

January 2026

TFGC District II Newsletter





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Message from the District II Director

Becky Fox Matthews



Gardening in January? If you've never tried Winter Sowing, January is the perfect time to try! Winter Sowing doesn't require plant lights or a greenhouse or even space inside your home. To learn more about Winter Sowing, watch this great YouTube video -- a 2023 Nashville Public Television (NPT) production of Volunteer Gardener featuring Annette Schrader (our District II Chaplain and one of Volunteer Gardener's terrific hosts) and Marla Killian from Lewisburg, TN. As pointed out in the video linked below, Winter Sowing is easy, inexpensive, and is a great way to start seeds in January!

[Wintertime Seed Sowing | Volunteer Gardener](#)

January is a good time to Winter Sow frost-tolerant, cool season vegetables (lettuce, spinach, kale and other cole crops), and most herbs. Winter Sowing in January also provides a cold stratification period that many native plant seeds need, so don't forget to grow some native plants for pollinators!

Another benefit of Winter Sowing is that by growing seedlings out in the elements, they sprout when the temperature is right for that seed and there is no "hardening off" process to prepare the young seedlings before you plant them out into the garden.

Give Winter Sowing a try and get a head start on your spring garden!

Two great resources for learning more about Tennessee's native plants: TDOT (TN Department of Transportation) has an in-depth database of native Tennessee Pollinator flora and fauna: <https://tnpollinators.org/database-map/>.

Tennessee Smart Yards has a Native Plant database:
<https://tnyards.utk.edu/category/native-plants/>.

Becky

2025-2027 District II Executive Board

Director

Becky Fox Matthews
Gateway Acres Garden Club,
Judges Council
1006 Waller Road
Brentwood, TN 37027-8349
becky@lostfrogs.com
615-838-1359

Vice Director

Karen Dawson
Town & Country Garden Club
fdkd70@bellsouth.net
615-594-2455

Recording Secretary

Jennifer Kidd
New Neighbors Garden Club
jkkmd@comcast.net
615-478-4854

Corresponding Secretary

Kay Wells
Rachel Jackson Garden Club
wellsonhill@comcast.net
615-419-3718

Treasurer

Theresa Bray
Beachaven Garden Club
tlbray1@bellsouth.net
931-542-7362



2025-2027 District II Committee Chairmen



Awards

Gayle Jaggers
Oak Hill Garden Club
bgaylejaggers@comcast.net
615-352-0762 (home)

Blue Star & Gold Star Families Memorial

Markers
Pam Dowd
Optimistic Gardeners Club
pamldowd@aol.com
615-896-8663

Chaplain

Annette Shrader
Clarksville Garden Club
annette.shrader@yahoo.com
931-801-8832

Door Prizes

Anna Marie Allen
Harpeth Bend Garden Club
annabanana7@comcast.net
615-477-3030

Endowment Trust

Becky Fox Matthews
District II Director
becky@lostfrogs.com
615-838-1359

Grants

Lola Eslick
Franklin County Garden Club
eslickla@aol.com
931-808-5754

Hospitality—Co-Chairs

Tove Rawlings
Country Homes Garden Club
info@therawlings.net
615-876-2169

Jan Vester
Country Homes Garden Club
janvestertn@gmail.com
615-870-2788

Newsletter Editor

Anna Marie Allen
Harpeth Bend Garden Club
annabanana7@comcast.net
615-477-3030

Parliamentarian

Gwyne Ellis Powers
Country Homes Garden Club
plantprincess2005@yahoo.com
813-833-5907

Vision of Beauty Calendar

Kandee Walker
Harpeth Bend Garden Club
twalker10@aol.com
615-403-5053

Ways & Means

TBD

Check out the

TFGC Website

Updated Forms

Upcoming Events

Volunteer Gardener

News & More!

tngardenclubs.org



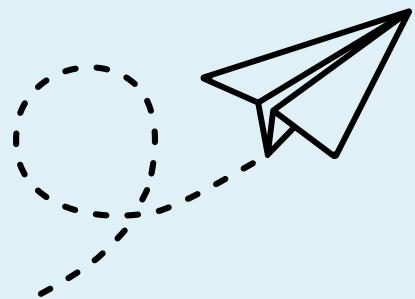


DISTRICT II
CLUB PRESIDENTS,
PLEASE FORWARD THIS
EMAILED NEWSLETTER TO
YOUR CLUB MEMBERS.

Submit your club's events, photos & articles for
the February 2026 District II Newsletter by
January 15th to:

annabanana7@comcast.net

**THANK
YOU!**



IMPORTANT

Presidents' Reports are due

JANUARY 20TH

If you are a District II Club President, you need to submit a
“President’s Report” for 2025.

