



TENNESSEE
GARDEN CLUBS
ESTD 1926

56

the volunteer gardener

Winter 2021-22

Winter brings the birds in droves
robins, waxwings, and the crows.

I hear the wind beneath their wings
and all at once, my heart, it sings.

To live among the gentle flock
tells heart and mind, *turn back the clock.*

To look upon the open sky
sends loving tear drops to my eye.

- Kiesha Shepard
"Winter Birds"

Vol. LXXV | No 2

56

The Volunteer Gardener
is an
Official Publication of the
Tennessee Garden Clubs, Inc., Julie Wilson, President
National Garden Clubs, Inc. Mary Warshauer, President
Deep South Garden Club, Lena Bateman, Director
Editor: Anne M. Krekelberg
annekrekelberg@reagan.com 901-833-0416

	Page
President's Message	3
Upcoming Events	4
District News	
District I	6
District II	21
District III	29
District IV	36
Around & About the State	41
Life Membership	42
Club Yearbook Reminder	42
Treasurer's Report	43
Historic Preservation & Memorial Gardens	44
Conservation	45
Membership Development	46
Bee & Butterfly Theme: Homegrown National Park	47
Hints for Taking Great Photos for the TVG	48
Submission Dates for TVG	55



TENNESSEE
GARDEN CLUBS
ESTD 1926

The Volunteer Gardener Deadlines

Spring Issue 2022	Submissions due March 15
Summer Issue 2022	Submissions due July 15
Winter Issue 2022-23	Submissions due November 15
Spring Issue 2023	Submissions due March 15

Please note:

Submissions and photographs can be sent directly to Anne Krekelberg, TVG Editor, at: annekrekelberg@reagan.com

Maximum word length: 350 words.

Please send written submissions via Word or Pages.

Please send photographs separate from written submissions (do not embed photos in text).

Questions? Please call or text Anne Krekelberg at 901-833-0416 or send an email to annekrekelberg@reagan.com.



Thank you!

Here's another nice example of using your focus square for a close-up on a single subject, from Pam Inkelbarger taken at **Racheff House & Gardens.**
I wonder if he was invited in for tea?



from the president

This is the season for thanksgiving. Gratitude is something that must be practiced. Start early in the day. Be thankful for health, family, friends, nature, and garden clubs. Gratitude turns what we have into enough and brings us peace.

Try to plant a native tree in the next year. As you know, native trees are necessary for a healthy planet. Doug Tallamy calls it a "home grown national park." We create it when we all plant more native plants in our yards. If you can't plant a tree, please donate to Penny Pines to plant native trees in our national forests. You can specify the state or the specific forest.

My New Year wish for you is learning, warmth, care, togetherness, friends, laughter and delight in your garden clubs. Invite a new member, share the love of gardening and this green earth with your community and educate yourselves and others about being better stewards of this planet. Our garden clubs have so much knowledge and enthusiasm to share. We get a sense of energy and harmony when we come together as a group around a shared purpose.

Remember we are a force for good.

Happy Holidays,

Julie Wilson
President, TGC, Inc.
2021-2023



upcoming events

For details of future events, please log onto to:
www.tngardenclubs.org and click on “events.”

- Jan. 10 Miniature Designs with D-I Judges Council
- Jan 24-25 Gardening School Course 1
- Feb 07 Photography for Flower Shows & Calendars
- Feb 14 Miniature Designs with D-I Judges Council
- Mar 06-09 Deep South GC Convention
- Mar 14 Miniature Designs with DI Judges Council
- Mar 21-22-23 Landscape Design School Course 2
- Mar 26 D-IV Spring Membership Meeting
- Apr 12 D-I Spring Membership Meeting
- May 02 Cheekwood Community Flower Show (TGC & NGC Flower Show)
- May 17-22 NGC Convention
- Sep 12-13 Gardening School Course 2
- Oct 1 Conservation Camp
- Apr 2023 TGC State Convention & Flower Show with Tri–refresher
- Apr 27 Suburban Garden Club / NGC Flower Show
- May 2023 NGC Convention

I receive many photos to include in the TVG...so many, in fact, I don’t have room for them all. But there are many I can’t use. I can fix a good number photography flaws through photo-editing software, but I can’t fix blurry, or a photo that makes me wonder what the subject really is. There’s so much more so explore when using your phone’s camera. I hope you’ll experiment with the bells and whistles, as it will do so much to improve your photographs.

