered when choices of whether items are dark or light. **Line** is a placement issue and whether a line is detected in the finished arrangement. **Form** is when the designer chooses a simple or complex impression. **Color** is considered when choices of materials of light or dark, showing a tone or a tint of the color. **Texture** is considered when choices of materials are made as to whether items are fine or coarse, smooth or rough, sharp or dull. **Size** is considered by the designer when decisions of whether the arrangement will be large or small, deep or shallow.

Once the designer has made their choices applying the Elements of Design, and presented the arrangement as finished and placed on the table for judging, the Arrangement Judge needs to judge the exhibit. A judge applies the Principles of Design on how well the designer has practiced and used the Elements of Design. The success of a design depends on the expertise of the Designer in applying the Elements of Design. A judge uses the Principles as a tool and guide to arrive at an opinion. Points are deducted depending on the Judges opinion on whether the design exhibits impairments to the element being observed.

**Elements of Design** are the construction blocks of a design. **Principles of Design** are the general rules used to judge designs. **Principles of Design** in my opinion are: **Balance, dominance, contrast, rhythm, proportion and scale. (BADCROPS)**. There is not a general agreement as to the principles of design and what to include. I personally prefer the ones I recited here because of their simplicity and the easily remembered acronym BADCROPS.

An arrangement judge forms an analysis of the exhibit to be considered by asking questions about the exhibit. Does the arrangement exhibit balance? Does the arrangement have an element that is dominant? Does the arrangement exhibit contrast among its elements? Is there a sense of rhythm in the placement of the materials in the design? Looking at the design is there a feeling of unity and proportion with the parts of the design relating in a pleasant manner to each other? Is there any part of the design out of scale with other parts of the design?

Notice the issue of whether the judge likes the design, likes the color, likes how the design interprets the theme are not raised. Further giving suggestions as how the design could be improved should be avoided. One important fact needs to be emphasized, Judges need not be expert designers, what they need to be is expert in applying the Principles of Design.

**Jim Sadler, Chairman**

**Flower Show Schools and Symposiums**

## Birds



Have you ever wondered why birds sing so much early in the morning? Well, according to bird expert Paul Pickett of WBU, early bird singing has little to do with the effects of heat, humidity or wind but has everything to do with proving how strong male birds are. Impressing the females and scaring away the competition, in the bird world it is to be big, strong and vigorous. The better you can sing during the most challenging time of the day makes you a better mate and more challenging competitor. Singing loud and strong before you have had a hearty breakfast indicates a stronger defender of your territory. Of course, there could be other theories, but the reason why becomes less important every time we get the privilege and honor of hearing this wonderful event. Set your alarm early and experience one of nature's finest wonders!!!!



Audrey Coyle,  
RMR Bird Chairman



I'll never forget the look on the cashiers face, when she scanned the packet of bird seed and I asked her how long does it take for the birds to grow once I plant them.?



## January RMR Zoom Meeting

Notes from a Zoom Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Region – January 27, 2021

### Those in attendance were as follows:

- Darla Anderson, RMR Director
- Betty Roberts, Alternate RMR Director
- Doris Duckworth, Secretary and Xeriscape Gardens
- Lynette Jeffres, Treasurer and Life Membership Committees for NGC and RMR
- Mary Lerssen, Parliamentarian
- Roberta Bolton, Historian
- Jackie Watts, Advisory Council Chairman
- Joanne Jeffres, Editor, *The RMR Rambler*
- Phyllis White, RMR Facebook
- Margie Soileau, State President, Colorado
- Maxine Wells, State President, Kansas
- Sherry Corneliusen, State President, Montana
- Pat Westgard, NGC Finance Committee
- Geoff Ellis, State President, Utah
- Shirley Pursel, State President, Wyoming, and Membership Committee
- Committee Chairmen:
  - Audrey Coyle, Birds
  - Joyce Hendricks, Blue Star Memorial Markers
  - Margaret Straley, Butterfly
  - Alice Hemsath, Invasive Plant Species
  - Beverly Heidelberger, NGC President's Projects
  - Del Hemsath, Penny Pines
  - Connie MacKay, Personnel
  - Sandra Dennis, RMR Award of Excellence
  - Donna Rouch, NGC Award of Excellence
  - Les Westgard, NGC Fall Board Meeting Vice Chairman

