

1990 – 1997

New England Region flourished during this period under the guidance of the following talented ladies: Mrs. Stafford E. Young (Paula), 1989-1991, Mrs. George Saul (Sue), 1991-1993, Mrs. G. Dickson Kenney (Ginny), 1993-1995 and Nancy Atwell (Mrs. Thomas H.), 1995-1997.

Mrs. Young began her leadership at the Sixtieth NCSGC Annual Convention in Rochester, New York. With her theme “Deuces – A pair of Acers”, Mrs. Young surely did pursue NCSGC President, Mrs. C. Maiming Smith’s theme “Open Wide your Garden Gate”. In 1990, the NCSGC Annual meeting was held in Seattle, Washington while the 1991 Annual meeting was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

At the Solid Waste Management Conference, sponsored by Shell Oil Company, she initiated a two-year project which culminated in an award of \$ 1000 from Shell. Mrs. Norman Frost spearheaded this project.

New England Region also supported Mrs. Smith’s project at the National Arboretum in Washington, D. C. and is proud of the plaque on the bench which represents this region.

Mrs. Stephen Friedberg assumed the Presidency of the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts due to the sudden death of Mrs. George Dennett.

The Garden Club Federation of Maine introduced its new President’s Pin and Vermont introduced a new member’s pin. During Mrs. Young’s administration, a proposal was initiated to reduce the monies in the Symposium Fund.

Regional meetings were held in Plymouth, Massachusetts and North Conway, New Hampshire while the Symposia were presented in Portsmouth, Rhode Island and Brownsville, Vermont.

Mrs. George Saul assumed her two-year term in Milwaukee, Wisconsin under NCSGC President, Mrs. James C. Dawson, (Violet). As did all these lovely ladies, Mrs. Saul visited all the New England State Garden Clubs and also attended the Symposia in Connecticut and New Hampshire– fortunately all short distances since this director does not fly!

Attended by our gracious NCSGC President, Mrs. Dawson, the 57th Annual Meeting of the New England Region was held at the Harley Hotel in Enfield, Connecticut. The 58th Annual meeting was held at the Cortina Inn in Killington, Vermont. Leslie Frost, Environmental Chairman, organized a most interesting and informative conference on topics ranging from transportation to nuclear power.

The NCSGC Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania proved to be rewarding for the New England Region. Senator John Chaffee of Rhode Island received the Gold Seal and John Trexler of Massachusetts received a Silver Seal. Five New England Students were awarded NCSGC Scholarships, including the Tempe Dahlgren Scholarship.

The garden club members in New England realize that “It’s Our World to Garden” and

they are using their knowledge and ability to “Reach Out to the World”.

Pursuing the theme “Grow with Gardening”, Mrs. G. Dickson Kenney, Rhode Island, endeavored to promote the goals of NCSGC and to emphasize the many special projects performed by the New England State Garden Clubs. Mrs. Kenney was the first Regional Director from Rhode Island since 1959. Mrs. Graeme Yates, NCSGC President during 1993-1995, stressed “We Love to Garden and it Shows”. And it surely did in New England!

Connecticut members restored the wild-flower garden at the Governor’s mansion. New Hampshire beautified the roadsides and provided informational exhibits at rest areas. Rhode Island instituted an ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY program and a wildflower garden at Roger Williams Park. Massachusetts conducted a garden tour of over 55 gardens. Vermont planted butterfly gardens around the state while Maine planted trees beginning with a gill of trees to its member at its Annual meeting.

The Regional Unified Project was completed with the highest participation ever and really emphasized the variety and creative ways New England advances NCSGC goals.

Two Symposia were held; one in Maine in 1993 and one in Massachusetts in 1994. The New England Annual Meetings were held in Portland, Maine in 1993 and in Newport, Rhode Island in 1994 with an Environmental Conference held in Rhode Island. A booklet was printed and distributed describing the diverse environmental concerns of the Region.

NCSGC Annual Meetings were held in Stamford, Connecticut in 1994 and Dallas, Texas in 1995. At this last meeting the Seed Court Garden, Mrs. Yates project, was dedicated in Austin at a lovely ceremony attended by Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson.

Nancy Atwell, Maine, was installed in Dallas, Texas and titled her theme as “Always Promoting Growth”. Mrs. John M Michie had as her theme “Always Creating Beauty” and her projects were “Millions of Trees” and Beautification of National Headquarters in Missouri.

The New England Regional Meeting in 1995 was held in Chelmsford, Massachusetts where Phyllis Wood, NCSGC Parliamentarian, gave her humorous and informative program on “Let Me Tell You About My Garden Club Meeting” Jane Poore, Master Flower Show Judge from Massachusetts presented a lovely design program entitled “Fall in Flower”.

Mrs. Atwell stressed native plants during her term and produced a Native Plant Seminar at the Annual Meeting in 1996 in Waterville Valley, New Hampshire. Topics, such as Propagating Native Plants, Native Plants for Roadsides, were discussed and information about NCSGC’s “Operation Wildflower” and J. C. Penney linens was disseminated.

At this meeting Deen Day Smith, Second Vice-President of NCSGC, presented a magnificent program on “Table Settings for All Seasons”.

The 28th Symposium was held in Newport, Rhode Island in 1995 and the 29th

Symposium was held in Stowe, Vermont in 1996. The NCSGC Annual Meetings were held in Traverse City, Michigan in 1996 and Hilton Head, South Carolina in 1997.

On her many visits to the six New England State Garden Clubs, Mrs. Atwell visually determined that these states were busily beautifying our land while simultaneously performing other projects to care for the elderly, physically impaired, to educate our youth and the public and to improve our environment.

Mrs. Atwell and Mrs. Kenney revised the New England Regional Handbook in 1997 and presented it to the Six State Garden Club Presidents at the Regional Breakfast dining NCSGC Annual Meeting in Hilton Head, South Carolina.