The “Club President’s Report” Form that you submit can be found
on the TFGC Website: tngardenclubs.org

If your club participated in a Flower Show in 2024 or 2025, submit a
“Flower Show Report Form” as well.
This form is also on the TFGC website.

Send completed copies of the form(s) to the following THREE (3) individuals,
postmarked OR emailed by **January 20th**:

- District II Director—Becky Fox Matthews
1006 Waller Road Brentwood, TN 37027
becky@lostfrogs.com
- TFGC Awards Chair—Debbie Shaver
349 Sharpe Lane Dayton, TN 37321
buffiescorner@bellsouth.net
- TFGC President—Lelia Johnson
3475 Brighton Blvd. NW Cleveland, TN 37312
l.johnson924@yahoo.com

JUDGING AWARDS

Tuesday, January 6, 2026
starting at 9:00 CT

Through the Grapevine
630 Broadmor Blvd. Suite 190
Murfreesboro, TN 37129
615-890-7346

*Lunch will be \$20.00 and you can bring cash or check
if doing check make it out to Through the Grapevine*

Ideally we need at least 5 from each district
total of at least 5 Flower Show Judges

Members need to study awards rules
and be familiar with the requirements

Remind everyone if you are sending in awards
for Deep South and National
YOU MUST SEND THEM TO ME BY JAN 1
NGC or DS will not accept awards from individual clubs

Send names of who will be attending to me as soon as possible
Any questions Please email me at
buffiescorner@bellsouth.net

Debbie Shaver

Winter Gathering

INSPIRING WINTER DECOR, NATURAL DESIGNS,
MOSS, FORCED BULBS, TOPIARIES, ANTIQUES,
VINTAGE ITEMS, AND MORE

Benefiting Deep South Garden Clubs, INC.

Scholarships

by Denise Thorne

Deep South Regional Director 2025-2027

FRIDAY JANUARY 16TH, 2026

11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

402 BASS ROAD

WATERTOWN, TN 37184

LIMITED
TICKETS
AVAILABLE

TICKETS ARE \$20.00 PER PERSON

MENU

ROASTED TURKEY

SAGE DRESSING

SOUTHERN SWEET POTATOES

FRESH CRANBERRY SALAD

DESSERTS

SEND CHECKS TO: DSGC TREASURER TRICIA
ORTALANO, 1104 FARRINGTON DR.

MARRERO, LA 70072-3921

PORTALANO3@GMAIL.COM

Coming soon to a location near you-- your favorite chair!

Knock those winter doldrums out the window!
Join fellow gardeners from across the state
and beyond as we prepare for

SPRING

Our favorite time of year.

**Warm days, cool nights, the perfect awakening
for our gardens.**

- What? Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs NGC Gardening School 2026
- When? January 21-22, January 28-29, February 11-12, February 18-19
- Where? ZOOM from the comfort of your own home
- How? Registration coming soon on the TFGC website (www.tngardenclubs.org/)
- Why? To have the most beautiful garden ever
- Bonus? Complete all 4 Courses and become a NGC Gardening Consultant!

For more information, email Marilyn McDonnell, TFGC Gardening School Chairman at
mmcdonnell25@comcast.net

Deep South Director's Theme Project

Deadline January 31, 2026

“Plant the Deep South with Flowers and Trees, for the Birds and Bees”

Your club can submit an educational program for competition and recognition. A yearly total of \$500 will be awarded \$100 on each of the following topics.

1. Program based on Floral Design or Horticulture
2. Program based on Trees
3. Program based on Birds
4. Program based with Bees and/or Pollinators
5. Program promoting any of the above topics with only youth

1st Place \$70, 2nd Place \$20, 3rd Place \$10

All submissions will receive a certificate

Please submit inquiries, no more than 3 pages, to the Chairman and Director.

Inquires should be sent to the Chairman and Director:

Lana Arnold - Chairman
3441 Jasmine Hill Road
Tallahassee, FL 32311
iamag8tor@comcast.net

Denise Thorne - Director
402 Bass Road
Watertown, TN 37184
denise@tec63.com

NEW NGC GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Application is open until February 17, 2026.



PLANT AMERICA: Blue/Gold Star Memorial Beautification Grant!

Help beautify Blue & Gold Star Memorials in your community!

Learn about this new grant opportunity from National Garden Clubs, Inc. in partnership with Keep America Beautiful, and submit your application today.



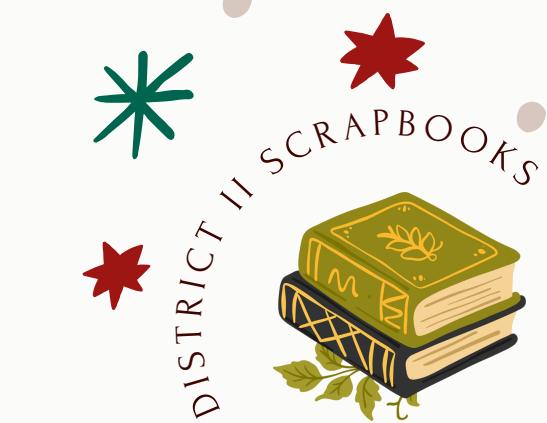
Join clubs nationwide in this meaningful tribute as we lead up to America's 250th Anniversary!