~~Cont'd

## RMR Zoom Meeting ~~ cont'd

Darla Anderson, Rocky Mountain Region Director, welcomed everyone to the meeting which began at 4:32 p.m. on January 27, 2021, via Zoom. Darla asked if all states within RMR have Zoom accounts. Darla asked if we should offer Zoom as an RMR benefit. The cost would be \$150 per year and could host up to 100 participants. The funds to pay for the Zoom membership could come out of Life Membership and Education. Darla recommends that RMR have a Zoom account; however, who would be willing to be in charge/host the RMR account? Every club/state could have access to this Zoom account. After discussion, there was no motion to sponsor an RMR Zoom account for each state.

Phyllis White, Chairman, RMR Facebook, will write an article for *The Rambler* on how to set up a Zoom account for each state in the Rocky Mountain Region.

Lynette Jeffres, RMR Treasurer, stated that Form 990 was filed. No changes this year. A \$25 check was sent to the Secretary of State in Wyoming. The RMR budget will be approved in August 2021 at the RMR Annual Meeting at Lake Milford, Kansas.

Darla stated that membership increased in Colorado, Nebraska, and South Dakota. Pat Westgard, NGC Finance Committee, was recognized for her service as an NGC Board Member for 25 years which entitles Pat to membership in The NGC Golden Circle Society. Congratulations, Pat!

Darla stated that Judy Rente, Chairman, RMR Judges Council, has moved out of the Rocky Mountain Region. Darla announced that Denise Fink, RMR Awards Chairman, has resigned due to health issues. Please send nominees for the Award of Honor to Darla Anderson. So far only Colorado has sent in a nominee.

Darla relayed the sad news that Brenda Slaughter, RMR Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Chairman had passed away in November 2020. Brenda had been Chairman for the past seven years. Our deepest condolences to members of Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc. Connie MacKay, Chairman, RMR Personnel, of Utah will fulfill the duties of Chairman of Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl for the remainder of the term.

Darla noted that we need to update our RMR website which will be discussed in the next term. Darla introduced Margie Soileau, currently President of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., as our new RMR Director for 2021-2023. Margie will take office in May 2021. Congratulations, Margie!

Darla announced that Alice Hemsath, Chairman, RMR Invasive Plant Species, and Del Hemsath, Chairman, RMR Penny Pines, of Nebraska are selling garden gloves as a fundraiser.

Donna Rouch, Chairman, NGC Award of Excellence, reported that NGC will have ballot votes starting on March 15. Donna also reported that the annual NGC Convention will be conducted via Zoom on May 18 and 19, 2021.

Jackie Watts, Editor, *KS Gardener*, reported on details for accommodations for the RMR Annual Meeting on August 27-28, 2021, which will be hosted by the Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc. The prices which were established in 2020 will remain the same. Jackie will let us know more about side trips and the photo contest at a later date. Please note that the phone number for Connie MacKay is 801 274-2606. The meeting on Zoom was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Doris Duckworth  
Secretary, Rocky Mountain Region

## From Little Acorns, Mighty Oak Trees

In the Fall of 2017, The Driggs Dragon Gardeners were busy collecting seeds common to our area. Miss Jueschke’s sister brought us a bag full of acorns that she had found on the BYU campus. They were beautiful, really large with big hairy caps. Using flower arranging principles that Miss Jueschke presented, we made miniature floral arrangements in the caps, then we made grape vine autumn wreaths interspersing the caps with other seeds and seed pods.

There were still acorns left so we put them in a plastic bag and put them in the closet for later use. Shortly after Xmas Miss Jueschke happened to glance at the bag. Many of the acorns had sprouted roots. After admiring their growth, the children proceeded to plant them in large individual pots. Their teacher, Miss Jueschke, kept the pots in her backyard for two years . They thrived!