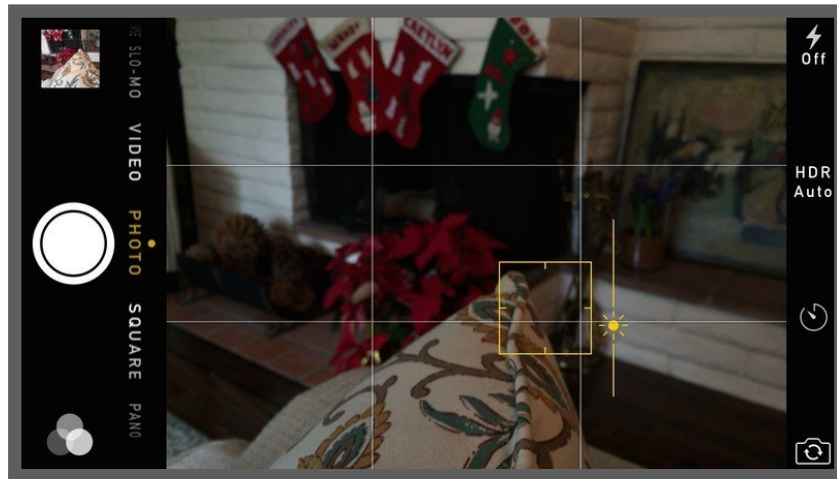
Meanwhile, I want to thank you for the photos you do send. I enjoy looking through them while putting the TVG together, and I know the clubs throughout Tennessee enjoy seeing what others are doing, what celebrations are happening, and where they can find different educational events.



Clover, taken 2016 with an iPhone 6

4. Using a flash

With smartphones, the days of using a flash are just about gone. They often make a photo look overexposed, alter natural color, and make people look washed out. If possible, use natural light. Using your focus square, you'll notice a star and line alongside...that's your 'exposure meter.' You can slide it up or down to adjust your exposure while indoors.



5. Take candid shots

Many photos used in the TVG need to be posed in order to see faces and places. But candid shots of people doing things can be just as interesting and memorable. Candid photos "capture the moment," so take as many photos as possible (remember, you're not paying to develop that film!). This photo is a good example of "candid, yet posed." Dyersburg GC members stopped long enough, hoe-in-hand to take a photo.

Butt Caution! No, I didn't misspell that. When you're taking candid photos for a project on which your club is working or of them strolling in park you've renovated, take a close look at where everyone is facing, because not everyone may be facing your camera!



district news

I think that I shall never see
A poem as lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in Summer wear
a nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fool like me,
But only God can make a tree.

- Joyce Kilmer

district I

Southwind Garden Club has been busy installing plants in the pollinator beds at Chucalissa Village Archaeological Site at T.O. Fuller State Park. They also decorated the TPC Southwind clubhouse for Christmas.

Tipton Fleur de Lis Garden Club has partnered with the City of Atoka for a planting day of daffodil bulbs to beautify the Greenway Trail and a wreath making class taught by club members at Atoka Town Hall. The club hopes these events will appeal to all types of gardeners to increase their membership through the town's website.

Trenton Garden Club conducted a recent project at Harlin Morris Retirement Home making scarecrow door hangers for residents. They also have planted seasonal flowers in the Memory Garden at a local elementary school.

I would like to thank ALL the clubs in District I for making a difference in their communities by donating their time, talents, and monies. You have enhanced the natural summer and fall beauty that surrounds us and brought smiles to many. You have given hope and provided healing kindness to carry us through the winter for the spring that is to come. Although we could not meet in person for the Fall District Meeting, I look forward to seeing you in the spring.

Phyllis Allen, District I Director

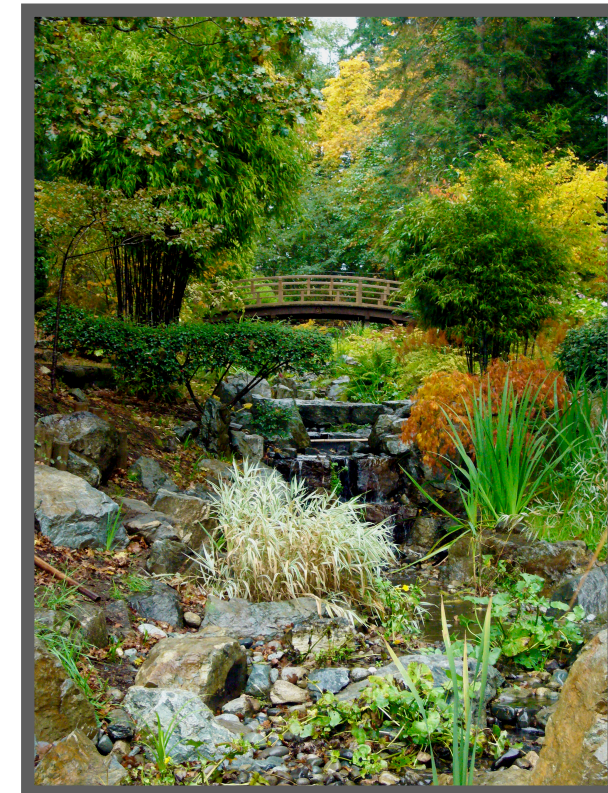


3. Symmetry

Symmetry and the rule of thirds sounds like polar opposites, but they're not. Just like in floral design, symmetry can give harmony, balance, and proportion to a photo. In photography, symmetry is achieved by dividing your photo into two equal parts, mirror images of each other. In photographing photos for the TVG, symmetry is especially useful in photographing walkways, woods, stairs and sometimes just that beautiful lone tree midst the meadow.



