

Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

District II

Newsletter

September 2026



tngardenclubs.org

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Message

From the District II Director Becky Fox Matthews



“How Can I Help?” is the title of Doug Tallamy’s 2026 book and “Saving Nature with Your Yard” is the subtitle. I started listening to this book through the free library audiobook service Libby and soon realized that I wanted to have a print copy of the book in my hands because it is a reference book. It includes 499 questions people have asked the author along with his answers. Luckily for me, the book was available at my local library. While I don’t agree with everything the author recommends, this book contains a lot of great information.

Chapter topics are as diverse as Oaks, Invasive Species, Pest Control, and Conservation and Restoration. Tallamy advises you to read any chapter that interests you first. Each chapter starts off with more general questions and progresses to more specific ones. The book includes a Resource List and a detailed 20-page Index that makes it easy to find specific information.

My property is just over two acres with lots of mature trees. What I consider my “yard” is about an acre in front of and behind the house. Behind the backyard is an uphill sloped acre of woods. Unwanted trees and bushes pop up everywhere, especially in the front and back yards. The only way I have been able to control these invasives is by cutting them down close to the ground then painting the stumps with an herbicide. I pour the herbicide into a labeled jar, wear rubber gloves, and use a narrow foam paintbrush to paint the herbicide onto the stump of the plant I want to kill. Doug Tallamy lists this as a favorite way to control invasives. He recommends that the best time to attack invasives (other than “yesterday”) is early fall “because that is when nutrients are being translocated back to the roots.”

For years I had a few *Euonymus alatus* (burning bush) shrubs on the side of the yard. I never saw any invasive qualities to those burning bushes until suddenly one year they started sprouting everywhere. I dug out the full-grown bushes to stop the seed-bearing, but years after that mistake I am still pulling up little burning bush seedlings!

Another year a Master Gardener friend offered to bring his chainsaw to help me rid the property of the invasive *Lonicera maackii* (Amur honeysuckle bush). Like burning bush seedlings, very small honeysuckle bushes can be easily pulled out of the ground, but once they get a bit of growth (which can happen quickly) their roots wind everywhere and they can be impossible to dig out. Given enough time their trunks can reach tree-size and you may need a chainsaw to cut them down. This is when cutting the trunk down and dabbing herbicide on it really works!

I still have invasives on my property. Ridding your yard from invasives is not usually a one-time project, but if you have invasives such as these two (both on Tennessee’s invasive list) or others that are hard to dig out, now is a good time to get ready to go after them in early fall when hopefully we can also enjoy some cooler temperatures!

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

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

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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
Gateway Acres 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

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info@therawlings.net
615-876-2169

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813-833-5907

Vision of Beauty Calendar

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

Ways & Means

Town & Country
Garden Club

IMPORTANT



District II Book of Evidence (BOE) Information from Gayle Jaggers, District II Awards Chairman

**The following pages contain information about the
District II Awards Application process, including:**

- **Which Projects are submitted for District II Awards**
- **Where to mail the District II BOEs—>to Tove Rawlings**
- **Due Date for District II Awards Application: **December 1, 2026****
- **If your Book of Evidence does not match one of the
17 District II Awards, then mail it to State Awards Chairman
Debbie Shaver. Her address is on the Awards Application form.
State BOE Awards Application Deadline is January 1, 2027.**

**Go to the TFGC Website to print the
“TFGC Awards Application”
& “Publication Release Form”
that must accompany each of your District II
Books of Evidence.**

tngardenclubs.org

Book of Evidence (BOE) 2026

1. There is a 3-page limit, (using the front side only, the application plus three more pages.) The 2025-2027 TFGC Application form will be used this year. Access the TFGC Inc. website and click on About Us and then click on Awards and scroll to the application form. **There will not be a new District II Award Application form this year.** The first page of the three pages will be used to write the summary about your project. You may use the next two pages for photos. Address all the topics listed in the NGC Rubric in the summary or you will lose points in the scoring. Rubric topics can also be stated in the photo captions but highlight them so they won't be overlooked. If your project qualifies for several awards, write a different summary and use different photos for each BOE application. The TFGC photo permission form must be signed by non-members. Members may all sign on one permission form.
2. The BOEs will not be returned, so make a copy for your records in case the BOE gets lost in the mail.
3. Binders and vinyl sheets are not allowed.
4. Make one hard copy of your BOE and mail it to Tove Rawlings at PO Box 97, Joelton, TN, 37080-0097 by December 1, 2026. Also send one copy of your yearbook to the same address.
5. BOEs are due **December 1, 2026**. Please include your telephone number and email address. You will be notified when the BOE is received. Contact Gayle Jaggers at bgaylejaggers@comcast.net or call 615-659-9898 for questions.
6. The TFGC Awards Application is not used for your Flower Show BOE. The NGC Flower Show Form is furnished by the TFGC Awards Chairman, Debbie Shaver.
7. For Flower Show Awards see "Flower Show" section of awards on the TFGC website
8. The State Awards Chairman will submit BOE's to the Deep South and NGC awards chairman, when possible. The TFGC state awards chairman is Debbie Shaver. Contact her at H# 423-775-0102, C# 423-322-8565 or buffiescorner@bellsouth.net. Her address is 349 Sharpe Lane, Dayton, TN 37321-7728. Send BOE's that do not match District II awards directly to the state awards chairman by January 1, 2027 or sooner if possible. Do not send a project for an award directly to Debbie Shaver unless it is a project that does not fit the description of our District II award list. Once district awards are judged, they will be sent to Debbie Shaver.

2026 District Awards

Please note the numbers for the District II Awards for 2026 are the same as those for 2025. The award names and numbers will be the same as the TFGC Awards. District II will give seventeen of the TFGC awards for 2026.

If your project matches the following awards you will first apply for a District II Award. Do not send one of the following to the TFGC chairman.

#3 Horticulture

#5 Public Relations

#6 Conservation

#7 Special Achievement Award

#8 Promotion of Gardening Among Youth Award

#13 Historic Preservation Award

#16A Yearbook-Club Award

#16E Yearbook-Group of Clubs, Council, District Award

#19 Garden Therapy Award

#25 National Garden Week Award

#28 Church and Synagogue Gardens Award

#31 The Pam Dowd Blue Star and Gold Star Families Memorial Marker Award

#35 The Juanita Allinder Pollinator Award

#45 Litter Control Award

#49 Landscape Design Award

#50 School Grounds Award

#54 Environmental Education Award

I will forward your BOE's to the state Chairman, Debbie Shaver, once the District II awards committee has judged them for a district award.

Refer to the TFGC Inc. website for a description of the awards. On the TFGC website click on Forms and scroll down to Award Rules. The scoring rubric is on page 12 of the NGC Inc. website. Google NGC Inc. and search for the Scoring Rubric. This is what the committee will use to judge your project. Be sure to address each topic on the rubric or you will lose points. The NGC General Scoring Rubric is on the NGC Inc. website. Click on Awards and scroll down to General Scoring Rubric.

When applying for a District II award, fill out the 2025-2027 TFGC Inc. application form that is on the TFGC web site. Then include the summary page and two pages of photos with captions. Include lots of photos of members and identify them by name. If you apply for several awards for the same project, you must use different photos and write a different summary for each. So when taking photos take enough for several possible applications for the same project. Identify non-members as "volunteers" and include a photo release form (one page with all member signatures and a signed page for each volunteer.)

**Send all BOEs for District II awards and one copy of your yearbook to:
Tove Rawlings, P.O. Box 97, Joelton, TN 37080-0097, by December 1, 2026.**

**Staple all photo release forms together and include them with your BOE.
If more than one project, indicate the award number at the top of the release forms.**

**If your project does not comply with the District awards, send your award to:
Debbie Shaver, 349 Sharpe Lane, Dayton, TN 37321-7728 by January 1, 2027.**

Scrapbooks will not be due until after January 1st. Due date to be announced later.

There is excellent information on how to do BOEs on the TFGC website.

Gayle Jagers
bgaylejagers@comcast.net
615-659-9898

TENNESSEE FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

2025-2027 AWARDS APPLICATION

Are your release forms on file?

Yes

No

TFGC Award Number _____ TFGC Award Name _____

Date _____ District _____

Name of Club, Group of Clubs (list all clubs) OR Individual (list individual's name and club) applying for the award.

If a Club, Number of Members _____

If a Group of Clubs, list the number in each club _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Email Address _____

Phone _____

Is this project NEW _____ OR Continuing _____ When did you start this project? _____

Expected Date of Completion _____ OR is it Ongoing? _____

Be sure to include the WHOLE award number, and the beginning and ending dates of the project. The Award BOE consists of 3 pages, front-side only, *plus this cover sheet*, for a total of 4 pages. Mail one hard (paper) copy to the TFGC Awards Chair. The award applications MUST be delivered to the chair by Jan 1. The 3-page BOE will not be returned.

Your current State Awards Chair is:

Debbie Shaver

349 Sharpe Lane

Dayton, TN 37321

423-775-0102

Buffiescorner@bellsouth.net

NGC Awards Program

General Scoring Rubric

Maximum Points

Presentation**5 Total**

Cover sheet included with all sections completed	2	
Application adheres to 3 single-page limit unless other size specified in award description	2	
Application neat and concise	1	

Achievement**65 Total**

Meets NGC Mission & Goals	6	
Scope of project defined	4	
Need identified	7	
Benefit to target (members/recipients/community/etc.)	10	
Accomplishment of goals	8	
Comprehensiveness of work	6	
Activities to attain goals explained	8	
Evaluation of goals reached	4	
Educational	3	
Prior Planning	4	
Very brief history if continuing project (give full credit if not a continuing project)	3	
Other	2	

Participation**15 Total**

% of member participation (may include any type of support given)	12	
Involvement of others (community, government agencies, professionals, youth, facility residents, others)	3	

Documentation**15 Total**

Clear photos when applicable, labeled as needed	5	
Landscape plan when applicable (give full credit if not applicable)	5	
Financial details	5	

100 Total



Note from TFGC State Awards Chairman

June 17, 2026

Debbie Shaver, Awards Chairman

It was brought to my attention that the current **Flower Show Report Form** does not include the following statement:

“50% of club MUST participate in a flower show to receive credit for that show.”

I have spent several days looking back in my computer and finally found an old 2016 report form, and at the bottom it states this. In the process of revamping the form, I have accidentally left this out. And it was brought to my attention a few days ago. My apologies.

They reminded us that a flower show takes a lot of time and work, and that these clubs who do them need just a little more recognition than others. That is why we have ***Flower Show Club of Excellence*** and then we have a *Club of Excellence*.

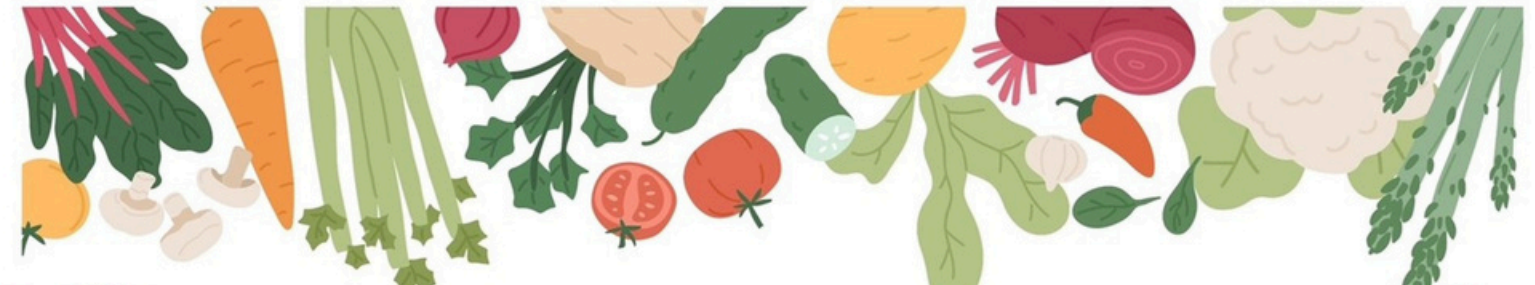
Now for the 2025 Awards year, I have allowed anyone who enters a flower show to be able to count it for credit for their club, since that statement was not noted on the current form. Unfortunately that will no longer be the case.

Since we have already had clubs in 2026 hold flower shows, **the 50% rule will go back in effect in 2027.**

I am truly sorry that I have overlooked this and thankful that it was caught. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me. Thank you for your understanding.

“See it’s time for me to be on my way”
—Still Looking for someone who will take over...