The small Gambel Oak trees\* were donated to Geoff Ellis to be planted at the mouth of Weber Canyon. In March of 2020 members of the Utah Associated Garden Clubs met with Geoff and planted the saplings at the mouth of Weber Canyon. Geoff made arrangements for the trees to be watered on a regular basis by members of The Trails Foundation of Utah during the summer. The trees seem to be off to a very healthy start.

In few years we hope to have a grove of mature trees in that area. All from little acorns which some children took the time to plant

We should all be proud of what can be accomplished through the coordinated efforts of our various garden clubs (from ages 8 - 80)!!



(Quercus Gambelia, with the common name **Gambel oak**, is a deciduous small **tree** or large shrub that is widespread in the foothills and lower mountain elevations—taken from the internet)

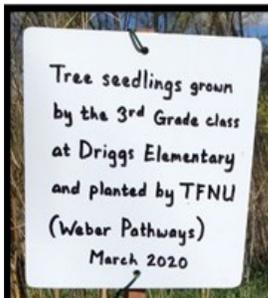
Submitted by Connie MacKay

**First Row**

1. Explanatory sign.
2. Robin and Darla Anderson
3. Geoff Ellis
4. Darla Anderson

**Bottom Row**

1. Planting site in early spring.
2. Oak seedling leafing out.
3. Planting site in late summer.
4. Oak seedling in fall color.



Dry arrangement in the cap of an acorn



Dry arrangement created by young children



Grape Vine wreath made from dried garden materials

# Butterflies



Spring is here! Well, that is before it snowed in April! Yes, it's here, I have checked the calendar and the Vernal Equinox has passed. It is the indicator of spring to come. So when will it really come? Native American folklore tells us there are 5 precipitations before spring is really here!

Truly, spring is the time for Monarch butterflies to leave Mexico and migrate northward. The report from the experts who have been observing them all winter in Mexico, say they have moved out of the sanctuaries and begun the two-thousand-mile journey north.

As the **Monarch butterflies** (officially voted to be the **RMR butterfly**) move northward, we must plan our gardens in such a fashion as to create nectar plants for the swarm who must feed and mate so new caterpillars will be hatching. This means the milkweed should be shooting up from its winter hibernation shortly before the Monarchs get a free ride in the Jetstream as it moves to warm the mid-continental area. If you study the 'garden zones' you can see that every couple weeks another area loses its "last freezing date" (approximate dates are usually given.) As the maps indicate, Kansas will see Monarchs usually before North Dakota.

Planting the HOST plant for specific butterflies is important. **Milkweed** gets a bad rap because of the name. It may be a weed to some, but the Monarch caterpillar cannot survive without it. The sticky, milky content is eaten by the caterpillar and its body uses it as a defense mechanism. Birds do not like the taste of butterflies' bodies when they peck at them due to the toxicity created by milkweed. In defense of milkweed, it is not milk nor is it registered as a noxious weed. If we are to save the monarchs, we must save the habitat!

An **excellent website** for the research and study of Monarchs is **Monarch Watch**, a research staff at the Univ. of KS, Lawrence, KS, has continuously monitored and studied monarchs for over 25 years. The monarchs went to space a few years back. If you are leery about planting milkweed for monarchs, try putting some seeds into a large pot. Capturing their seed at the end of the season is the clue to keeping it under control!

**Other host plants** include: dill, parsley, fennel, coneflowers, asters and liatris. Add some nectar plants: viburnums, sweetspire, and elderberry. Watch for plants that have been treated with **neonictides**.

Do take advantage of the beauty of the garden once you have planted and cared for it!