KEEP AMERICA
BEAUTIFUL



For more information, go to gardenclub.org





Club Scrapbooks!

are due in the hands of
Scrapbook Chairman
Judy Johnson

February 28, 2026

TO SCHEDULE DELIVERY, CONTACT JUDY

A T

615-202-8050

**JUDY JOHNSON
4753 CARTER ROAD
CEDAR HILL, TN 37032**



Deep South Convention

5 Nights
March 16 - 21, 2026

Eastern Caribbean Cruise

ROYAL
CARIBBEAN

EXPLORER OF THE SEAS



Day	Destination
Mon, Mar 16	Depart Port Canaveral, FL
Tue, Mar 17	Nassau, Bahamas
Wed, Mar 18	At Sea
Thu, Mar 19	At Sea
Fri, Mar 20	Coco Cay, Bahamas
Sat, Mar 21	Arrive Port Canaveral, FL



Starting from:

\$599 / Person
+ tax

Deposit is \$200 per person
Final Payment is due by Dec. 12, 2025



Contact Shelley
satkinson@funseas.com
www.funseas.com/ffgc
+850-386-7327 Ext. 208

Tennessee Council of Nationally Accredited
Flower Show Judges
of
District II

Will sponsor an
NGC Flower Show Symposium

Monday & Tuesday
April 13 - 14, 2026

Held at
The Oaklands Mansion
in
Maney Hall
901 North Maney Avenue
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

For more information
Contact Kathy Rychen
kathyrychen@gmail.com



“Blooming Beginnings” Flower Show Award

NGC is offering a unique Award Opportunity for clubs hosting their first ever NGC Small Standard or Standard Flower Show!

Honoring Excellence in First-Time Flower Shows with a Lasting Legacy. Flower shows have long served as vibrant celebrations of botanical artistry, horticultural mastery, and community spirit. They foster connections among gardeners, inspire creativity, and bring together people of all backgrounds to appreciate the transformative beauty of flowers. While established shows often receive accolades and recognition, first-time flower shows play a critical yet often underappreciated role: they sow the seeds of new traditions, unite budding horticulturists, and invigorate communities with fresh passion. It is with this in mind that we offer the “Blooming Beginnings” Flower Show Award, a unique honor dedicated to recognizing excellence in first-time garden club flower shows. The award, embodied in the form of an NGC Path of Success brick paver, will ensure that these pioneers leave a permanent mark—both literally and figuratively—on the garden of collective achievement.

Objective of the Award

- Recognize first-time flower shows for their vision, organization, and impact.
- Encourage other groups to initiate new flower shows, fostering a wider appreciation for horticulture and floral design.

Eligibility

- Open to any NGC Federated Garden Club hosting its FIRST EVER NGC Small Standard or Standard Flower Show. The Flower Show must be held during the 2025-2027 NGC administration.
- Shows must be open to the public and demonstrate a commitment to community involvement, educational value, and horticultural excellence.

Nominations and Judging Process

Judging will be based on several key criteria, including but not limited to:

- Innovation and Creativity: Originality in show design, theme, and exhibits.
- Educational Value: Demonstration of horticulture and floral design education for attendees.
- Overall Impact: Evidence of positive influence on the local community and potential for future growth.
- Clubs must submit their Flower Shows following the standard Flower Show Achievement Award submission process which is listed on the NGC website. Submit to your state by their deadline. State Flower Show Awards Chairman or Awards Chairman may submit up to three entries to NGC Flower Show Awards Chairman by January 1, 2027.

The Award: Brick Paver

“Blooming Beginnings” Award is the presentation of an NGC Path of Success engraved brick paver, sponsored by the NGC Flower Show Awards Committee. This brick will bear the club’s name, flower show’s name and the year of the award and will be installed on the Path of Success at NGC Headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri.

- Each quality submission will receive a certificate of recognition for their accomplishment.

Questions? Debby Cooper, NGC Flower Show Awards Chairman. @ coopcooper@aol.com

“Sparkling Settings” Highlights

The Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee presented the 20th Anniversary of “Sparkling Settings”. The Holiday Luncheon & Silent Auction were held on Monday, December 1, 2025 at Cheekwood’s Botanic Hall. Many District II club members participated in the Christmas festivities!



Optimistic Gardeners Club enjoyed “A Very Berry Christmas” tablescape theme. Left to right: Trudy Bain, Lillian Hibbett, Beth Binkley, Wanda Copley, Patricia Nash & Jeanne Teeter.