Debbie Shaver



Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Theme: “Plant Tennessee for Years of Greens”

***Project: Plant the Flowers and Vegetables
that have Endured Through the Last Century.***

Share Your Favorites

An individual and/or a club may submit pictures of your flower or vegetable gardens showing and naming the plants used as part of the 2026 TFGC 100th year celebration.

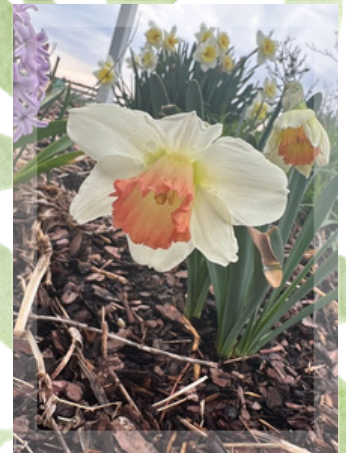
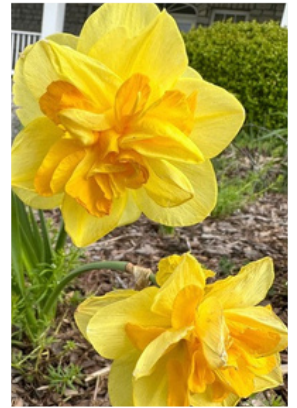
There will be an award for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. All entries will receive a certificate of appreciation.

Please submit your information to Lelia Johnson with at least 2 pages showing and describing the plants. Submission Deadline is January 31, 2027.

Send to:
Lelia Johnson
3475 Brighton Blvd. NW
Cleveland, TN 37312
l.johnson924@yahoo.com



FlowerPower Online Fundraiser



Last chance for bulbs for the DSGC scholarship! We are excited to offer several New Items to our Fall 2026 Program! New items will be marked with a red, New Item banner on the top left of the picture. The deadline is October 15. Items will ship in early October.

<http://DSGC.fpfundraising.com>

Contact Ways and Means Chairmen, Kathy Sudduth, with questions.
kathysudduth@gmail.com 251.978.0661



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



National Garden Clubs, Inc.

2027 Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

TIMELINE

Date	Activity	Responsibility of
August 2026	Information packages mailed to poster contest chairpersons and Forest Service conservation education and fire prevention coordinators	Forest Service
January 22, 2027	Local winning posters must be received by the State garden club or poster contest chairperson	Local garden club or poster contest chairperson
February 26, 2027	State winning posters must be received by the regional garden club or poster contest chairperson	State garden club or poster contest chairperson
March 19, 2027	Regional winning posters must be received by the National Garden Clubs poster contest chairperson	Regional garden club or poster contest chairperson
April 5, 2027	Judging to select the national winners for each grade level	National Garden Clubs poster contest chairperson and Forest Service staff
April 19-30, 2027	Selection of the national grand prize winner	Forest Service employees
May 2027	Announcement of national poster contest winners	National Garden Clubs (at their national convention)
Summer 2027	National grand prize winner recognition ceremony	Forest Service and National Garden Clubs, Inc.



ANNOUNCING

2027 Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

**Children from first through fifth grades
are invited to participate in this annual
drawing contest featuring conservation icons
Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl!**

**The U. S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and the
National Garden Clubs, Inc., are giving students the opportunity to
demonstrate their understanding of wildfire prevention and basic
environmental conservation principles through original drawings of
Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl.**

View previous contest winners:

<https://gardenclub.org/smoke-y-bear-woods-owl-youth-poster-contest>.

Smokey Bear says: “Only you can prevent wildfires!”



Smokey Bear is recognized nationally and internationally as the symbol for wildfire prevention. The original Smokey Bear appeared in 1944. Smokey’s message, “Only you can prevent wildfires!” encourages personal responsibility for wildfire prevention. Smokey Bear teaches children and adults to be careful with campfires, barbecues, burning yard waste, and matches. For more about Smokey Bear visit <https://smokeybear.com>.

Woodsy Owl says: “Lend a hand—care for the land!”



Woodsy Owl is America’s icon for the conservation of the environment. Since 1971, Woodsy has helped parents and teachers inspire children to observe, explore, and care for the environment.

He challenges children to “Lend a hand, care for the land!” and to take an active role in caring for the land through recycling, reusing, and reducing waste; gardening, planting, and caring for trees; using resources wisely; and not littering. For more about Woodsy Owl visit <https://www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids/woodsy-owl>.

2027 Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest Rules:

- Competition may include students from first to fifth grade.
- Posters are to be completed by individual student artists.
- Posters must have correct spelling (posters with spelling errors will be disqualified).
- All posters must feature Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl and must not feature both together.
- Smokey Bear posters must include Smokey's wildfire prevention message: Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!
- Woodsy Owl posters must include Woodsy's conservation message: Lend a Hand—Care for the Land!
- All posters should encourage children to take a personal role in preventing wildfires or conserving natural resources.
- Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl must be presented in their correct colors (they are official icons protected by law); check the colors on the website www.fs.usda.gov/learn/kids or www.symbols.gov.
- Each poster entry should be 11 x 17 inches in size.
- Materials that can be used include crayons, markers, poster paints, watercolors, and the like.
- The choice of paper color and texture is up to the child.
- No three-dimensional posters, computer-scanned, or electronically generated images will be accepted.
- All poster entries must be sponsored by a recognized local garden club.
- The local garden club chairperson must submit the poster entries to his or her state chairperson no later than January 22, 2027. The state garden club chairperson must submit the five winning posters from his or her State to the regional garden club chairperson by February 26, 2027.
- The following information should be written on the back of the poster in the lower-right corner (do not use a dark marker for this information as it may show through):
 - The name, address, phone number, and email of the sponsoring local garden club.
 - The artist's name, address, contact phone number, grade level, school, teacher's name, city, and State. (Should school policy preclude giving students' addresses and phone numbers, please include the school address and phone number).
- Poster coordinators should take photos of their final, winning posters. The original winning posters will be the property of the Forest Service and not returned to the National Garden Clubs or the winners.

Poster Tips

- A good poster has a bold and simple design.
- The poster's message should be easily understood and delivered both in the picture and in text.
- An educator, parent, guardian, or other adult should provide 11" x 17" paper for a child to create their poster.
- Find inspiration for your poster with promotional and educational products from the National Symbols Cache, www.symbols.gov.
- Posters will be judged for originality, design, slogan, artwork, and overall effectiveness of the message.

Recognition Ceremonies

- It is recommended that local and/or State recognition ceremonies be coordinated in conjunction with local events during Earth Week in April or during National Public Lands Day (last Saturday in September). Smokey Bear, Woodsy Owl, or both should be present at these award ceremonies if possible. The Forest Service conservation education or fire prevention regional coordinators can help you identify local Forest Service offices that may assist you when planning for a Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl appearance at your event. A list of coordinators is available upon request via email at sm.fs.symbols@usda.gov.
- Certificates of participation are free of charge. You can download them from www.symbols.gov or by requesting hard copies via email at sm.fs.symbols@usda.gov.
- The National Garden Clubs will announce the first-place national winners for each grade level and the national grand prize winner at their 2027 annual meeting.
- Certificates and prize money (\$50) for the five national winners will be mailed following the National Garden Clubs' 2027 annual meeting. The national grand prize winner will get the certificate, a trophy, and a framed copy of the winning poster during a recognition ceremony coordinated by the Garden Club that sponsored the submission; the ceremony is typically held during the summer.
- The Forest Service will support the recognition ceremony for the national grand prize winner by arranging for Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl to attend.



NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS

**Use the National network to help promote your club,
recruit new members, and retain longtime gardeners.**



Attract New Members

- Show Enthusiasm!
- Nurture Excitement About Your Club with Projects and Activities
- Share Ideas to Spark Interest of Prospective Members
- Offer Gardening Advice
- Publish a Newsletter Filled with Horticulture Tips;
 - Leave Copies in Your Local Library
 - Give Copies to Realtors in Your Area to Give to Prospective Buyers
- Provide Opportunities to Meet Other Members of Their Community
- Wear Shirts with Your Garden Club's Name When Working in Your Community
- Volunteer to Make Flower Arrangements and Publicize Your Club's Participation
- List Your Garden Club in Your Community Newcomer's Guide

- Publicize the Activities of Your Garden Club with Articles and Pictures in Your Community Newsletter and Local Newspaper
- **Invite People to Your Meetings and Ask Them to Become Members**

Keep Existing Members

- Reach Out and Talk to Someone New at Your Meetings
- Arrange Your Programs to Fit the Needs of Both New and Long Time Members
- Be Flexible - Are the Rules of Your Club too Restrictive?
- Listen to the Needs of Your Members and *Implement Their Suggestions*
- Call Members Who Have Stopped Attending Your Meetings. Offer to Pick Them Up and Bring Them To Your Next Meeting

- Make Visitors Welcome to Your Meetings and Functions By Assigning a Member as Greeter
- Assign New Members to a Current Member as a Buddy to Answer Their Questions and Introduce Them to Other Club Members
- Respect the Changing Roles of Our Members
- Analyze the Strength of Your Longtime Members and Find or Create Jobs for Them
- Make Your Members Feel Needed
- Shorten Your Business Meetings
- Energize, Educate and Incite Curiosity in Your Projects and Activities



Highlights of FLEURS DE VILLES THE GILDED AGE

At Cheekwood

August 1 - 9, 2026



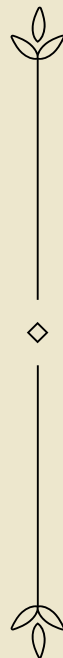
Becky Fox Matthews

& Lillian Hibbett visited the Fleurs de Villes exhibit at Cheekwood.

Fleurs de Villes FLORA is a fresh floral, fashion-forward exhibition theme for 2026 celebrating spring couture in bloom through original mannequin designs by local floral talent. Local florists transform thousands of fresh blooms into bold, imaginative couture creations.









WELCOME TO OUR DISTRICT II

CLUB NEWS



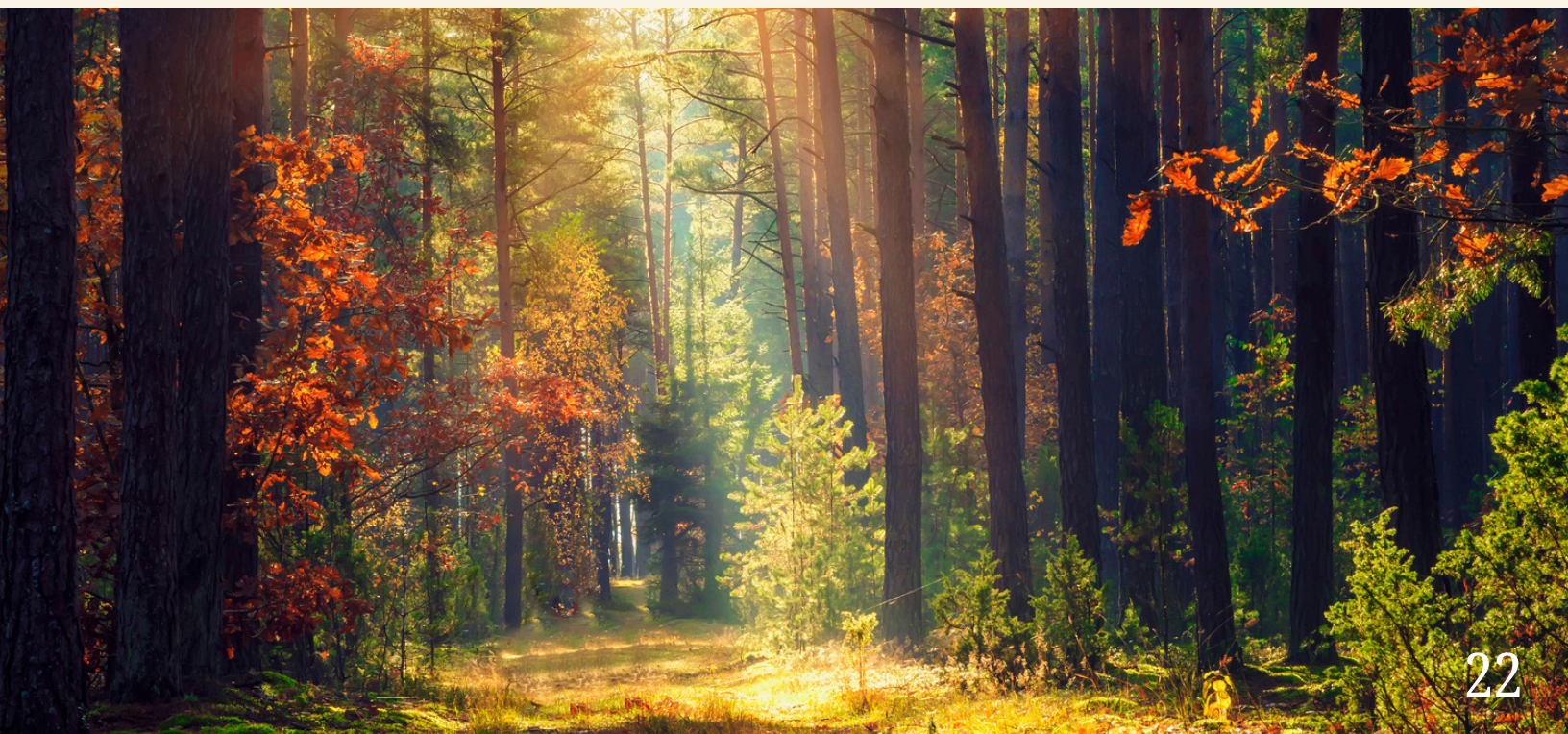
Send your club's photos, meeting news & events to:
annabanana7@comcast.net

text: 615-477-3030

Submission Deadline for the October Newsletter is
September 15th.