**Margaret Straley**  
Butterfly chairman

Monarch flight path map  
<https://www.monarchwatch.org/tagmig/spring.htm>

Snowball viburnum



Little Henry Sweetspire



Liatris



## Rocky Mountain Region Officers 2019-2021

Office	Officer	E-mail
Region Director	Darla Anderson, Utah	anderson2889@comcast.net
Alternate Director	Betty Roberts, Colorado	bettyroberts@gmail.com
Secretary	Doris Duckworth, Colorado	dorisduckworth@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Lynette Jeffres, Wyoming	lynjeffres@gmail.com
Parliamentarian	Mary Lerssen, South Dakota	lerssenm@sio.midco.net
Historian	Roberta Bolton, Utah	roberta.wyo@gmail.com

<p><b>Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.</b>  <b>Margie Soileau</b>                      "Plant, Beautify and Protect Colorado"                      margie@soileau.org</p>	<p><b>North Dakota State Garden Clubs</b>  <b>Linda Anderson</b>                      "The Grass Isn't Always Greener,                      Plant in North Dakota"                      rwandljanderson@gmail.com</p>
<p><b>Kansas Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.</b>  <b>Maxine Wells</b>                      "To Reap the Harvest, First Plant the Seed,                      For Gardening as Well as for Friendships"                      Bwells21@cox.net</p>	<p><b>South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs</b>  <b>Virginia Sandemeier</b>                      "Plant America, The Healing Power of Gardening"                      vsandmeier61@gmail.com</p>
<p><b>Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.</b>  <b>Sherry Corneliusen</b>                      "Bloom Where you are Planted"                      sher@middrivers.com</p>	<p><b>The Utah Associated Garden Clubs, Inc.</b>  <b>Geoff Elis</b>                      "Plant Utah"                      aloysius2412@live.com</p>
<p><b>Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska</b>  <b>Julie Lester</b>                      "Conserve, Protect, Nurture and Beautify Nebraska"                      Jlester1274@hotmail.com</p>	<p><b>Wyoming Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.</b>  <b>Shirley Pursel</b>                      "Making Friendships While Gardening"                      shirleypursel@yahoo.com</p>



**Gay Austin, NGC President 2019-2021**

- gaylaustin@gmail.com
- Administration Theme:  
"Plant America"
- President's Special Two Year Project:  
Plant America Community Grants
- NGC Website: <http://gardeclub.org>



**Darla Anderson, RMR Director 2019-21**

- Darla.rmrdirector@gmail.com
- West Jordan, UT 84084-3712
- Theme: The Grass isn't always greener; *Plant America's Dream in your own Backyard!*
- Region website: <https://sites.google.com/site/rockymtngardenclubs/>



## Rocky Mountain Region Chairman 2019-2021

Project	Chairman	E-mail
Awards	Open	~~
Birds	Audrey Coyle, Colorado Springs, CO	afloris@q.com
Blue Star Marker	Joyce Hendricks, Billings, MT	rnjhend@charter.net
Butterfly	Margaret Straley, Sioux Falls, SD	zebrabread@gmail.com
Chaplin	Linda Anderson. Fargo, ND	rwandljanderson@gmail.com
Environmental Concerns; Energy, Land, Water	Terry Kroke/ Moorhead, MN	tlkroke@yahoo.com
Flower Show Schools and Symposiums	Jim Sadler, Missoula, MT	jimsadler@bresnan.net
Gardening School Liaison to RMR	Kathy Petersen, Arvada, CO	kpetersen303@gmail.com
Invasive Plant Species	Alice Hemsath	dhemsath@charter.net
Judges Council	Open	~~
Life Membership-NGC & RMR	Lynette Jeffres, Riverton, WY	lynjeffres@gmail.com
Membership	Shirley Pursel, Riverton, WY	shirleypursel@yahoo.com
NGC President's Projects	Beverly Heidelberger, Spencer, SD	bevheid2@hotmail.com
Penny Pines	Del Hemsath, Kearney, NE	dhemsath@charter.net
Personnel	Connie McKay	mcm31@icloud.com
Protocol, Courtesy Resolution	Marjorie Koerner, Parker, CO	margekoerner@yahoo.com
RMR Award of Excellence for Regions	Sandra Dennis, Cheyenne, WY	sbdenn2@bresnan.net
RMR Newsletter Editor RMR RAMBLER	Joanne Jeffres, Riverton, WY	rmrrambler@yahoo.com or jjeffres@bresnan.net
RMR Webmaster	Jean Tinberg, Bonner Springs, KS	jeananntinberg@gmail.com
Smokey Bear, Woodsy Owl	Connie McKay	mcm31@icloud.net
Wildflowers & Native Plants	June Openshaw, Bountiful, UT	June.openshaw@gmail.com
Xeriscape Gardens	Doris Duckworth, Monument, CO	dorisduckworth@yahoo.com