“Sparkling Settings” Highlights



*Bette Ann Fields
Gateway Acres Garden Club*

“Sparkling Settings” Highlights



“Sparkling Settings” Highlights



HSMT President Debby Pitts (second from right) with members of the Sparkling Settings team



TFGC District II



Club News



District II Garden Clubs

- Beachaven Garden Club
- Ben Lomand Garden Club
- Camden Garden Club
- Clarksville Garden Club
- Country Homes Garden Club
- Evening Belle Garden Club
- First Saturday Garden Club
- Flower Growers Garden Club
- Flower Lovers Circle
- Franklin County Garden Club
- Garden Lovers Club
- Gateway Acres Garden Club
- Harpeth Bend Garden Club
- Hendersonville Garden Club
- Iris City Garden Club
- Lake Forest Acres Garden Club
- Lebanon Road Garden Club
- Leipers Fork Garden Club
- Les Candides Garden Club
- New Neighbors Garden Club
- Oak Hill Garden Club
- Optimistic Gardeners Club
- Rachel Jackson Garden Club
- Shady Grove Garden Club
- Shelbyville Garden Club
- T.A.G.S.
- Town & Country Garden Club
- Tyne Meade Garden Club
- Volunteer Garden Club
- Year Round Garden Club
- Warner Park Garden Club



Beachaven Garden Club



The Club had a lovely Holiday Tea Party, with a program about tea presented by Diann Nance.



Diann Nance



Theresa Bray



Marcia Huguley



Charene Ackley Watson



Nancy Knight Salyer



Barbara Mazzei



Tina Ramsey



Sandra Watson

Evening Belle Garden Club

December 2025 Meeting & Christmas Party



Standing left to right: Lucy, Paula, Beth, Asha, Libby, Ann, Eba, Sharon, Angie, Susan, Meera, Anne, Gini, Lesa & Irene. Sitting: Jeanette, Colleen, Susie, Lidia, Rose, Ro, Martina, Sarah, Teri & Merrily.



Martina, Susie, Merrily, Lidia & Asha





Evening Belle Garden Club



Submitted by Asha Joyce



First Saturday Garden Club

With the help of local veterans, the Club placed wreaths at the Veterans Park on November 28th.



Excerpts from Facebook

Thank you

Flower Growers Garden Club

FLOWER GROWERS GARDEN CLUB – NOVEMBER 2025

Mushrooms!

Lynne Davis graciously hosted our club at her gorgeous home in Lascassas, TN. She provided a scrumptious lunch featuring an amazing grape salad along with delicious chicken and roast potatoes.

- Lynne shared a beautiful thought of the day along with prayer.
- Patty Compton led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.
- Patty asked everyone to keep Marilyn Spence, Rachel Bush, and Mary Forrest Hancock in their prayers for speedy recovery.

FGGC President Patty Compton introduced our guest judge, Sharon Clark. Our gardens were hit by an early killing frost. Horticulture displayed by Morna Conway's winter-hardy *Camellia sasanqua* 'Yuletide', which is bright red with yellow stamens and Kim Orrand displayed horticulture. Kim also contributed 3 amazing Designer's Choice designs: Chill in the Air, Fantasy World, and Treasures.

Member Eddie Broadwell, one of our Master Gardeners, introduced Guest Speaker Bob Star, founder and owner of Pilgrimage Farm in Lewisburg, TN. The Farm's motto is *Eat Wild, Eat Natural, Expand Your Palate!* Over his eleven years in mushroom farming and foraging, Bob has developed novel processes for growing mushrooms, using natural, organic methods that avoid the massive carbon footprint left by commercial growers who use GMO soy pellets. Bob is an engaging and deeply knowledgeable speaker who was generous in sharing his vast experience in cultivating Shiitake and gourmet mushrooms, using a unique proprietary substrate, sourced locally and sustainably produced on site. He markets what he grows direct to restaurants in the Nashville area, as well as selling to the public at our local farmers' markets. He ended his presentation by encouraging us to taste some of his mushroom candy.

Maggie Shelor was voted unanimously into FGGC as a new member.