Anna Marie Allen

District II Newsletter Editor





Flower Lovers Circle



The Flower Lovers Circle met for our June meeting at the home of Betsy Lee Koszut. We had an interesting presentation by Betsy Lee on the making of a “flower island”. This is a design of a flower-filled retreat that can be enjoyed for several seasons.

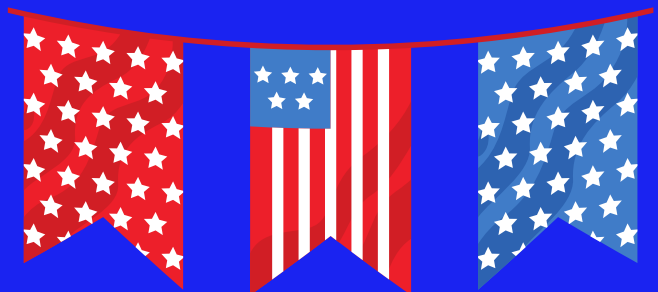
Betsy Lee explained the planning & execution of her own flower island and what plants are best suited for the various sun, shade and soil conditions. Outdoor items may be added, such as a bench and/or decor to enhance the area. We had a devotional and a wonderful lunch given by Betsy Lee. We are getting ready for the “Friends of Lawrence County Animals” fundraiser for which we will do the centerpieces for about 26 tables. Arrangements were taken to four different places in honor of National Garden Week by members. A big thank you to Gail, Sheila, MaryAnn, Nita & Judy!



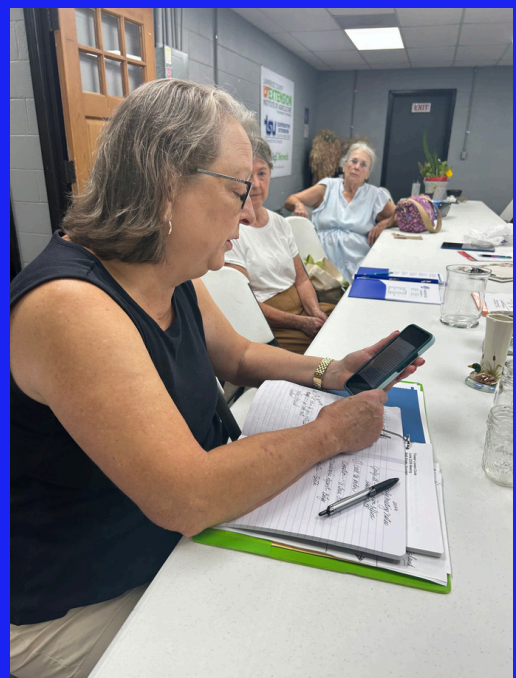
Sheila, Gail, Betsy Lee, Betsy & Gail



The “Flower Island” at Betsy Lee’s home



Flower Lovers Circle met for our July meeting with Nita as the hostess. We enjoyed a devotional by Beth about International Friendship Day & being a true friend. We had some wonderful finger foods and Gail spoke about arrangements for the fair, giving us a preview of a multi-rhythmic design. We all look forward to the Lawrence County Fair in September, and each of us tries our best to make all five designs for the judging. MaryAnn brought us a program on some guidelines for a flower show to help us all get ready. Judy gave us an idea of an Arboretum at the park. Discussion on the menu for the judges and changes for the fair were mentioned by Gail. We will all sign up for designs at our next meeting at MaryAnn's home in August. We all congratulated Reba on her 61st Wedding Anniversary and Gail on her 60th Anniversary!



Beth giving the devotional



Gail giving demonstration



Nita, Mary Ann, Gail, Sheila, Betsy, Reba & Beth

GATEWAY ACRES GARDEN CLUB

AUGUST 13TH MEETING & SILENT AUCTION

THE EVENT WAS HELD AT THERESA MENEFFEE'S BEAUTIFUL HOME AND ATTENDED BY 18 MEMBERS. BETTE AND BECKY WERE CO-HOSTESSES. LUNCH WAS A WONDERFUL FRIED CHICKEN/VEGETARIAN BOX LUNCH FROM "SOMETHING SPECIAL". SUSAN PROVIDED A POIGNANT BLESSING PRIOR TO THE MEAL. THERE WAS A MULTITUDE OF WONDERFULLY CURATED AND VARIED ITEMS FOR THE AUCTION RANGING FROM BEAUTIFUL PLANTS AND VASES TO CHICKEN TIKKA MASALA IN INSULATED BAGS.

EVERYONE SEEMED PRETTY EXCITED BY THEIR "FINDS"!



KIPPIE LELAND & THERESA MENEFFEE



BETTE ANN FIELDS & MARTHA GARMAN



Narrative by Martha Garman



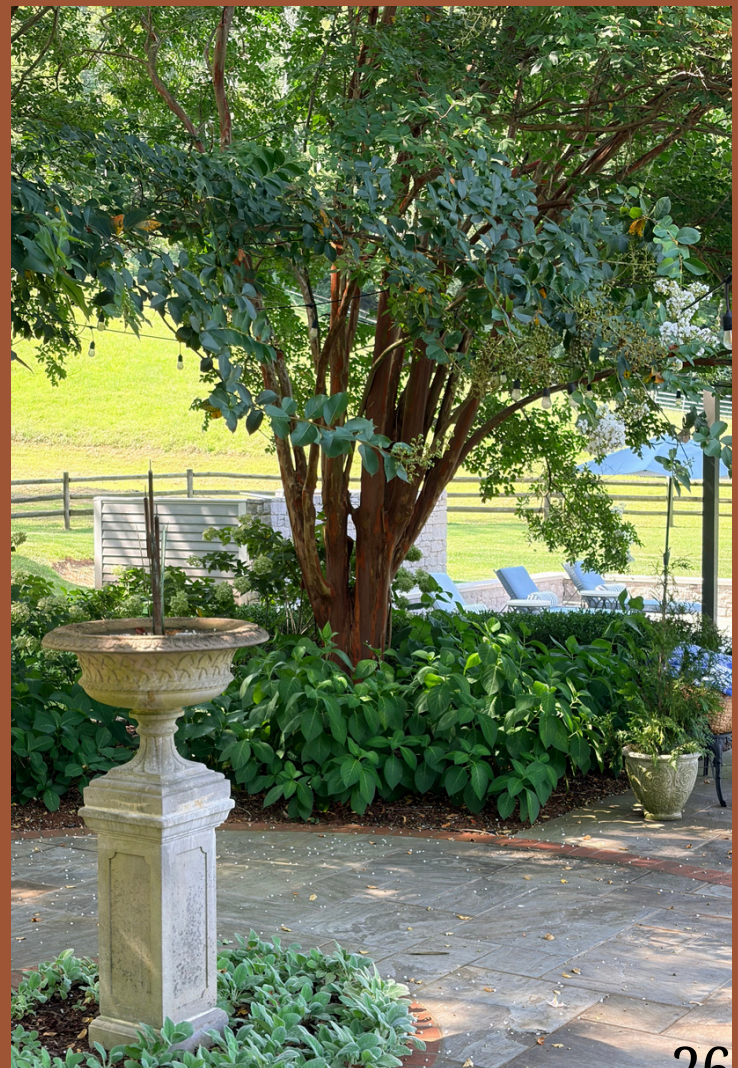
JANIE HAGAN & SARA JO GILL



SUSAN SINCLAIR



KATHY WIRT





BETTE ANN FIELDS PRESIDED OVER THE MEETING



Harpeth Bend Garden Club

Club members met on August 12th at the home of Marsha Hunt for a meeting, program by club president Robin Nash & a wonderful lunch.



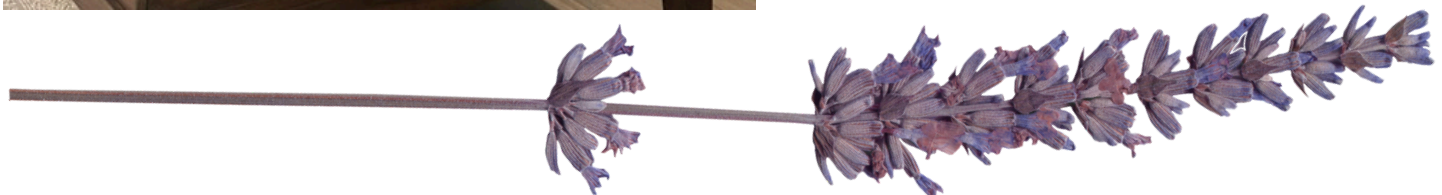
Submitted by Marsha Hunt

Lake Forest Acres Garden Club

The Lake Forest Acres Club held its July 27th meeting and luncheon at the home of member and past chaplain, Sandy Mahoney. One of Sandy's many talents is making custom cards with dried flowers. As you can see, Sandy's cards are wonderfully vibrant and colorful. She explained to the Club the process by which she presses and dries flowers using her microwave. Each card is so beautifully unique. The time and care it takes in making these cards not only showcases her passion for her craft, but the creativity and artistic ability that goes into mixing and matching all the colors, size and proportion of the petals and the precise arrangement of each flower petal. You can feel the expression of love, beauty and detail that goes into each card.

Thank you, Sandy, for sharing your home. It was such a lovely meeting!





Also at the meeting, the Club honored one of its longstanding members and past officers, Linda York, with a TFGC Life Membership. Linda is a charter member of Lake Forest Acres Garden Club. She is probably the last remaining charter member of the Club when it started in 1979 in the Lake Forest Acres neighborhood. In the past, Linda has served as president, and all other offices of the Club. She also raised a family while holding down a career. Her presence has been missed due to her job and having been a caretaker for her family; however, she has significantly contributed to our garden club, participating in flower shows, and many other projects throughout her membership.

We especially thank Linda for being a loyal member in helping LFAGC to thrive and flourish. The club she helped to start 47 years ago will soon celebrate 50 years as a member of National Garden Club, Inc., Deep South Region, and the Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Such a great accomplishment!



Leipers Fork Garden Club

The Leipers Fork Garden Club held its July meeting at the home of Tammy Jay. We had such beautiful surroundings, enjoyed a great lunch, and learned about dividing plants. Our speaker was Lynn Smith from Riverbend Nursery in Franklin. Lynn spoke about ferns she had given as gifts that were shoots from a 100 year-old plant. Other tips included the best times to be dividing our plants.