## Prairie Tales and Trails Acorn Resort Lake Milford, KS RMR Convention August 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

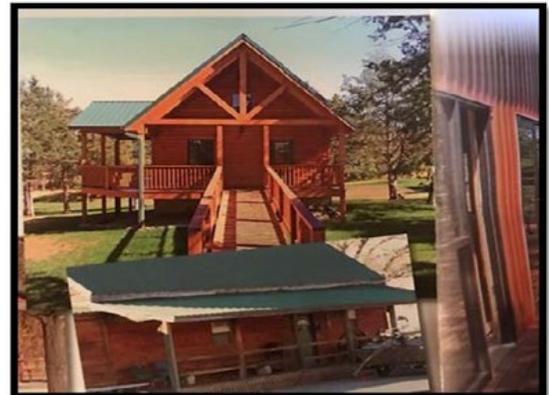
**Well let's try this again.** We invite you to come be together with us at the Acorn Resort, Lake Milford, KS for the RMR Convention August 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The Flint Hills and Central Kansas is a beautiful area, come enjoy. Milford Lake was authorized by Congress in 1954 and constructed by the Corps of Engineers in the early 1960's. They have 15,709 surface acres of water include some of the best Walleye, Wiper, White bass, Catfish and Smallmouth Bass fishing in the state of Kansas. Milford Lake is 131 miles from Kansas City, 113 miles from Wichita, 141 miles from Hays, or 147 miles from Lincoln, Nebraska. You can fly into Manhattan, Kansas with American Eagle. American Eagle, the regional affiliate of American Airlines offers round-trip flights between Dallas / Fort Worth International Airport (DFW), Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD), and Manhattan Regional Airport (MHK). The service is operated with 50-seat Embraer ERJ-145 regional jets. They also have car rental at Manhattan airport. If you can, plan on coming in a day early and visiting

- ◆ Flint Hills and also the Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan, Kansas
- ◆ Trip to Fort Riley to tour the Fort, Calvary Museum and First Fort Riley Regimental & Constabulary Museum. Also the Opera House has just been redone. Fort Riley is one of the largest military installations in the United States, It started its expansion in 1853, covering 407 square km and hosting over 25000 individuals. It is so large that it has its own zip code. It is located on the Kansas River and spreads over two different counties - Riley and Geary. The name was given in the memory of Bennett C. Riley, a professional general who led multiple armies and protected a lot of escorts in the Santa Fe Trail. The fort is split in two parts - the north one and on called Camp Whitside. Although they are basically in the same place, they are administered by different units.

We will also have a **hospitality room** with an outdoor setting area where we can just set and enjoy each other's company. They have pontoon boats we can rent and take a ride around the lake.



## RMR Convention August 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 ~~ cont'd



When you go on the website <https://www.acornsresortkansas.com/cabins> you will see different size cabins that sleep various numbers of people. There is a 25% deposit on each of the cabins that you would reserve.

Maximum occupancy limits are strictly enforced. Every person is included in the occupancy count, including children of all ages and infants.

At this time the only cabins still available are 15, 17, 19, 20.

Cabin 15 will accommodate 8 people and it is \$310.00 a night.

Cabin 17, 19, 20 will each accommodate 6 people and is \$ 225.00 per night.

Several people can easily share these cabins. Additional guests may be authorized at \$20/person/night.

All vehicles entering the premises are required to display an Acorns Resort vehicle pass. Park only in authorized parking spaces. Get prior approval for overflow parking.

Absolutely NO golf carts, ATV, UTV, trail bikes or off-road vehicles allowed to be driven on the Resort premises.

