

## RIFGC STATE AWARDS RULES

All awards require RIFGC application form. Exception is Yearbooks they require NGC application form.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CATEGORY

1. **ELIZABETH McCAFFREY ARBOR DAY AWARD:** (originated 2004). \$25.00 may be awarded to the club presenting the most outstanding Arbor Day program. Application must include description, pictures, and publicity.
2. **BIRD AWARD:** An award of \$25.00 may be given to the one club or individual who stages an exhibit of birds at a flower show or who has had a planned course of study or project. The award will be based on educational value, accuracy, and originality. (A club wishing to apply should notify the State Bird Chairman if the exhibit is included in a flower show.)
3. **JO MACINTOSH AWARD FOR CONSERVATION EDUCATION:** (award originated in 1957 - by Chatham Village Garden Club in 1980 in memory of Jo) \$25.00 may be awarded to an individual or club for an outstanding program, project or exhibit for Conservation Education for the current year.
4. **GORHAM AWARD FOR CONSERVATION EXCELLENCE:** (originated in 1968). \$25.00 may be presented to an individual or club of the RI Federation of Garden Clubs for the most outstanding work in either conservation of natural resources or promoting energy conservation awareness for the current year.
5. **PORTSMOUTH GARDEN CLUB MEMORIAL AWARD FOR LITTER CONTROL** (originated in 1980). \$25.00 may be awarded to the Garden Club that has activated the most community involvement in their litter control projects.
6. **KATHRYN M. SHEEHAN AWARD** (originated 1961). \$25.00 may be awarded to the club which has shown progress in an established program of Civic Beautification. Definite plans must be presented, and some progress made toward completion. It may be a long-term project. The same club is not eligible for this award two years in succession.

### RIGC Flower Show Awards: (updated in 2023) No Applications Necessary

Standard, Small-Standard, and Specialty Shows are included as 'flower shows' **except for 10C**.

- 7a **AWARD OF MERIT FOR FLOWER SHOW ACHIEVEMENT:** The RIFGC offers this award and \$25.00 to clubs who present a flower show according to the rules specified by NGC in the current Handbook for Flower Show. RIFGC affiliates who hold plant society shows are also eligible.
- 7b **AWARD OF RECOGNITION:** This award may be given to a club not eligible for the Award of Merit.
- 8a **BARBARA SPRING LOWNES AWARD:** (first awarded in 1965). A certificate and \$25.00 may be awarded if merited, to the club whose Horticulture Division, within a Flower Show is of exceptional quality.
- 8b **HORTICULTURE AWARD:** A certificate and \$25.00 may be given, at the discretion of the RI Judges' Council to a club of 29 members or less, who horticulture within a flower show is of outstanding quality.
- 9 **FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULE AWARD:** (originated in 1970). A certificate and \$25.00 may be presented to the garden club that created the most outstanding flower show schedule.

**10a JUDGES' COUNCIL AWARD FOR STAGING A FLOWER SHOW IN A PUBLIC**

**BUILDING:** (originated in 1970). A certificate and \$25.00 may be awarded to a club for outstanding excellence and beauty in staging a flower show in one or more public buildings. **MOST** of the staging **MUST BE CREATED**.

**10b JEAN T. WHITAKER AWARD FOR A FLOWER SHOW:** A certificate and \$25.00 may be awarded to a club for outstanding excellence and beauty in STAGING a flower show. **MOST** of the staging **MUST BE ACTUAL**.

**10c RUTH F. ANDERSON AWARD:** (Originated in 2003) A certificate and \$75.00 may be awarded to a club exhibiting overall excellence in a Small-Standard Flower Show staged in a home or a public building and conforming to the standards of NGC.

**10d IN-HOUSE FLOWER SHOW AWARD:** (Originated in 2014). A certificate and \$25.00 may be awarded for excellence in all divisions according to NGC rules, judged by NGC Judges, not open to the public.