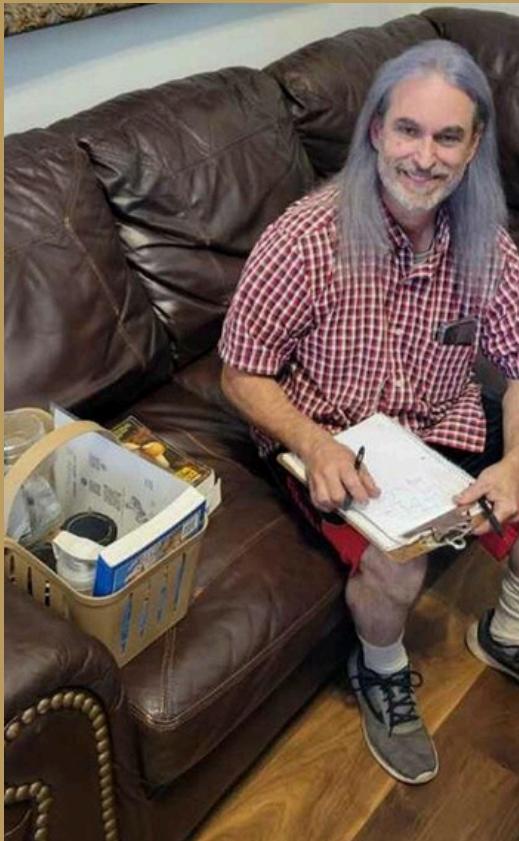
Marchelle Butler, Treasurer reminded everyone to look over the Another Woman's Treasure collection. All items left at the end of the meeting will be donated to Habitat for Humanity. She also reminded us December is our month to make our yearly donations to the Domestic Violence Center, one of continuing project. Please make check to FGGC or Venmo and give to Marchelle and specify Domestic Violence Center Donation in the memo. Marchelle will issue a check to DVC.

Patty reminded us of Racheff House & Gardens Greens Tea refer to Newsletter for details.

It was a very pleasant, enlightening day, in beautiful surroundings!



Flower Growers Garden Club



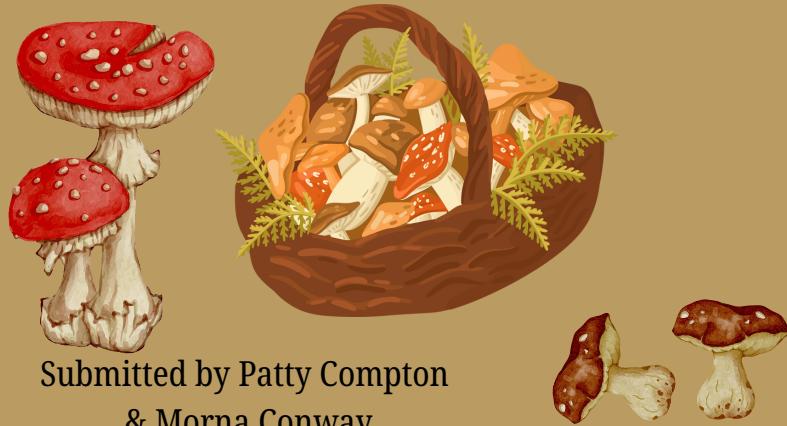
Pilgrimage Farm's Bob Star



Kim Orrand & her amazing floral design



Patty Compton, Lisa Blos-Johnson, Morna Conway,
Eddie Broadwell & Kim Orrand



Submitted by Patty Compton
& Morna Conway



Morna Conway's
Camellia sasanqua 'Yuletide'

Flower Lovers Circle

The Flower Lovers Circle met for our December Meeting and Christmas Luncheon at the home of President Nita Slater. We had a wonderful meeting, fellowship, and lunch, to which all the ladies contributed some excellent goodies! After our meeting, we enjoyed decorating boxes that Mary Ann and Nita made for the group. Mary Ann brought old

cards to be recycled as cut outs for the boxes. We then filled them with various confections of cookies and candy brought by each person. What fun we had! Each of the ladies decorated two boxes to take with them and give to whomever they chose. We also brought gifts for the Shelter Inc. All the things they may need! What a delightful day!

Merry Christmas Everyone!



Back Row: Carol Sullivan, Betsy DeJong, Mary Ann Harris, Gail Watson & Reba Ayers
Front Row: Betsy Koszut, Sheila Jones & Beth Ender



Flower Lovers Circle



Submitted by Nita Slater

Harpeth Bend Garden Club



Our annual Christmas luncheon was held on December 10th at the home of Robin Nash. We enjoyed a delicious meal, played games & had an ornament exchange!



Kandee Walker, Margaret Reeves, Robin Nash & Missy Hetzer



Claudette Ryan & Jennie Daugherty



Mary Dorning, Joan Bailey, Beth Harlow, Betty Chapman & Jean Pickard

Harpeth Bend Garden Club



Karen Brommer, Mary Dorning & Betty Chapman





Lake Forest Acres Garden Club



This year, Lake Forest Acres celebrated their annual Christmas event on December 1st at the Old Hickory Country Club, hosted by members Doris Wyatt and Tracy Embry. The entire Country Club was a lovely setting, and our club would like to give OHCC a special thank you for providing the beautiful table decorations.



From top left to right: Treasurer Carolyn Ricketts, Velda Dyer, Doris Wyatt, Joan Pillow, Sandy Mahoney, Jean Smith, Beverly Lutz, Vice President Dana Caldwell, Cindy Brumfield.