If tax rates change, go up or down, your future payments will be impacted.

Absolutely NO Smoking inside cabins or lodge rooms. There is a \$200 room recovery fee for guests who do not comply in order to cover the cost of restoring guest rooms to a smoke-free condition.

Pets are allowed upon pre-approval only. Pets must be secured at all times. Additional non-refundable pet fee of \$10.00 per day required. **PLEASE ADVISE US OF ANY PETS.** Any pet seen coming in or out of your cabin or evidence of pets which have not been approved and paid for, will be charged 2 times the regular fee. Maximum pets - 2. PLEASE BE RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERS AND PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET!

## **RMR Convention** **August 27th and 28th, 2021 ~ cont'd**

You will be liable for any damages or losses incurred during your stay. If you become aware of damages or missing items upon check in, they must be reported within 30 min by leaving a message at (785) 463-4000. If damages or missing items are noted after your stay, you will be responsible for any additional amount, in addition to legal fees. This also applies to extensive cleaning if required (min \$35).

Housekeeping will not be provided during your stay. To help us conserve water, please hang and reuse your towels. Upon request, we will provide clean towels on your 3rd day if your stay is longer than 3 days. If you require cleaning during your stay, please arrange for additional services prior to arrival (additional fee of \$25/day). Prior to check out you will be responsible for removal of perishable items, bagging and disposal of all trash, loading and starting dishwashing and picking up all pet droppings and trash around outside of cabin.

Linens, blankets, pillows, towels, washcloths, dish towels, dishes, utensils, cups and misc. cookware are provided in the cabins only. (We do not provide cookware, dishes, silverware or utensils in the Flint Hills Lodge rooms.) These items are not authorized for use outside the facilities (except for eating on porch). Any item missing or damaged by improper use will be charged to the Lessee. A "starter" supply of toilet paper, trash bags and dish soap is provided.

Quiet hours are from 11pm to 8am. Excessive loud noise or other behavior not courteous to other guests will not be tolerated at any time.

**NO REFUNDS OR REDUCTIONS WILL BE GIVEN FOR LATE ARRIVALS, EARLY DEPARTURES, WEATHER CONDITIONS OR LAKE CONDITIONS**

There are some **hotels in Junction City**, which is approximately 15 to 20 minutes from Acorn Resort

**Hampton Inn** - 1039 S Washington St. 66441 - (785) 579-6950

**Courtyard by Marriott** - 310 Hammons Dr, - (785) 210-1500

**Comfort Inn and Suites** - 120 N EAST ST. – (844) 764-7302

**Woodspring Suites** - 311 E Ash St. - 785) 762-2221

**Super 8** - 1133 S Washington St. - (785) 530-5961

**Candlewood Suites** - 100 S Hammons Dr. - (785) 238-1454

**Quality Inn** - 305 E Chestnut St. – (844) 208-9280

**Best Western** - 604 E Chestnut St. (785) 210-1212

I also found one in Manhattan

**Scenic Valley Inn** – 785-776-6831

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION  
85TH ANNUAL REGIONAL MEETING—LAKE MILFORD, KANSAS  
AUGUST 27-28, 2021**

*“Flint Hills Splash”*



LAST NAME : \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

*Return registration must be postmarked by August 1, 2021*

**Mail to:** Andrea Staudenmaier

8325 Marty  
Overland Park, Ks 66212  
913-381-0264  
andreaaude46@gmail.com

Make Checks payable to:

RMR 2021

No refunds after August 15, 2021

**Registration Fee** \_\_\_\_\_--\$ 25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Or late registration after August 1, 2021 \_\_\_\_\_--\$ 35.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**FRIDAY: August 27 Dinner**

Barbeque, (includes salad, steamed broccoli, potato salad, garlic bread & cheesecake) \_\_\_\_\_--\$ 27.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Will include Pork, Beef & Chicken

**SATURDAY: August 28—Breakfast**

Fruit Tray, Pastry Tray, Assorted Yogurts, Juice and Coffee \_\_\_\_\_--\$ 7.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**August 28—Lunch**