**GENERAL CATEGORY**

**11. MARYELLEN BLOUNT AWARD FOR GARDEN THERAPY** (originated 1978). \$25.00 may be awarded to the club sponsoring the most outstanding program of garden therapy whereby handicapped, disabled, homebound, or institutionalized individuals within the state have received noteworthy benefit according to the accepted meaning of garden therapy. Clubs applying for this award should present program plans, a record of personal services by members, and any other visual evidence.

**12. FRANCES M. POITIER MEMBERSHIP AWARD** (originated 1972). \$25.00 may be awarded to the club with the greatest increase in RIFGC dues-paying members (actual number of paid members added) from the beginning to the end of the current awards year. If more than one club qualifies under the above provision, the award will be given to the club with the greatest percentage of increase. **NO APPLICATION NECESSARY.**

**HORTICULTURE CATEGORY**

**13. HORTICULTURE PROGRAM AWARD** (originated 1970). \$25.00 may be awarded to the club presenting the best SINGLE horticultural program at a club meeting during the year. Application should give details describing special or unusual features of the program such as exhibits or demonstrations.

**14. COMPREHENSIVE HORTICULTURE AWARD** (originated 1980). \$25.00 may be awarded to the club which has had the best Comprehensive Program emphasizing Horticulture throughout their calendar year. The application should outline the horticultural project or projects, and must have visual evidence, such as photographs, newspaper clippings, or sketches.

**15. VIRGINIA M. GREENE AWARD** (originated 1985 by Angle Tree Garden Club). \$25.00 may be awarded to the club having the best in-depth study on herb culture.

**YOUTH CATEGORY**

**16. YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.** \$25.00 may be awarded to the senior garden club which does NOT sponsor a Junior Club yet has achieved the most outstanding work with juniors in one or more projects during awards year. Application must include pictures and description of project including number of juniors participating and length of time project involved.

**17. YOUTH OR INTERMEDIATE GARDENERS AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE.** This award of \$25.00 may be given to a senior garden club which sponsors a Junior or Intermediate Club that fulfills the NGC directives: a program of nine or more meetings on the subject of horticulture, conservation, nature study, flower arranging and flower show practice, with additional programs of two or more from other fields of endeavor. Applications should include description of each program and be accompanied by pictures.

**18. MARY N. SANTOPIETRO GARDEN THERAPY YOUTH AWARD** (originated 1983) \$25.00 may be awarded to the senior garden club, which may or may not have a sponsored Youth Garden Club, for presenting an exceptional garden therapy program by its youth reaching out to the elderly, handicapped, shut-ins, or institutionalized citizens. Applications must include description of the program for the year, number of meetings, pictures of youth actually performing the therapy, and any publicity received may be included.

**PROGRAM CATEGORY**

All Program, Yearbook, and Newsletter applications are judged according to club size, determined by number of members on whom RIFGC dues are paid, and based on a report from the RIFGC Treasurer. \$25.00 to each class winner.

**Membership classifications:**

- Class 1 Clubs fewer than 20 members
- Class 2 Clubs of 20 – 29 members
- Class 3 Clubs of 30 – 44 members
- Class 4 Clubs of 45 – 69 members
- Class 5 Clubs of 70 – 99 members
- Class 6 Clubs of 100 –300 members

**19. EDITH FRICKER PROGRAMS OF THE YEAR AWARD.**

Mrs. Cyril Fricker was the RIFGC Program Chairman for many years. A certificate and \$50.00 may be awarded annually to those garden clubs which present the overall yearly Programs of greatest merit in their class. The Book of Evidence should include the following:

- (1) One copy of the **completed club year** Yearbook with an explanation of the Programs.
- (2) Any material pertaining to the Programs, or one copy of flower show schedule and/or one copy of garden tour program.
- (3) All material to be securely contained in an Oxford brief or presentation binder.  
**No more than 6 pages, both sides (12 sides) are allowed.** Title page counts as page 1.