Bottom left to right: Tracy Embry, Wanda Pardue, Kathy Lyon, Judy Parrish, Linda Sanders, Becky Brazier, Deanna Sydenstricker, President Anice Rouse, Cece Meador, Secretary Carol Clem, Gaye McFadden.

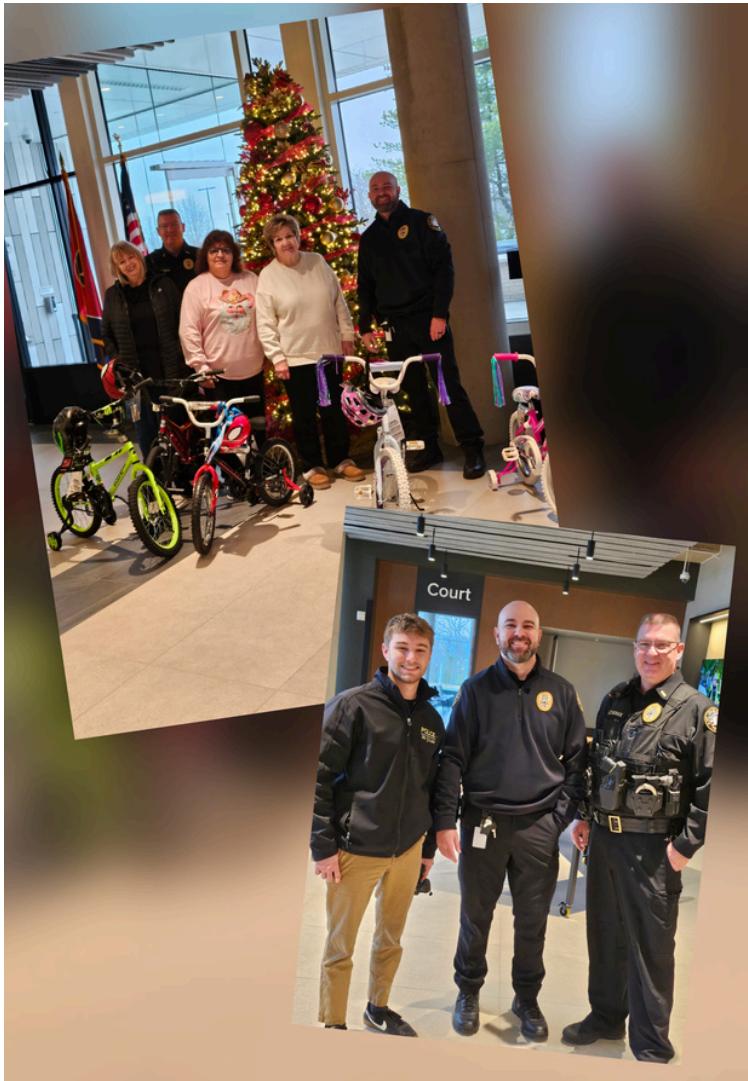
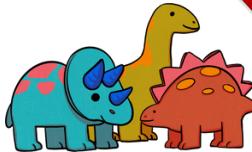


Lake Forest Acres Garden Club





Lake Forest Acres Garden Club



Top Photo: Left to right: LFAGC President Anice Rouse, MJPD Lt. Ronan, LFAGC V.P. Dana Caldwell, LFAGC member Doris Wyatt and MJPD Lt. Cothron.

Bottom Photo: Left to right: MJPD's Jake Laster, Lt. Cothron, Lt. Ronan.

Each year during the Christmas holidays, the Lake Forest Acres Garden Club donates to the Toys for Tots campaign in conjunction with the Mt. Juliet Police Department. We would like to give a special thank you to the MJPD for their contribution in assisting and distributing the Toys for Tots' gifts each year. We also want to express our deepest gratitude to the Department for their important services to our community. Also, we would like to thank Academy Sports + Outdoors for their generous contribution to this worthy cause. Thank you, thank you, thank you all!! Have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy 2026! 🎄

Anice Rouse, President and all the Members of Lake Forest Acres Garden Club (Mt. Juliet)



Leipers Fork Garden Club

Our November meeting was held at the lovely home of Clare Maness.

Clare gave us demonstrations of working with water beads. She made three arrangements—a fall design, a Christmas design, and one with fresh flowers. Clare experimented with water beads until she knew how to make the most creative and beautiful arrangements.