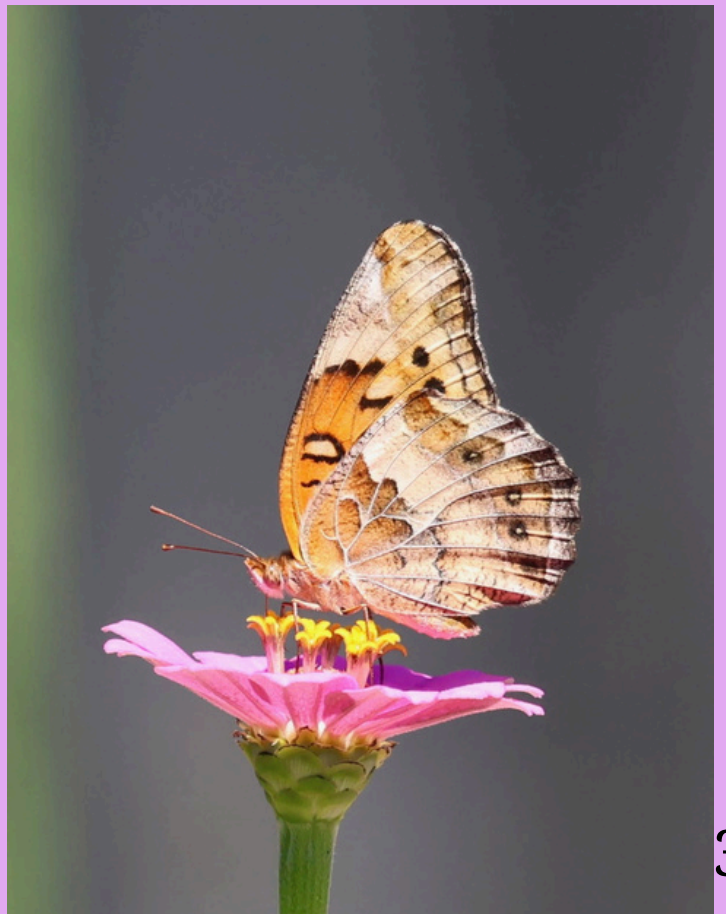
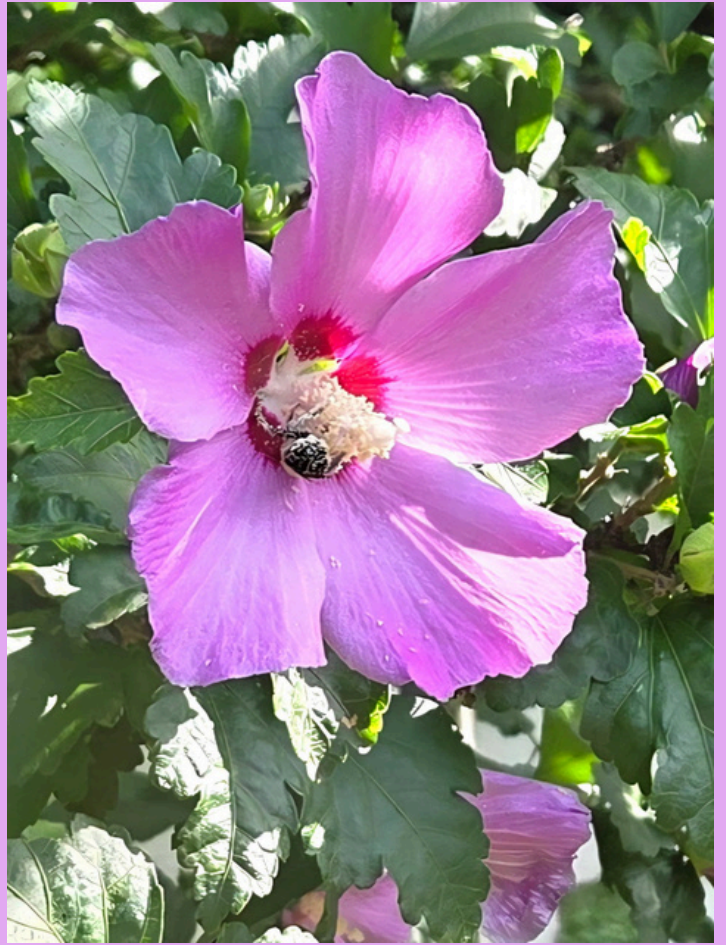
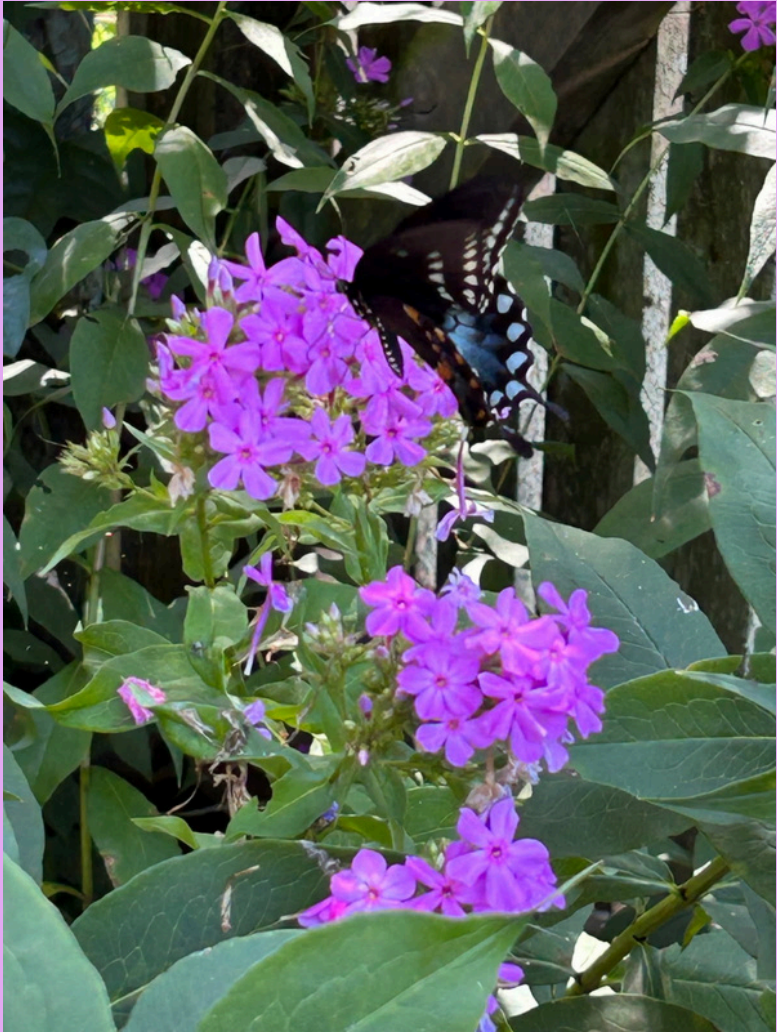


Submitted by Faye Sturm

Optimistic Gardeners Club

The Club Project for the month of August was sharing pictures of:

*“Pollinators in
Your Garden”*



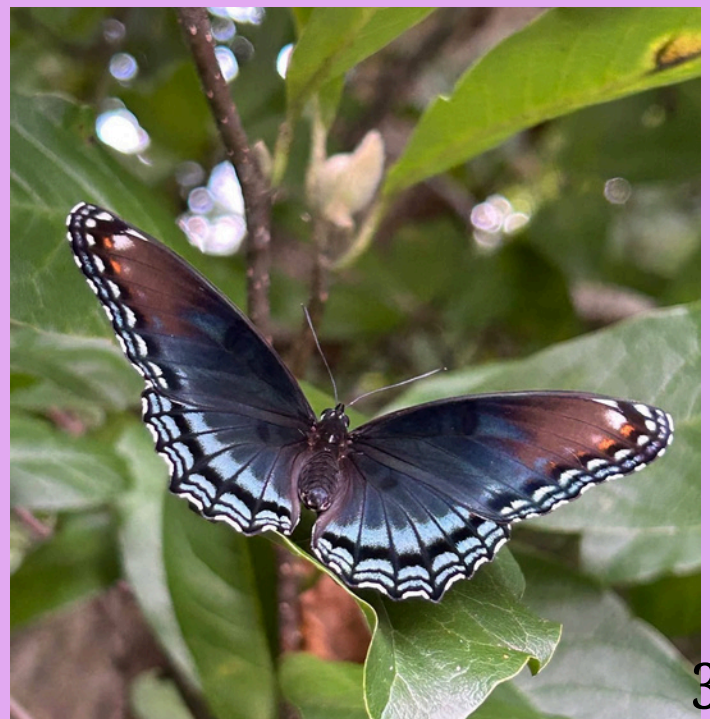


The orange bags on bumble bee legs are **pollen baskets**, scientifically called **corbiculae**, which store packed flower pollen.



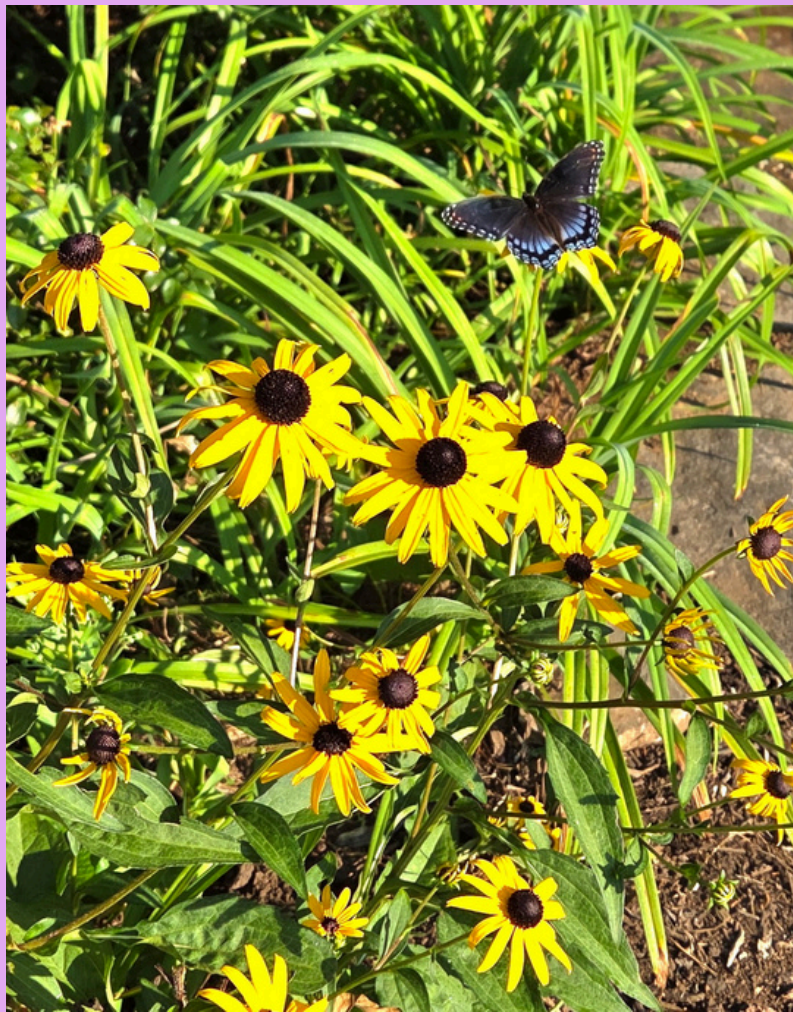
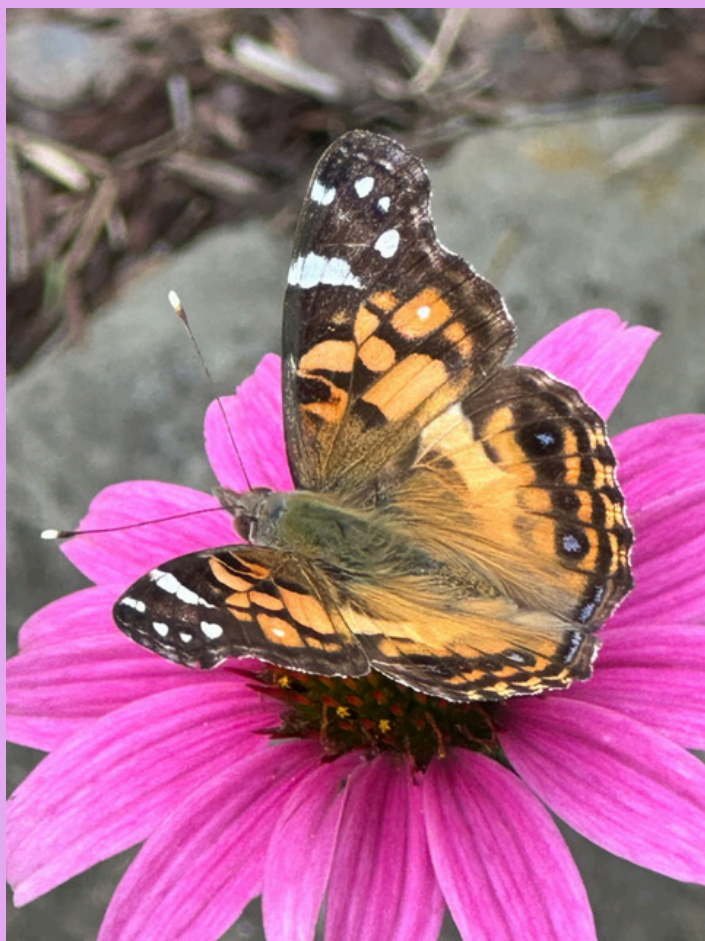
How Pollen Baskets Work

- **Collection:** As a female bee moves on a flower, loose dust sticks to her fuzzy body.
- **Grooming:** She uses special combs on her legs to brush the dust off.
- **Packing:** She mixes the dust with a little spit or nectar and presses it into a smooth lump on her back legs to carry home for food. 