**Evaluation Scale of Points:** (A minimum of 75 pts. is required for an award.)

**Program Content:**

- 1. Theme: 5 pts
- 2. Monthly Programs:
  - a. Minimum of SEVEN meetings a year 5 pts
  - b. Programs should support the theme including some of the following 20 pts  
subjects: birds, civic beautification, conservation, design with plant material, flower shows, garden therapy, youth activities, horticulture, landscape design, legislation, litter control, memorial gardens, roadside development, visiting public gardens or projects of National Garden Clubs, Inc.
- 3. Evidence of “member-leader” participation – such as speakers, exhibit of horticulture and/or flower arranging, workshops or field trips. 10pts

4. Evidence of activities and/or study on listed community projects. These may include any community service project: such as civic beautification, garden therapy, flower show, etc.	20 pts
5. Workshops in horticulture and/or flower arranging	10 pts
6. Demonstrations of flower arranging (open meeting optional)	5 pts
7. Involvement with youth activities (describe)	5 pts
8. Minimum of one environmental program (or its equivalent). (Equivalent may be a part of every meeting, or a larger part of a specified number of meetings.)	5 pts
9. Minimum of one Bird Program (or its equivalent, described above).	5 pts
10. Presentation for Award: neat, concise, and coherent.	<u>10 pts</u>

**TOTAL 100 pts**

**20. (YB1) GARDEN CLUB YEARBOOK AWARDS.** Certificates of Merit and \$25.00 may be awarded to clubs in the six membership classifications. Two Copies of the yearbook must be submitted to the State Awards Committee by the RIFGC October Board Meeting. They become the property of the Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs. NGC APPLICATION FORM IS REQUIRED, the following rules must be observed carefully in order that all of the requirements are fulfilled in your yearbook. Clubs may apply for Program and Yearbook Awards in the same year.

**YEARBOOK JUDGING CRITERIA**

**FORMAT: Total of 100 points**

- o **BOOK STRUCTURE:** Practical, convenient size for membership, durable, neat.  
Yearbooks may be stapled, spiral, or 3-ring binders. Material should be well placed with ample margins, and font size suitable for members to read. **2 pts.**
- o **COVER: Include name of club, town, state organization, year, and an appealing design. 2 pts.**  
*If 3-ring binder cover is used, substitute with paper cover and include required information listed above, and so note.*
- o **TITLE PAGE:** Include name of club, town, state organization, year, number of members (dues paying), and affiliated organizations, (NEGC, NGC, others) **2 pts.**  
Number of paying Members: if state and national dues are paid on associate/inactive/honorary members, they are counted in total membership.
- o **TABLE OF CONTENTS:** Number the yearbook pages and list titles on Contents page. **1 pt.**
  - o **Club Officers & Committee Chairmen. 1 pt.**
- o **Membership Roster:** complete mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses.  
Avoid crowding. Note: "All area codes and postal zip codes unless otherwise noted". **2 pts.**
- o **NGC information:** Name of NGC President, the theme of the administration. and refer to NGC website for further information. **1pt**
- o **Other Information:** Name of NEGC Regional Director, theme of the Region, State President, theme of the State President and a referral to the state website. Please refer to the NEGC website and the RIFGC website respectively. **2pt**
- o **Calendar of Events:** List dates and locations for state/regional/national meetings and events to encourage members to attend and to eliminate the setting of conflicting dates. **2 pts.**
- o **Programs: Topics should cover a variety of NGC goals and objectives such as:** Birds, Blue Star Memorials, Butterflies, Conservation, Environment, Floral Design, Horticulture, Therapy, Recycling, NGC and State President projects, etc.
  - At least seven (7) meetings a year **3 pts.**

- List date and time of meeting, location with address. **3 pts.**
- List name of speaker/s, qualifications (brief), program title. **4 pts.**
- Variety of program topics (theme not required). **14 pts.**
- Variety of styles of programs (lectures, slides, power point, tours, etc.) **12 pts.**
- Variety of speakers (specialists, members, panel, etc.). **14 pts.**

o **Projects:** *Projects involve membership participation that benefit the community and further NGC Goals and Objectives.* Some fund raisers (sales of bulbs, bedding plants, herbs, cookbooks, etc.) may help to beautify the community, as well as produce revenue for clubs. Some fund raisers may help promote NGC Member Services as well as publicize our organization and goals.