Submitted by Faye Sturm

Optimistic Gardeners Club

December 3, 2025 Christmas Tea & Meeting



Hostesses: Libby Black, Wanda Copley, Julia Wilson, Ruth Taylor, Lisa Chappell, Beth Binkley & Dot Taylor



Left: "Gardeners Christmas Tree" by Sheila Byburg & Lillian Hibbett

Center: "Advent Wreath" by Marion Butler

Right: "Wrapped Packages" by Barbara Forsythe, Dot Taylor & Rachel Reynolds

Optimistic Gardeners Club



Optimistic Gardeners Club



Shelby Moore, Mary McCord, & Ann Porter



Dot Taylor taught the Club
about different types of
“Christmas Cactus”



Submitted by Lillian Hibbett; photos by Julia Wilson



“Teacup Tree”
by Julia Wilson

Tyne Meade Garden Club

Tyne Meade Celebrates Christmas in Style

The Tyne Meade Garden Club met December 4 at Johnson's Chapel in Brentwood.

Our members separated into four groups, each choosing a Christmas theme. Each member brought beloved colorful decorations and items for their table. All the different approaches were a delight to witness.

Club members enthusiastically participated with lots of laughter and excitement, sneaking peeks at each other's tables. To begin with, each table was covered by a white tablecloth. By the end of our decorating time, each table was a lovely display.



Dixie Riddle adds some finishing touches.





Tyne Meade Garden Club



New member Andrea Shelton (left) collaborates with Betsy Abernathy and Janet Brownlee.

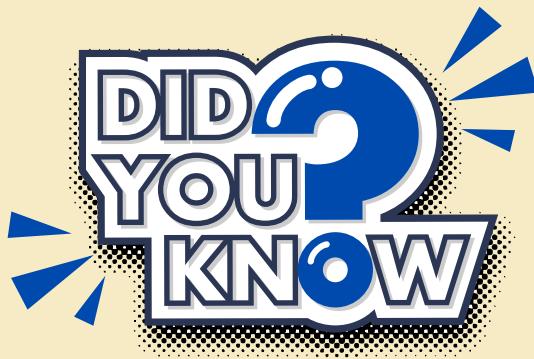


Group design fun with (l to r) Shannon Thurman, Sheila Turk, Carol Smith, Jan Shockey, Doris Weakley, and Monty West.

Every year, members bring toys and clothing for the Department of Children Services to distribute to foster families, and our gift table was overflowing with items.

The fun concluded with a luncheon of three different soups, salad, and German pastries.

Tyne Meade Report from Doris Weakley, Shannon Thurman, and Carol Smith

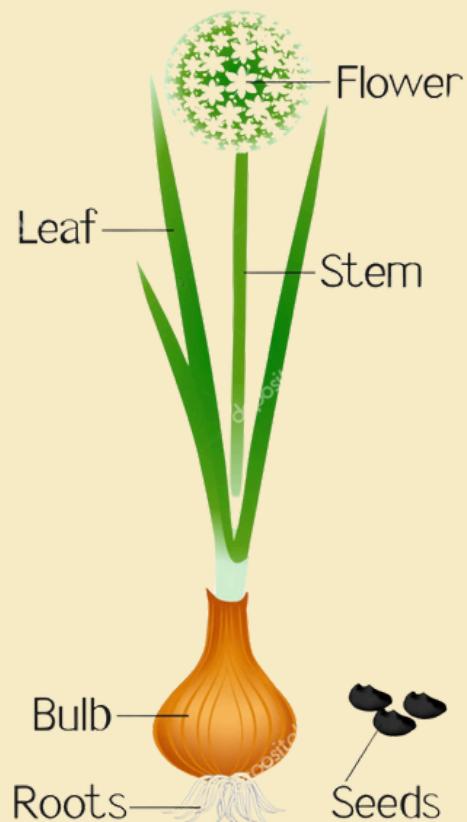


Why cutting onion brings tears in your eyes?

Sulfuric compounds are to blame for cut onions, bringing tears to your eyes.

According to the National Onion Association, chilling the onion and cutting the root end last reduces the problem.

Also, I get a new onion from the root end: I cut off the bottom of the onion, leaving about 1.5 to 2 inches near the root. Place the root end in a pot with soil or directly in the ground, cover it lightly with soil, and water it as needed to encourage growth. Now you have fresh scallion to add to soups or a salad and an onion later!



Jolly Sinha is a member of TFGC, the Rachel Jackson Garden Club, New Neighbors Garden Club, T.A.G.S., District II Judges Council & the Organization of Floral Art Designers (OFAD). She is a regular contributor to the column "Did You Know?"



Follow up on last month's

“Did You Know?

This plant could outlive you!”

Christmas cactus

Schlumbergera buckleyi



- ★ This is a photo of a 136 year-old Christmas Cactus that has been passed down from one family member to another, traveling all over the country throughout her lifetime. She now lives in a sunny corner in Oregon, receives one liter of particulate-filled aquarium water every two weeks and a monthly “rotation” on her vintage console sewing stand!

Go Girl!!