Libby Black shared honey bee photos







PERSONALITY POTS

BY LISA CHAPPELL



Hostesses:
Jan, Mary & Lisa





District II Vice Director
Karen Dawson (center) was a special
guest at the meeting.

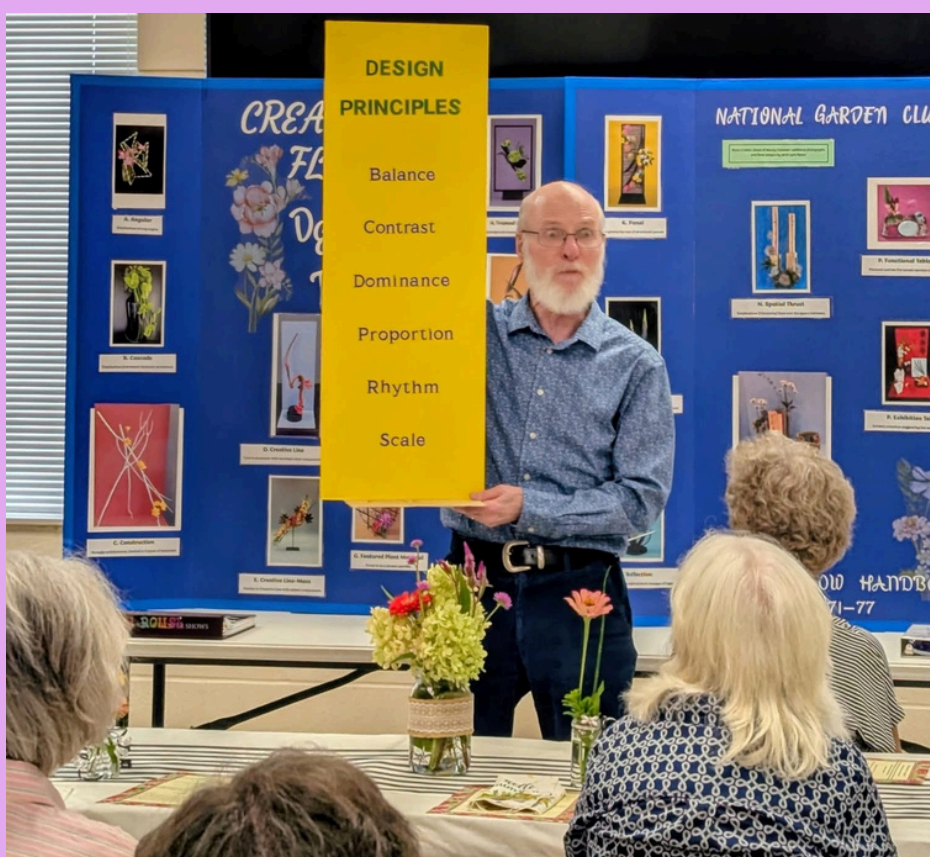
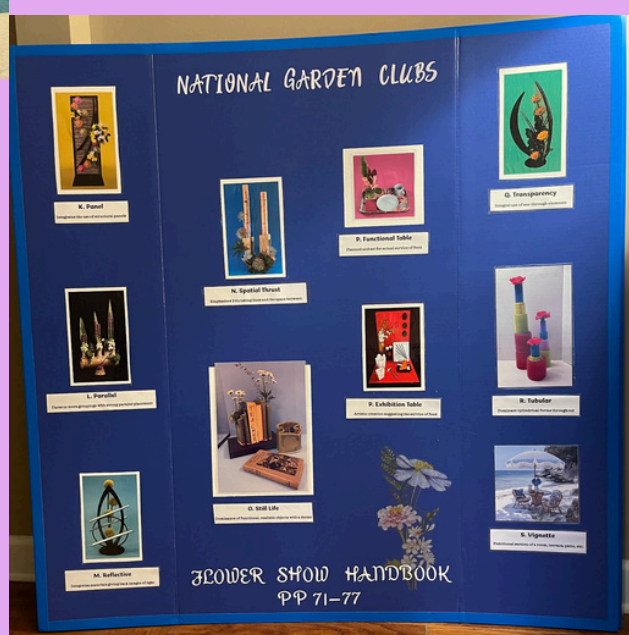


Sheila teaching us
how to
propagate
hydrangeas





Lynn Rouse's presentation was based on the 20 basic design types in the Flower Show Handbook.



Joe Rouse teaching about design principles



Carol's "Summer Bloomers" Collection





Youth member Lucy Mizener's winning Smokey Bear poster



"Pollinator Bingo"



Anita is the winner!



Designs





It was perfect timing to use
flowers from our meeting
and gardens for Oaklands
Annual Membership
Brunch & Meeting.



T.A.G.S.
(Tennessee Arrangers & Growers Society)
District II

NGC Flower Show Judges Study Club

Monday, August 3, 2026

Clerk's report on exhibits

Kathy Rychen

Members are required to have the *NGC Flower Show Handbook* and the *Horticulture Exhibiting and Judging Book* with them at each meeting.

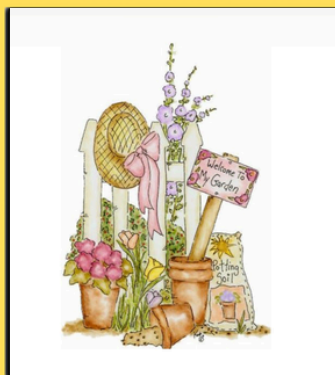
Exhibitor is free to use either a Two or Three Dimensional Staging Panel with a matching Underlay, exhibitor choice of color.

All Study Designs are Staged on a table 29" tall from the floor x 20"deep x 36"w, draped with a black fitted cloth to the floor (furnished by committee.)

Each meeting four (4) different NGC Design Types are exhibited.

T.A.G.S.

Tennessee Arrangers and Growers Society





Division I - Design - Sections A - Study Design Class - SD
Entry 1 - Exhibitor - Kathy Rychen - Blue Ribbon (1st) (Scored 98)
 Design Type - Mono Botanic Design HB pg. 79
 Design Title - "Apples and Roses Make A Good Day"
 Exhibitor used a Three-dimensional Staging Panel with matching Underlay as the Frame of Reference.
 Plant material used in the design - *Malus domestica* (Apple) *Rosa* - (Roses)



Division I - Design - Sections A - Study Design Class - SD
Entry 2 - Exhibitor - Kay Flynn - Blue Ribbon (1st) (Scored 93)
 Design Type - Parallel Design HB pg. 79
 Design Title - "In the Pink"
 Exhibitor used a Two-dimensional Staging Panel with matching Underlay as the Frame of Reference.
 (Photo makes the design look like it is outside the FOR but was not)
 Plant material used in the design - *Ruscus hypophyllum* (Commonly know as Spinless Butcher's Broom), *Dianthus caryophyllus* (Dianthus), *Nandina domestica*



Division I - Design - Sections A - Study Design Class - SD
Entry 3 - Exhibitor - Wanda Copley - Blue Ribbon (1st) (Scored 90)
 Design Type - Assemblage Design HB pg. 77
 Design Title - "Mother 'n' Pearls"
 Exhibitor used a Two-dimensional Staging Panel with matching Underlay as the Frame of Reference.
 (Photo makes the design look like it is outside the FOR but was not)
 Plant material used in the design - *Dracaena trifasciata* 'Mother-in-law's Tongue', *Cynara cardunculus* (Artichoke)
 (The Judges Panel discussed that this was more like a Still Life Design rather than an Assemblage Design)



Division I - Design - Sections A - Study Design Class - SD
Entry 4 - Exhibitor - Jean Richardson - Red Ribbon (2nd) (Scored 88)
 Design Type - Underwater Design HB pg. 79
 Design Title - "Lemon Drop"
 Exhibitor used a Three-dimensional Staging Panel with matching Underlay as the Frame of Reference.
 Plant material used in the design *Citrus x limon* (Lemon), *Monstera deliciosa* (Split Leaf Philodendron)

A



Class H-1 - One (1) Cut Foliage Specimen to a bottle

All exhibits are staged on a table (29" tall from the floor, 30" deep and 72" long) with a black fitted cloth to the floor furnished by the committee

Left to Right

Entry 1 - Wanda Copley - Yellow 3rd 90+ - *Plectranthus scutellarioides* 'Wicked Witch' (Coleus)

Entry 2 - Bette Ann Fields - Red 2nd 90+ - *Plectranthus scutellarioides* 'Pineapple Express' (Coleus)

Entry 3 - Wanda Copley - White Honorable Mention - *Plectranthus scutellarioides* 'Ridilicious' (Coleus)

Entry 4 - Bette Ann Fields - Blue 1st - *Plectranthus scutellarioides* 'Dragon Hear' (Coleus)

Entry 5 - Bette Ann Fields - White Honorable Mention

***Iresine herbstii* 'Brilliantissima' Bloodleaf**



Class H-2 - One (1) Cut Flowering Specimen to a bottle

All exhibits are staged on a table (29" tall from the floor, 30" deep and 72" long) with a black fitted cloth to the floor furnished by the committee

Entry 1 - Bette Ann Fields - Blue (1st) - *Curcuma alismatifolia* 'Siam Tulip'



Class H-3 - One (1) Cut Decorative Leaf Specimen to a bottle

All exhibits are staged on a table (29" tall from the floor, 30" deep and 72" long) with a black fitted cloth to the floor furnished by the committee

Left to Right

Entry 1 - Bette Ann Fields - Blue (1st) - *Canna* 'Tropicana' Class H-2 - One (1) Cut Flowering Specimen to a bottle

Entry 2 - Bette Ann Fields - Yellow (3rd) - *Coprosma repens* (Mirror Plant)

Entry 3 - Bette Ann Fields - Red (2nd) 90+ - *Begonia rex* 'Space Age Europa'

Entry 4 - Wanda Copley - White Honorable Mention - *Caladium bicolor* 'Splash of Pink'

Class H-4 - One (1) Cut Herb Foliage Specimen to a bottle

All exhibits are staged on a table (29" tall from the floor, 30" deep and 72" long) with a black fitted cloth to the floor furnished by the committee



Entry 1 - Wanda Copley - Red (2nd) *Salvia rosmarinus* (Rosemary)

Class PH-36 - One (1) Petite Container-grown Foliage Plant Class PH-36 -
One (1) Petite Container-grown Succulent/Foliage Specimen to a bottle
All exhibits are staged on a table (29" tall from the floor, 30" deep and 72" long)
with a black fitted cloth to the floor furnished by the committee



Entry 1 - Joe Rouse - Blue (1st) *Gonialoe variegata* 'Tiger Aloe'

Class PH-37 - One (1) Petite Container-grown Flowering Specimen to a bottle
All exhibits are staged on a table (29" tall from the floor, 30" deep and 72" long)
with a black fitted cloth to the floor furnished by the committee



Entry 1 - Joe Rouse -Blue (1st) - *Streptocarpus ionanthus* (Miniature African Violet) 'Rob's Cherry Soda'

Tyne Meade Garden Club



Tyne Meade Garden Club's August meeting was held at Johnson's Chapel United Methodist Church on August 6. The club does not schedule a July meeting, so members were excited to get together and catch up!



Our August hostesses—Dixie Riddle, Betsy Abernathy, Elaine Eldridge, and Andrea Shelton—provided a delicious lunch.



Member Doris Weakley evaluated arrangements and specimens brought in by members and reminded us of the finer points for best display of plant material.

Aftermath of Ice Storm Fern

Our speaker this month was Terry Cook, ecologist with Friends of Warner Parks. His responsibilities include storm restoration, as well as evaluating park areas for best use. As many of us personally experienced this year, February's Ice Storm Fern had a devastating impact to our yards, neighborhoods, and to the Warner Parks. Once the ice storm itself ended, there followed weeks of treacherous park conditions as ice melted and trees and branches continued to crack and fall. Terry spoke of the staggering loss of tree canopy and the resulting clean-up comprising the loss of 45 trees per mile and 2 million tons of debris.

One of his favorite proactive projects is Clare's Meadow, named for Nashville philanthropist Clare Armistead. The meadow is a 6-acre plot of unused land that the Friends of Warner Parks, in collaboration with Metro Parks and conservation organizations, is being transformed into a native grassland for attracting pollinators, bees, and birds.