- List Continuing and New Projects (a club is not required to have new projects). **15 pts.**
- Give brief word description of projects: Include location, name of chairman, how many members participate, list of donations if applicable, in-kind donations if applicable, plans for maintenance if applicable, etc. **20 pts.**

**C. OPTIONS: (no points given)**

- Some clubs include bylaws, budget, fund raising, roll call, former club presidents.
- Club theme. If theme is used, it should be evident throughout the book. Themes may be interpreted with monthly program topics and/or titles, graphics, quotes. Projects do not need to be limited to the theme.
- NGC Mission Statement
- NGC Conservation Pledge
- NGC Environmental Mission Statement
- NGC Water Conservation Platform

**Winners in each class will be submitted to the New England Region Awards Committee for a Regional Award.**

**SPECIAL CATEGORY**

**21. CAROLYN B. HAFFENREFFER AWARD. -. NO APPLICATION NECESSARY** (Revised 2004) This award was given by Mrs. Carl W. Haffenreffer to encourage and promote activity in the garden clubs of RIFGC. The club earning the greatest number of points during the year will be awarded \$50.00. The same club is not eligible for this award two years in succession. Eligibility will be determined from information provided in the submitted Edith Fricker Books of Evidence.

(1) Community Service (social agencies, holiday participation,	10 pts
(2) garden therapy, Habitat for Humanity, Blue Star Memorial, etc.)	
(3) Civic Beautification (outdoor plantings and improvements)	10 pts
(4) Standard Flower Show, Small-Standard Flower Show, or Garden Tour	15 pts
(4) Course of study of planned program on Horticulture and Conservation	12 pts
(5) Garden related Field Trip (planned part of club program)	4 pts
(6) RI Federation activities	5 pts.
a. Representation at annual meetings (based on percentage of membership)	
(7) RI Federation Executive Board Attendance	5 pts
(8) Yearbook (National Garden Club requirements)	10 pts
(9) Junior Activities	8 pts
(10) Awards won previous year	5 pts
a. RI Federation of Garden Clubs	
b. NGC	
(11) Constitution and Bylaws (include copy)	3 pts
(12) Litter and Pollution Control	6 pts
(13) Edith Fricker Book of Evidence presentation	<u>7 pts</u>

**Total 100**

- 22. THE SYLVIA STREET AWARD.** This award of a certificate and \$25.00 was established by the Dirt Gardeners Garden Club to be given to the most creative arranger of the year. Design must have been exhibited at an NGC or RIFGC related function. Send a photo 4x6 or larger and a description of the design, stating date, and place, to the **RI Judges' Council Chairman** by **February 1<sup>st</sup>** **These applications are judged by out-of-state judges.**
- 23. THE JOAN F. PESOLA AWARD.** (originated 2003) by the Barrington Garden Club in memory of Past President, Joan Pesola. A Certificate and \$25.00 is awarded to the arranger of the best design in the Traditional or Oriental manner. Design must have been exhibited at an NGC or RIFGC related function. Send a photo 4x6 or larger and a description of the design stating date and place, to the **RI Judges' Council Chairman** by **February 1st.** **These applications are judged by out-of-state judges.**
- 24. RI FEDERATION PROJECT OF MERIT AWARD.** An Award of \$25.00 may be given to the club sponsoring the most outstanding project. A three-page (one side) application with a photograph of the completed project should be submitted.
- 25. THE SILVER TROWEL GARDEN TOUR AWARD** (originated 2003). This award is given for a garden tour sponsored by one or more-member clubs that includes five or more gardens. Public gardens maintained by club/s may be included; open homes are optional, and a Standard Flower Show may be included. A book of evidence with a maximum of six pages front and back, shall be submitted. Include a descriptive tour program with a concise map showing locations of gardens, and details supporting how the theme was carried throughout. The award will be a check for \$50.00
- 26. NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK AWARD.** (originated 2004). This award of \$25.00 may be given to an individual club with the best overall promotion of National Garden Week.
- 27. NEWSLETTER AWARD** (originated 2004). A check for \$25.00 will be awarded to clubs in each class category that publish a newsletter that:
- a) promotes RIFGC goals and activities;
  - b) is informative about club goals and activities.