Summary of Upcoming Events

& Submission Deadlines



JANUARY

1

- Submission Deadline for
Winter 2026 Volunteer Gardener



6

- TFGC State Awards Committee
Judging Books of Evidence
9:00 am Central Time
Through the Grapevine
630 Broadmor Blvd. Suite 190
Murfreesboro
Contact Debbie Shaver: buffiescorner@bellsouth.net

9 - 11

- Antiques & Garden Show of Nashville
Music City Center
201 Rep. John Lewis Way S.
Nashville, TN 37203

12



- Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee
Winter Membership Meeting
10:00 am
Botanic Hall at Cheekwood Estate & Gardens
1200 Forrest Park Drive Nashville

January

15

- Submission Deadline for February District II Newsletter



16

- Deep South Garden Clubs Winter Gathering at the home of Denise Thorne
11:00 am -3:00 pm
402 Bass Road Watertown, TN
Registration required

20

- Submission Deadline for TFGC Presidents' Reports
Form available at tngardenclubs.org

21

- TFGC Gardening School Zoom Class

22

- TFGC Gardening School Zoom Class

24

- Middle Tennessee Hosta Society Meeting
1:00 pm—2714 Old Lebanon Pike Nashville

28

- TFGC Gardening School Zoom Class

29

- TFGC Gardening School Zoom Class

31

- Deadline for Deep South Director's Project



FEBRUARY

11

- TFGC Gardening School Zoom Class

12

- TFGC Gardening School Zoom Class

15

- Submission deadline for March District II Newsletter

17

- Submission Deadline for NGC Blue Star/Gold Star Marker Grant Information at gardenclub.org

18

- TFGC Gardening School Zoom Class

19

- TFGC Gardening School Zoom Class

28

- Submission Deadline for District II Scrapbooks



MARCH



1

- Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society Spring Meeting
2:00 pm
Bradford Room
of The Frist Learning Center
Cheekwood Estate & Gardens
1200 Forrest Park Drive Nashville

15

- Submission deadline for April District II Newsletter

16 - 21

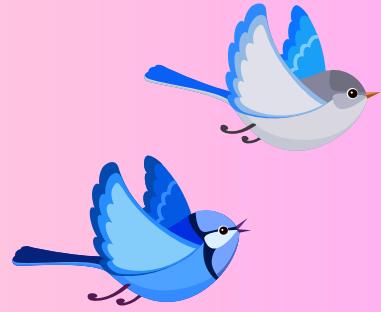
- Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.
2026 Convention Cruise
deepsouthgardenclubs.com for information





1

- **Submission Deadline for
Spring Volunteer Gardener**



11

- **Herb Society of Nashville
2026 Herb & Plant Sale
Nashville Fairgrounds Expo 1
More info/times to follow on herbsocietynashville.org**

13

- **Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee
Spring Membership Meeting
Monday, April 13, 2026 10:00 am
Botanic Hall at Cheekwood Estate & Gardens
1200 Forrest Park Drive Nashville**



APRIL

13-14

- Tennessee Council of Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judges of District II will sponsor an NGC Flower Show Symposium
Oaklands Mansion—Maney Hall
901 North Maney Avenue Murfreesboro
Contact Kathy Rychen for more information:
kathyrychen@gmail.com

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- Submission Deadline for
May District II Newsletter



AMAZING FACTS & TIPS

WINTER BIRD FEEDING



WHY FEED IN WINTER?

Birds need massive calories to maintain body heat. High-fat food is essential fuel for survival during cold snaps.

TOP HIGH-ENERGY FOODS



BLACK-OIL SUNFLOWER
Universal favorite, high fat & easy to crack



SUET CAKES
Pure fat energy, great for insect-eaters like woodpeckers



UNSALTED PEANUTS
Protein-rich boost, loved by jays & nuthatches

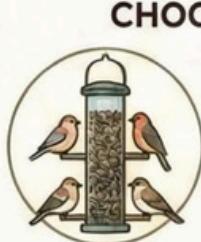


NYJER (THISTLE)
Tiny seeds for small finches, requires special feeder



AVOID bread, salty snacks, or old seed (low nutrition, can be harmful)

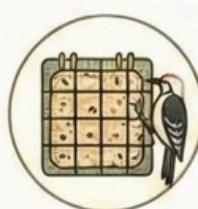
SMART FEEDER STRATEGIES



TUBE FEEDER
Small birds, keeps seed dry



HOPPER FEEDER
Holds lots, good for larger birds



SUET CAGE
Secure for clinging birds



NEAR COVER
(Safety from predators & wind)



WINDOW SAFETY
(Use decals to prevent collisions)



DON'T FORGET WATER!
Essential for drinking & bathing. A heated source prevents freezing and aids feather maintenance.



MAINTENANCE & CONSISTENCY TIPS



CLEAN REGULARLY:
Disinfect feeders with weak bleach solution every few weeks to stop disease.



BE CONSISTENT: Once you start, birds rely on your source. Keep feeders stocked, especially during storms.