Fajita Fiesta (steak, chicken, veggies, sour Cream, cheese, lettuce, salsa, tortillas & cookie) \_\_\_\_\_--\$ 25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**August 28—Dinner**

Chicken (includes spinach salad, grilled asparagus, herb roasted potatoes, dinner roll & cake or Pie) \_\_\_\_\_--\$ 40.00 \_\_\_\_\_

1/4 of chicken is baked

Smoked Prime Rib (includes everything listed above with the chicken) \_\_\_\_\_--\$ 50.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

Please note any special dietary needs or restrictions to Jackie Watts, jackiejewelry@kc.rr.com / or text 913-449-9837

Check all that apply

- NGC OFFICER**
- NGC CHAIRMAN**
- NGC COMMITTEE MEMBER**
- NGC LIFE MEMBER**
- LANDSCAPE DESIGN CONSULT.**
- FLOWER SHOW JUDGE**
- GUEST**

- RMR DIRECTOR**
- RMR OFFICER**
- RMR CHAIRMAN**
- RMR LIFE MEMBER**
- GARDEN STUDIES CONSULT.**
- RMR PAST DIRECTOR**

- STATE PRESIDENT**
- CLUB PRESIDENT**
- 1st TIME ATTENDEE**
- STATE LIFE MEMBER**
- ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES CONSULTANT**
- GARDEN CLUB**
- MEMBER**



## Rocky Mountain Region

### Photo Contest

**Theme: Wildlife of the Rocky Mountain Region**

#### Rules & Guidelines

Submit up to two (2) images by June 1st, 2021 uploaded to [donna@rouchpartners.com](mailto:donna@rouchpartners.com) along with the completed entry form. And the signed release form.

**Your images should be a high resolution (300 dpi) image with a file size of at least 2 megapixels** with a minimum dimension of 1600x1200 pixels. **Smart phone photos generally are large enough files.** Image should be labeled with your last name, first name and title of your photo: for example, dane-arabella-raindrops.jpeg

**MANIPULATION** of the image by the exhibitor, in camera, and or in post processing **is allowed**.

The digital images will be juried, and the finalists will receive ribbons.

The committee will print the finalists, which will be displayed at the Rocky Mountain Region Annual Meeting at Lake Milford, Kansas.

#### Image Release Agreement

**By entering this contest, you agree to the terms of this agreement: You grant the Rocky Mountain Region the use of any images that you upload for educational and promotional purposes only on a royalty-free basis and without compensation. Including any reproductions of those images, which are deemed necessary. You will be given full credit for any of your images used for these purposes.**

**You**

**retain your copyright to any images that you upload. You also agree that the images that you upload were captured by you and they are your possessions.**

**CLICK ON THIS LINK TO REGISTER AND UPLOAD YOUR PHOTOS THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION PHOTO CONTEST: [donna@rouchpartners.com](mailto:donna@rouchpartners.com)**



**Rocky Mountain Region  
Photo Contest  
Theme: Wildlife of the Rocky Mountain Region**

**Scale Of Points**

Conformation/Interpretation: \_\_\_\_\_ 20 - does the photo comply with the class title and does the image interpret the theme

Composition: \_\_\_\_\_ 25 - elements and principles of design are used to define the components of the composition of the photograph

Creativity: \_\_\_\_\_ 25 - expression of the imagination of the photographer

Technical Merit: \_\_\_\_\_ 20 - successful use of mechanics of the camera

Distinction/Wow Factor: \_\_\_\_\_ 10- the wow factor; marked superiority in all aspects

**Total Points** \_\_\_\_\_ **100 Pts.**

**What is Wildlife:**

Wildlife traditionally refers to undomesticated animal species, but has come to include all plants, fungi, and other organisms that grow or live wild in an area without being introduced by humans.



# Rocky Mountain Region Photo Contest Entry Form

## Theme: Wildlife of the Rocky Mountain Region

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Picture #1 Name \_\_\_\_\_

Picture #2 Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Image Release Agreement

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