The presentation was thoroughly enjoyed as members are park frequenters.



Grassmere Culinary Garden in Peak Season!

Although rain has been spotty at times, the Grassmere garden continues to provide a bounty of herbs as well as weeds. Members paid a recent visit to harvest the bounty and to tame those pesky weeds.



Ed Goodrich and Carol Smith reclaiming the borders. Husbands are most welcome!



Nancy Goodrich tackling the borders.



Tired but feeling a huge sense of accomplishment are
(l to r) Monty West, Carol Smith, Susie Jones, and Nancy Goodrich. Not pictured is Ed Goodrich.

Year Round Garden Club



Year Round Garden Club members gathered at the front door of the Empower Me Center, excited to participate in the design of the future “Garden of Dreams”.



The Year Round Garden Club of Lebanon has been a long-term supporter of the concept for the **Empower Me Center**, the non-profit center that is the vision of Michelle Hill, the director, who is related to a former member of the club who envisioned a “Garden of Dreams.” Hill has been an advocate for local opportunities for individuals with disabilities for many years. In 1999, she helped to create the first step toward a facility that would offer those with seemingly restrictive physical and mental attributes or past severe trauma a place to challenge themselves with activities that could lead to physical goals, opportunities for new friendships, the sharing of fun times, and an introduction to new educational experiences, while enlarging their potential social groups.

A permanent section of the new location will be the Garden of Dreams, where campers in wheelchairs will have access to raised garden beds for planting and nurturing their own gardens of flowers, herbs, or vegetables. Benches for relaxing outdoors and spaces for quiet moments or small group talks will also be available. Wind chimes and outdoor instruments for music are also in the plan. YRGC members are organizing the development of this garden with love and careful attention to create a special place for any participant.

That original basketball league has developed into a Recreational Camp in the winter months for children and adults and a summer six-week-long camp for children ages 5 – 17, plus more single day camps throughout the year. Adults also have a four-week program. For the summer camp, each child or adult has a specific program developed for their unique individual physical and/or mental circumstances. In addition to sports, experiences with music, drama, outdoor activities, and arts and crafts, the campers have opportunities that have too often been unavailable to them.



Michelle Hill

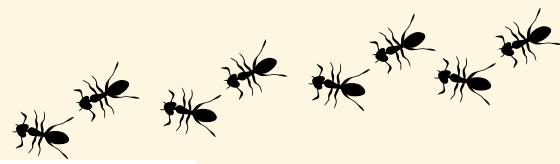
Members of the Year Round Garden Club of Lebanon visited the Empower Me Center recently to learn more about the progress of the planned new facility, which is designed for indoor and outdoor activities and learning experiences at day camps for special needs children and adults, as well as potential living facilities for independent adults.



YRGC members in the gym observed some of the mid-day activities, and Judy Lea made a special day camper friend.

With trained and proficient leaders who have caring hearts, Empower Me Center has already served twenty-eight counties in Tennessee, three states, and even one international individual. The Year Round Garden Club is honored as well as pleased to be a part of this community project.

September



CRITTER REPORT

BY KATHY RYCHEN

"Small But Powerful"



Just sharing a few things you may or may not know or care about.

1. Did you know there are over 12,000 Ant Species Worldwide; Ranging from the ant you might find scuttling across your picnic to the ants building underground fortresses in the rainforest, to flying ants!.
2. Did you know that there are twenty quadrillion Ants on Earth, which is about 2.5 million ants for every person .
3. There is a Bullet Ant and it is said to have the most painful sting in the world. Living in humid jungle conditions such as the Amazon, their sting has been compared to being hit by a bullet!
4. Did you know that Fire Ants cause over Three Billion Dollars due to their very painful bite which causes a burning sensation. It also cost the united States millions in veterinary and medical bills every year! They have caused lots damage to farmer's crops.
5. Did you know that Ants are the longest living insects, some species can live up to thirty (30) years.
6. Did you know that the Ant is one of the world's strongest creatures in relation to its size. A single ant can carry fifty (50) times its own body weight and they'll even work together to move bigger objects as a group!
7. Ants hold the record for the fastest movement in the animal kingdom. There is an ant named Trap Jaw, can close its jaws at 140 MPH, which it uses to kill its prey or injure predators.
8. Ants can be found on every single continent except Antarctica.
9. Ants are social insects which live in colonies. The colony, also called a formicary, is made up of one or more egg-laying queens and a large amount of female "Worker" ants who tend to her, build and maintain the nest, forage for food and care for the young.
10. Did you know that if you see an Ant with wings it is either a fertile drone or a female Ant.



11. Ants don't have ears, and some of them don't have eyes. Ants listen by feeling vibrations from the ground through their feet, and eye-less ants such as the driver ant species can communicate by using their antennae, plus they can send chemical signals (pheromones) released through their body to send messages to other ants. They send out warnings when danger's near, leave trails of pheromones leading to food sources and even use them to attract a mate- a sort of ant love potion.
12. The Bullet Ant inflicts one of the most painful insect stings in the world. The pain is described as being similar to a gunshot wound and last for up to twelve (12) hours. This Ant is around one (1) inch long and they are mainly found in Central and South America.
13. The fastest movement in the animal kingdom is the Dracula Ant's Snapping Jaws. It can snap its mandibles at over 200 mph.
14. There is a Bulldog Ant also known as a Jumper Ant is the most dangerous in the world. It is found in the coastal regions of Australia and is highly aggressive ant repeatedly bites and stings at the same time injecting more venom each time. It has killed humans in less than 15 minutes.
15. Ants primarily reproduce through sexual reproduction involving makes and queens. Male ants, known as drones, exist solely to mate with the queen and after mating the male ants typically die shortly thereafter.
16. The mating process occurs during a nuptial flight, where males and queens take to the air to mate.
17. The Queens can store sperm from mating and can use the sperm to fertilize eggs throughout their lifetime

I hope this reports helps you to think more about all the little critters we have in our yards and gardens.



Ant Identification Chart

ChartFarosh.com



Pharaoh Ant
Monomorium pharaonis

Identification Features
Tiny, yellow or light brown



Odorous House Ant
Tapinoma sessile

Identification Features
Small, dark brown to black, coconut smell when crushed



Carpenter Ant
Camponotus spp

Identification Features
Large, black or red and black, smooth thorax



Harvester Ant
Danaus plexippus

Identification Features
Bright orange wings with black veins and white spots



Bulldog Ant
Myrmecia spp.

Identification Features
Large, aggressive, powerful sting



Bullet Ant
Paraponera clavata

Identification Features
Large, reddish-black, extremely painful sting



Turtle Ant
Cephalotes atratus

Identification Features
Large, black, head shaped like a turtle shell



Army Ant
Eciton burchellii

Identification Features
Large, reddish-brown, aggressive



Green Tree Ant
Oecophylla smaragdina

Identification Features
Large, green abdomen, red body, silk nests in trees



Northern Wood Ant
Formica rufa

Identification Features
Large, reddish-black, mound-building



Big-headed Ant
Pheidole megacephala

Identification Features
Large head, light to dark brown



Ghost Ant
Tapinoma melanocephalum

Identification Features
Tiny, pale/translucent legs, dark head

Get Custom Chart Today

Email at Hello@chartfarosh.com or Scan QR Code



Kathy Rycken

Lives in Mt. Juliet TN

In 1973 became an active member of Rachel Jackson Garden Club.

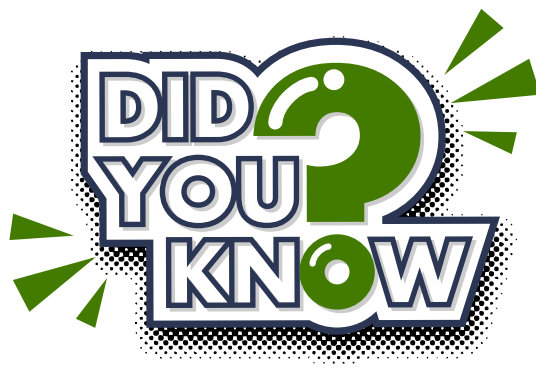
In 1981 organized and an active member of T.A.G.S.

(Tennessee Arrangers & Growers Society)

which is an NGC Flower Show Judges Study Club.

An active member of the District II Judges Council and an NGC Emeritus-Master Judge.

Enjoys the challenge of seeing the potential of things that most discard but can be made into containers for Standard Size and Petite Size Designs.



Which is the most expensive wood?

The rarest and most expensive wood in the world is **Agarwood** (*Aquilaria spp*), which usually sells for \$45,000 per pound. It grows in tropical rainforests of Southeast Asia.

The tree produces a resin inside the trunk, when infected with a mould (*P. parasitica*). The resin is used in traditional medicine, making perfume, incense and for religious rites—thus referred to as the “Wood of the Gods.”



It can take up to two decades for agarwood to develop its expensive fragrance. This tree has a low germination rate. Its rarity and the labor-intensive harvesting process contribute to its status as one of the most expensive raw materials in the World!



Correction to last month’s “Did You Know?”:
Bamboo is the tallest member of the Grass
FAMILY (*Poaceae*), not the Grass Genus.
Thanks to David Robson for pointing that out.



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



The Perfect Garden

by Sandy Estes
Optimistic Gardeners Club

In my mind I can imagine the most perfect garden scene
Where the flowers are always blooming and the grass is always green.
Every plant is picture perfect, every tree superbly shaped,
Every path and every border is so perfectly landscaped.
And in this perfect garden world there is never work to do
But real gardens take some effort and they take some tending to.
So I'll wear my muddy garden shoes and grass-stained garden gloves,
And go out to tend the little plot that I'm so thankful of.
Oh I can see it's not idyllic and perfect it is not,
But so much that nature promises is in this little spot.
So I'll probably find a weed or two and a pile of leaf debris.
My garden isn't perfect and that's perfectly fine with me.





UPCOMING EVENTS

- Flower Shows
- Luncheon
- Meetings
- Presentations
- Plant Show
- Plant & Seed Swap
- Festivals
- Fashion Show & Tea
- Conservation Camp
- Sparkling Settings
- Conventions





SUMNER COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS
& HENDERSONVILLE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

**GARDENING COMMUNITY
TALK-SERIES PRESENTATION**

**MOON GARDENS
& NIGHTTIME
POLLINATORS**

BY APRELE GRIFFIN

CERTIFIED TENNESSEE STATE NATURALIST

**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 5, 2026**

@11:00 A.M.

HPL COMMUNITY ROOM



SUMNER COUNTY
MASTER
GARDENERS
GROWING TOGETHER



Learn • Connect • Create

Hendersonville Public Library

140 Saundersville Rd Hendersonville, TN 37075

(615)-824-0656 | hpl@sumnercountyn.gov

The Native Garden & Habitat Club presents

The 3rd Annual Native Plant & Seed Swap

Bring What You Can

Bring native plants of any size and native plant seeds.

All plants and seeds must be labeled with their common name. Scientific names are welcome.



New to Native Gardening?

You are still welcome to join us!

Stop by, ask questions, and meet fellow native plant lovers!

This meeting is free & open to everyone.