Newsletters must be published at least quarterly (four times a year). To apply send 3 club newsletters and 2 copies of the state application form.

**Scale of Points for Evaluation:**

a. Newsletter Presentation (meets all requirements, neat)	<b>40 pts</b>
b. Quality (articles well written; related to projects and/or activities)	<b>40 pts</b>
c. Diversity (local, council, state, national other information)	<b><u>20 pts</u></b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100 pts</b>

- 28. POLLINATOR AWARD** (originated in 2016 by Cathy Moore). A check for \$25.00 will be awarded to the club that demonstrates commitment to pollinators at a club meeting, with the installation of a garden, or throughout the year (Bees or Butterflies).
- 29. WEBSITE** (originated in 2016). A check for \$25.00 will be awarded to the club for the most outstanding and informative website. Only an application form with the website address is required for this award.
- 30. DECORATION of a HISTORIC BUILDING.** A Certificate of Merit and \$25.00 for the tasteful decoration of a historic building/house/mansion. Decorations are not required to be of the period of the building, but should be creative, distinctive, and harmonize with the building's style. Designer's choice of all materials within the purview of curator, official or owner of the building.

31. **LIFE MEMBER AWARD.** A check for \$25.00 may be awarded to the club with the greatest increase in new Life Member in any given year. This award is to encourage clubs to promote the Life Member Group and the important scholarship work the group does to support those pursuing "green"-related fields of study. **NO APPLICATION NECESSARY**

### **RIFGC Community Project Award**

Do you have a community project that you would like to start and feel that you are unable to do so due to lack of funds? The RIFGC, in an effort to "give-back" to the clubs, has \$2000.00 available to help with these projects. Every year at the Annual Luncheon we will randomly draw awards of up to \$500 to the selected clubs to help them accomplish their goal. This award will not be judged! The same club is not eligible for this award two years in succession.

**Please send your application to the current RIFGC president.**

The applications will be placed in a hat and drawn at the Annual Meeting.

1. Please give a brief description of the project you would like to start.
2. How much money do you think you would need to accomplish your project?
3. What benefit would this project be to the community?
4. How many club members will be involved?
5. How long do you think it will take to complete the project?
6. Who will maintain the project (if needed) upon completion?
7. Must submit a follow up report to RIFGC president how money was spent.

### **MEMBER AWARD OF HONOR**

#### Recognizing Those Who Deserve Our Appreciation

Every garden club has those very special members who work tirelessly and give years of service in many areas ...here is your club's opportunity to say "we appreciate you and thank you for all your efforts!" A check for \$50.00 is award to the State winner. See the NGC website page 43 of the Awards handbook. Award is listed below. [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org) **Must be submitted to RIFGC award chairs by January 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Given to one member in each Region whose volunteer efforts during a period of five or more years has made outstanding contributions to club and community in one or more of the following areas:

- Civic development
- Horticulture therapy
- Youth activities
- Conservation
- Landscape design
- Horticulture
- Floral design
- All around excellence

Eligibility: Any member of a State Garden Club who has NEVER been a member of the NGC Board of Directors.

Application, 5 pages maximum, one-sided, must include:

- Title page
  - Name of State Federation and Region.
  - Area(s) of nominee's outstanding contribution/s
  - Name, complete mailing address, phone number of nominee
  - Sponsoring club name, president's name, address, and signature.
- Short, typed description of nominee's accomplishments, 1 page
- Supporting information
  - Maximum 3-page outline listing accomplishments of nominee (including offices and chairmanships held)

Application may be sent electronically. If mailed, must be secured in a folder. No loose pages accepted on hard copies.