Wednesday – Sept 9th 2026 – 6:30 PM

Wade Bourne Nature Center
Classroom at Rotary Park
Clarksville

Garden Lovers Club

presents

“Little Things Mean a Lot”

An NGC Petite Small-Standard Flower Show

Friday, September 11, 2026

Show Viewing Hours 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Staged at *Through the Grapevine* (Suite 190)

630 Broadmor Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37129-0902

Admission is free and open to the public
Handicapped Accessible

Affiliated with National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

District II of Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

FALL FESTIVALS

Near Nashville

AUGUST–OCTOBER 2026

Tomato Art Fest

EAST NASHVILLE — AUG 7–8

Wilson County–Tennessee State Fair

LEBANON — AUG 13–22

Musicians Corner Fall Series

NASHVILLE — AUG 28–SEP 25

The Nashville Fair

NASHVILLE — SEP 11–20

Lucky Ladd Farms Fall Harvest Festival

EAGLEVILLE — SEP 16–OCT 31

Kidsville Family Festival

NASHVILLE — SEP 26

Nashville Oktoberfest

NASHVILLE — OCT 1–4

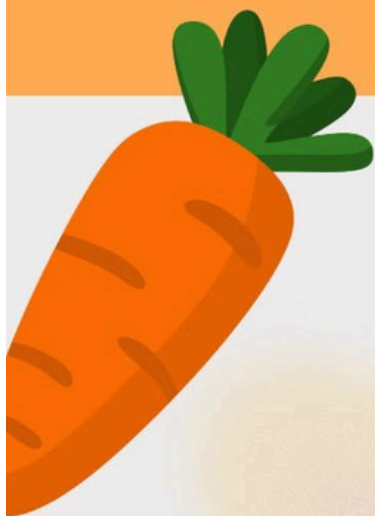
PumpkinFest

FRANKLIN — OCT 24–25

FRIDAY LUNCH AND LEARN

FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING

FALL TURF CARE



Friday, September 25th

12 PM – 1 PM

MTREC Conference Room

2006 Station Loop Rd

Spring Hill

Register with QR code
or contact Kelly Dozier
kdozier3@utk.edu



~Presented by Flower Growers Garden Club~

Whimsical Gardens

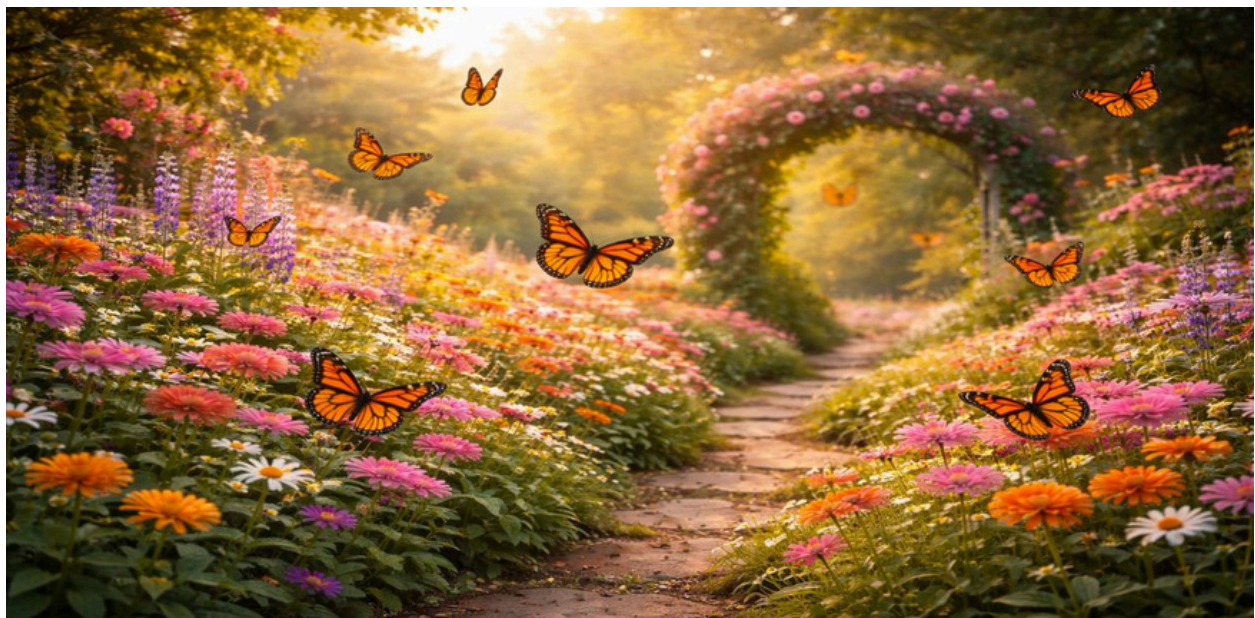
***An NGC Small Standard Flower Show
for the Community***

Saturday, September 26, 2026

12 pm ~ 3 pm

Located Outdoors:

1922 Saddlebrook Drive, Murfreesboro TN



**Free ~ Open to the public
Handicapped Accessible**

Affiliated with: National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.

Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., District II



PUCKETT'S SUPPLY CO.'S
ANNUAL

Fall Craft Show

SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2026

10:00am-3:00pm
1351 Hunters Point Pike
Lebanon, Tn 37087

Pumpkin Patch | 50+ Vendors | Mums
Petting Zoo | Inflatable | Food Trucks

**FREE ADMISSION & PARKING:
VENDOR SIGNUPS DUE JULY 30TH**

The Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee



Sip & Shop

JOIN US FOR AN ELEGANT MORNING OF
FASHION, BEAUTY, AND PHILANTHROPY.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH • 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Dillard's
The Style of Your Life.

THE MALL AT
GreenHills

**SPECIAL EVENT FEATURE:
EXCLUSIVE DIOR TREND SHOW**

(OVER)



SIP & SHOP: AN EXCLUSIVE SHOPPING EVENT

BROWSE A CURATED COLLECTION OF STUNNING VINTAGE
DESIGNER HANDBAGS AND ACCESSORIES FROM GUCCI,
YSL, LOUIS VUITTON, HERMES & FENDI WHILE ENJOYING
COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE AND REFRESHMENTS.

EXCLUSIVE DIOR TREND SHOW

JOIN DIOR REPRESENTATIVES AS THEY TEACH YOU THE
FASCINATING HISTORY OF THE BRAND WHILE SHOWCASING
THEIR LATEST MAKE-UP TRENDS & MORE.

BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 11:00 AM

PLEASE NOTE: SEATING FOR THE DIOR TREND SHOW IS LIMITED
AND AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

A PERCENTAGE OF SALES FROM THIS EVENT BENEFITS
THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE.

**CELEBRATING OUR
HERITAGE WITH FALL IN
THE COUNTRY**

**ELEGANT LUNCHEON BENEFITING
DEEP SOUTH SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Tuesday, September 29, 2026
Beginning 11:00 AM CST**

**Hosted by Denise Thorne
Deep South Garden Clubs
Regional Director 2025-2027**

**402 Bass Road
Watertown, TN 37184
\$25.00 in advance
\$35.00 at the door, subject to availability**

**RSVP To Tricia Ortalano
DSGC Treasurer
504-259-8536
1104 Farrington Dr.
Marrero, LA 70072**



"Celebrating Our Heritage with Fall in the Country"

An NGC Standard Flower Show

**Tuesday, September 29, 2026
12:00 noon until 3:00 p.m.**

**402 Bass Road
Watertown, TN 37184
615.289.2138**

Sponsored by:

Beachaven Garden Club
Country Homes Garden Club
Oak Hill Garden Club
Town and Country Garden Club

Members of:

National Garden Club, Inc.
Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.
Tennessee Federation of Garden
Clubs, Inc. District II

**Open and free to the public -
handicap accessible**



The Nashville Rose Society is hosting a National American Rose Convention October 2-5, 2026, at the Music City Sheraton. The rose show will be held on October 3-4th 2026, and will attract exhibitors from around the country. Horticulture, design, and photography are featured in the show. There are 59 horticulture classes that include old garden roses, hybrid tea, David Austin, single petal, and more. The design division has traditional, East Asian, and modern in both standard size and miniature roses. There are even categories for the novice exhibitor who has not won a blue ribbon in both horticulture and design. Rose photography is also included in the show and has various categories of roses from blooms to macro photography and creative interpretation. The rose show is a perfect opportunity to see a wide variety of roses displayed in various formats. There will not be another occasion to participate in this unique event. The rose show will be free and open to the public on October 3, 2026, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. and October 4, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Parking is \$10.00. See www.medleyofroses.org for more information on exhibiting, rose show and convention schedules.



Fashion Show & Tea Party

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

PRESENTED BY

Dillard's
The Style of Your Life.

AT

THE MALL AT
GreenHills

FASHION SHOW

12:00 P.M.

TEA PARTY

2:00 UNTIL 4:00

AT DILLARD'S

PARKING

THE EMERALD PARKING GARAGE

RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 14TH

SEATING IS LIMITED

FREE TREES WILL BE AVAILABLE

PATRONS' PARTY WILL BE OCTOBER 21ST
INVITATION TO FOLLOW





NORTH NASHVILLE

NATIVE PLANT & SEED SWAP

**Pleasant Green Park
Shelter 7
Goodlettsville**

**Saturday
October 10, 2026
10:00 AM**

**Bring native plants, native seeds,
books, pots, and/or other garden
items to swap or give away.**



**Not sure where to start? No problem!
Native plant educators will be on site
to answer questions or offer planting
suggestions!**

beyond the recipe



Join Casey Wayne for a creative, high-energy experience that will change how you think about flowers, mechanics, sales and *yourself*

IN THIS PROGRAM, YOU WILL DISCOVER



HOW TO DEVELOP
YOUR SIGNATURE
STYLE AND
STAND OUT



HOW TO TRANSFORM
OVERLOOKED
FLOWERS INTO
PREMIUM DESIGNS



FOAM-FREE
MECHANICS THAT
CREATE MOVEMENT
AND REDUCE WASTE



WHY SYMPATHY
WORK IS YOUR
GREATEST CREATIVE
OPPORTUNITY



HOW TO
SELL, AND MARKET
YOUR ORIGINAL
DESIGNS



LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS



HANDS-ON DESIGNING



FOAM-FREE MECHANICS



BUSINESS STRATEGIES



meet *Casey Wayne*
founder of
bloombudz™
— a creative floral house —

With 20 years of floral industry experience, Casey brings a dynamic background in corporate sales, creative leadership, brand development, and customer connection. Known for turning fresh

ideas into memorable experiences, he helps florists think beyond the arrangement to create stronger stories, more meaningful products, and new opportunities for growth.

Oct 11, 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM CDT
at Flowers of Nashville
851 Visco Dr, Nashville, TN 37210, USA

Register at
<https://buff.ly/RgkBAC0>

Hosted by Central Tennessee Professional Florists Association



**Mother Nature Wants YOU
at 2026 Conservation Camp**



Make plans now to attend the TFGC 2026 Annual Meeting and "Mother Nature Wants You" Conservation Camp.

Since TFGC has yearly business to conduct and there is not a convention this year, the 2026 Annual Meeting will be held at Beersheba Springs Assembly (October 13th 10:00am CST) followed by Conservation Camp at 1:00pm CST. Having the Annual Meeting precede camp saves you travel time and costs.

We have options for your convenience. If you fill out the Conservation Camp registration form you are already registered for the Annual Meeting. (Be sure and mark the delegate section.) If you are coming for the Annual Meeting only and not staying for camp, fill out the Annual Meeting registration and mark the delegate section on that form. The delegate count is very important for conducting business.

We hope you plan to attend both events. At the end of the Annual Meeting there will be skit inviting you to the 2027 TFGC Convention. Conservation Camp activities include a wonderful program on "Propagating from Seed with Success" and seed workshop, a scavenger hunt, guides to foraging in the wild, a storyteller, animal visits, and hands-on crafting making pinecone critters and a natural crown, fit for Mother Nature herself. (We can all wear our crowns for the group photo.) But don't worry, there will still be plenty of time to visit and rock on the porch.

Do you sing, dance have any special abilities? The camp will end with a rousing "TFGC's Got Talent" show on the last night. We want individuals and groups to perform, the more ridiculous the better. (Contact Anne Leonard leonardtfgc2003@epbfi.com for more info and to register your act.)

As you can see we are putting together an informative, active and fun filled two days and all we need is YOU. Remember "Mother Nature Wants You" and it's not nice to fool Mother Nature!

**Anne Leonard and Debbie Shaver
Your Camp Counselors**



Go to the TFGC Website for a printable version of these forms: tngardenclubs.org

Mother Nature Wants You!

TFGC Conservation Camp 2026

October 13-14

Beersheba Springs Assembly

55 Hege Ave. Beersheba Springs, TN 37305

Last Name _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

First Name _____
(Please print your first name, as you want it to appear on your name badge.)

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Telephone ____ / ____ - ____ Email _____

Garden Club _____ District _____

Annual Meeting is Tuesday, October 13 10:00am CST

Delegate: (circle one) Yes No

Who qualifies as a delegate? All TFGC Officers
All TFGC Board Members
All Club Presidents
One selected member for every 10 members in a club

PACKAGE PLANS INCLUDE LODGING, MEALS, REGISTRATION FEE & TAX

The following room and board prices are for the modern rooms at the Assembly. While these rooms have private bathrooms, air conditioning and provided linens, there are no hair dryers, phones or TV's. Rooms are not equipped with coffee pots but coffee will be available in the hotel lobby and in the dining hall 45 minutes before breakfast at 8:00am CST.

Check in time is after 3:00pm CST and check out time is before 11am CST.

Mark all that apply

EarlyBirdPackage, includes Annual Meeting:

for Campers arriving Monday (Oct. 12 after 3:00pm CST check in time) and staying through Thursday (Oct. 15th) breakfast 8:00am CST (checking out before 11:00am CST)

(Includes: registration fee, 3 nights, 8 meals and Tax)

Single occupancy, per person **\$475** _____

Double occupancy, per person **\$330** _____

Roommate _____

Full Camper Package, includes Annual Meeting: for Campers arriving Tuesday (Oct. 13th at 10:00 amCST) and stayingthroughThursday(Oct.15) breakfast 8:00am CST (checking out before 11:00am CST)
(Includes: registration fee, 2 nights, 6 meals and TAX)

Single occupancy, per person	350.	_____
Double occupancy, per person	250	_____
Roommate	_____	

Part Time Camper

Registration fee: per day	30	_____	
Guest/Spouse	15	_____	
Meals: Tuesday, October 13 th Lunch	15	_____	Noon CST
Supper	20	_____	6:00pm CST
Wednesday, October 14 th Lunch	15	_____	Noon CST
Supper	20	_____	6:00pm CST

Total amount of check \$ _____

Discount for Overnight Campers: Deduct \$20 from total if registering before August 1.

Send check (payable to TFGC Conservation Camp 2026)
 and this registration form by September 28th to:
Diane Ryder, 1551 Pickett Road, Signal Mtn., TN 37377.
 Questions?
 Call (423) 505-5604 or email to: dianeryder@epbfi.com

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED
AFTER SEPTEMBER 28TH



For Those **NOT Going to Conservation Camp and
Only Attending the Annual Meeting**

2026 TFGC Annual Meeting Registration

**October 13 at 10:00am-Noon CST
(Before Conservation Camp starts at 1pm CST)**

Beersheba Springs Assembly

55 Hege Ave., Beersheba Springs, TN 37305

Last Name _____ Date ____/____/____

First Name _____

(Please print your first name, as you want it to appear on your name badge.)

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Telephone ____/____-____ Email _____

Garden Club _____ District _____

Delegate: (circle one) Yes No

Who qualifies as a delegate? All TFGC Officers

All TFGC Board Members

All Club Presidents

One selected member for every 10 members in a club

Annual Meeting One Day Attendee: meeting Tuesday, October 13, 10:00am CST

Includes registration fee and lunch \$30 _____

Annual Meeting Package: for members arriving on Monday (Oct. 12 after 3:00pm CST)

dinner plus breakfast and lunch (Oct. 13)

(Includes: registration fee, 1 night, 3 meals and TAX)

Single occupancy, per person 175 _____

Double occupancy, per person 125 _____

Roommate for double room _____

The room and board prices are for the modern rooms at the Assembly. While these rooms have private bathrooms, air conditioning and provided linens, there are no hair dryers, phones or TV's. Rooms are not equipped with coffee pots but coffee will be available in the hotel lobby and in the dining hall 45 minutes before breakfast at 8:00am CST.

Check in time is after 3:00pm CST and check out time is before 11am CST.

Send check (payable to Conservation Camp 2026) and this form by September 28 to:

Diane Ryder, 1551 Pickett Road, Signal Mtn., TN 37377.

Questions? Call (423) 505-5604 or email to: dianeryder@epbfi.com

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER SEPTEMBER 28TH

SHOP THE MOST DIVERSE PLANT SELECTION IN THE REGION
ANNUALS | CACTI | CARNIVOROUS | FLORALS | NATIVES | PERENNIALS | TROPICALS

TENNESSEE PLANT SHOW



FALL 2026



NASHVILLE'S FIRST TWO-DAY PLANT SHOW



OCTOBER 24 & 25
THE FAIRGROUNDS NASHVILLE
401 WINGROVE STREET — EXPO 3
WWW.TENNESSEEPLANTSHOW.ORG

Saturday 10AM — 4PM
Sunday 10AM — 3PM



HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF
MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Fall
MEMBERSHIP MEETING

10:00 a.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2026

JOURNALIST AND PODCASTER DEMETRIA KALODIMOS
WILL INTERVIEW SCULPTOR ALAN LEQUIRE
ABOUT THE ADDITION OF WATER FEATURES TO HIS ICONIC *MUSICA*
INSTALLATION, AS WELL AS THE CREATION OF A NEW URBAN PUBLIC PARK
AND GREEN SPACE SURROUNDING IT.

Botanic Hall
Cheekwood Estate & Gardens
1200 Forrest Park Drive Nashville



POPUF FAIR

FRANKLIN, TN



Friday, November 13

VIP Shopping 9am – 12pm | \$25
General Admission 12pm – 4pm | \$15

Saturday, November 14

9am – 4pm | \$15

**Bicentennial Park Pavilion
Franklin, TN**

*400 5th Ave., Corner of 3rd Ave.
& N Margin St.*



— GET TICKETS & INFO —
cityfarmhousefranklin.com
615-268-0216



*Save
The
Date*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2026

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

PRESENTS

*Sparkling
Settings*

BOTANIC HALL CHEEKWOOD



A photograph of a winter scene. The ground is covered in a layer of snow. Several trees are visible, their branches and leaves heavily laden with snow. The trees are mostly bare, with some evergreens visible in the background. The scene is peaceful and serene.

Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee

Winter Membership Meeting

Monday, January 25, 2027

10:00 am

Botanic Hall

Cheekwood Estate & Gardens

DEEP SOUTH CONVENTION MAR 14-16, 2027
Tuscaloosa, Alabama - Embassy Suites Hotel



PETALS OF THE PAST, ROARING 20^S NIGHT, TEA PARTY AT HISTORIC MANSION, TOUR UNIV OF ALABAMA FOOTBALL STADIUM, DESIGN PROGRAMS, GREAT FOOD, FUN, FRIENDS, AND SHOPPING



The 2027 Deep South Annual Convention Registration

March 14 - 16, 2027

Sweet Home Alabama



EMBASSY SUITES, 2410 University Blvd, TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA 35401

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Garden Club _____ State _____ District _____

List any special dietary needs (medical only) _____

CHECK ALL CATEGORIES THAT APPLY TO YOU

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| ☐ Garden Club Member | ☐ Club President | ☐ Deep South Life Member | ☐ Deep South Board Member |
| ☐ Deep South Officer | ☐ NGC Officer | ☐ Flower Show Judge | ☐ Landscape Design Consultant |
| ☐ NGC Board Member | ☐ Delegate | ☐ Alternate | ☐ Environmental Consultant |
| ☐ NCG Life Member | ☐ Guest/Spouse | ☐ Garden Study Consultant | |

REGISTRATION AND PRICING INFORMATION

OPTION 1 - COMPREHENSIVE PACKAGE includes 3 day registration, 2 luncheons, 3 banquet dinners, entertainment and programs - **\$360.00**

OPTION 2 - BUILD YOUR OWN PLAN PACKAGE

- ☐ Daily Registration Fee (required for all events/tours/meals) - \$30.00
- ☐ Sunday, March 14 Early Arrival Program and Dinner - \$55.00
- ☐ Monday, March 15 *Petals from the Past* Luncheon - \$55.00
- ☐ Monday, March 15 Design Banquet with Benny Campbell - \$65.00
- ☐ Tuesday, March 16 Dragonflies and Damselflies Luncheon - \$55.00
- ☐ Tuesday, March 16 Formal Awards Banquet and Officer Installation - \$65.00
- ☐ Late Registration Fee (late after January 10, 2027) - \$50.00

LOCAL TOURS requires advanced registration, no exceptions, non-refundable

- ☐ Monday, March 15 Tour of the Historic Jemison-Van De Graaff Mansion and Tea Party - \$15.00
- ☐ Tuesday, March 16 Tour of the University of Alabama Football Stadium - \$35.00
- ☐ Tuesday, March 16 Tour of Twice as Nice Consignment Shop and Peanut Shop - \$5.00

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Make checks to **DEEP SOUTH CONVENTION** and mail with form to Rachel Thomas, 4253 Hwy 107, Fayette, AL 35555.

E-mail: harleyt2006@yahoo.com, 205-270-2324. Convention confirmation will be emailed.

For USPS mail acknowledgement of registration, enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Embassy Suites, 2410 University Blvd, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Booking Link <https://group.embassysuites.com/61plqm> Rate \$149.00 per night 2 queen or king, or call 205-561-2500 and let reservations desk know room reservation for the Garden Club of Alabama/Deep South Convention Code 927.

Hotel has free parking, free made to serve breakfast with omelets, complimentary evening reception with 2 free drinks per room, newly remodeled and located in downtown area, indoor pool, and business center.

EVENT SUMMARY

- Sunday evening begins with a reception honoring our Deep South Director, Denise Thorne, at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner and a fascinating presentation by University of Alabama Professor Ian Crawford on Birds in the Decorative Arts.
- Monday's luncheon will feature *Petals from the Past* nursery, with the owner sharing information about his unique antique roses and other hard-to-find Southern plants. Guests will also have the opportunity to purchase plants after lunch.
- Monday evening begins with a reception at 6:00 p.m. honoring Denise Thorne and all six state presidents. Attendees will have the opportunity to greet before dinner, followed by a floral design program by Benny Campbell.
- Tuesday's luncheon will feature University of Alabama professors who will introduce us to the fascinating world of dragonflies, damselflies, and other exotic insects.
- Tuesday evening, wear your Roaring 20's or Jazz Age attire for the formal reception and enjoy an evening of fun and lively music provided by Ken Bausano.
- Unique tours options are provided for Monday and Tuesday afternoon.

The full agenda will be posted online. See you soon! Karen Merrill, 2027 Convention Chairman

For questions please contact Cindy Boone, Convention Co-Chairman, cindysboone@gmail.com, 703.328.8833

TOTALS ENCLOSED

_____ CONVENTION

_____ TOURS

_____ TOTAL

- REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS 1/10/27.
- NO REFUNDS AFTER 1/10/27
- REGISTRATION FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE
- NO WALK-INS
- MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND ANY DSGC FUNCTION, PROGRAM, MEAL OR TOUR



2027 Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc Convention Program Ad Form



Garden Club of Alabama is hosting the Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Regional Convention in 2027 at the Embassy Suites in Tuscaloosa, Alabama on March 14 - 16.

Clubs, family members, and local businesses are encouraged to purchase ads for the convention program book. This is the perfect opportunity to honor club members and presidents, celebrate club anniversaries or promote community support.

PROGRAM AD OPTIONS

- Full Page \$100
- Half Page \$50
- One Quarter Page \$25

AD DETAILS

- All ads will be in color
- May contain photos
- Please submit JPEG format

AD SUBMISSIONS

Email ad and completed form to Stephanie Butler sfbdgc2013@gmail.com.
Phone: 205-442-3195

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Make check payable to Deep South Convention 2027 and send to :
GCA Treasurer Karen Matthews, 152 Harkins Lake Road, Fayette, AL 35555
Phone: 205-270-6624, Email: karentmatthews@yahoo.com

Name _____

Garden Club _____ State _____ District _____

Name of Business _____

Ad Size (please circle)

Full Page

Half Page

One Quarter Page



Save the Date

April 19 – 21, 2027

**Tennessee Federation of
Garden Clubs, Inc.
2027 Convention**

“Entwined with Nature for Over 100 Years”

**Embassy Suites
West Knoxville**

Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee

Spring Membership Meeting & Coffee

Monday, April 26, 2027

10:00 am

Botanic Hall

Cheekwood Estate & Gardens



National Garden Clubs, Inc.

2027 Convention

May 13 – 17, 2027

Madison, Wisconsin





The Rachel Jackson Garden Club presents



An NGC Petite Small-Standard Flower Show

Thursday, October 21, 2027

Staged at *Through the Grapevine* Banquet Suite 190
630 Broadmor Boulevard
Murfreesboro, TN 37129-0902

Show viewing hours 1:00 pm until 2:30 pm

Show closes at 2:30 pm

OPEN AND FREE TO THE PUBLIC



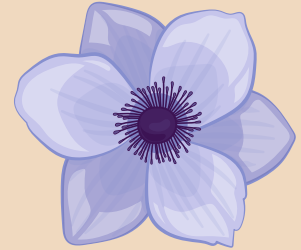
Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee



Community



FLOWER SHOW



Coming in Late Fall 2027

Details to Follow





If you've made it this far,

Thank You

for reading the September 2026

District II Newsletter

The articles & photos included in this & all issues are provided by you the reader. If you have a suggestion or a gardening interest that you would like to see in the publication, please let me know, and I will do my best to include it.

I don't have email addresses for every District II member, so I rely on club presidents to forward the email containing the Newsletter to their club members. If you would like to receive the District II Newsletter directly to your inbox from me, just email me, and I will add you to the email list. 😊



Anna Marie Allen
annabanana7@comcast.net