And, just like in floral design, symmetry need not be absolute. In the photo below, the bridge is centered, but it is flanked by different flora. Still, your eye finds the center.

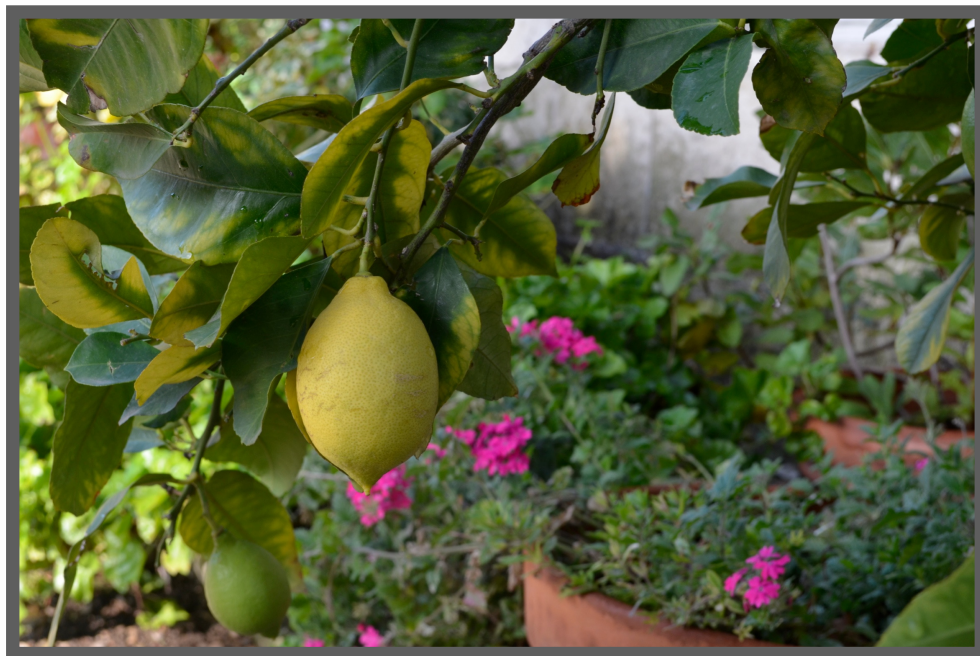


It's often best to focus on one subject, leaving some negative space. This will help your subject stand out more.

When you are taking a photo of a group of people, as often happens with photos submitted to TVG, you probably won't need to touch your screen for the yellow square. One of this issue's submissions, seen below, is a good example of a group photo. Everyone is in focus, and your eye moves from one side to another. It's probably an accident (perhaps not!), the the orange pumpkins and shirts, as well as the crows yellow beak, help your eye to move around.



In this photo, by tapping on the focus square, note that the background is blurred, giving an entirely different perspective on the lemon. This is a great technique for photographing a single flower or a close-up portrait, where you really want to see the subject clearly.



Kennedy View Garden Club

From Mary Heim

As you know, COVID put the kibosh on many a good time this year. We were not able to have our District I in-person fall membership meeting, thus we could not have an auction of crafted items as planned. I was surely disappointed by that since I had collected many items from my Kennedy View Garden Club members. We had pottery, watercolor paintings, crafted note cards, needle work, and more. Phyllis Allen, our District I Director, had encouraged clubs to perhaps have an auction in their small groups, and that is just what we did. We met on a cool, lovely October evening at the home of Kim Halyak. Kim had converted an old garage into a large 'she shed' with plenty of room for our club meeting. Kim presented a fun and educational talk about Poison Ivy, and we quickly decided that a scary Halloween movie about the rapid growth of Poison Ivy would be entertaining. We could call it "The Itch from Hell."

Our meeting also included instructions from Suzy Askew concerning the Horticulture section of the May 2022 Flower Show Schedule. We will continue in the months ahead to present information concerning entries into the Flower Show. The last activity was the auction/sale of our craft items. It was fun seeing everyone's

work and bargaining for treasures. We made \$170.00, all of which will be given to District I. We are looking forward to a time when we can share our artistic talents with a larger group at the Spring District meeting.



Kim Halyak's new "She Shed" is the perfect spot for a meeting!

Poplar Estates Garden Club

From Chris Kelyman

With patience, perseverance and zoom, Poplar Estates Garden Club survived the challenges throughout the year. And, upon retrospection, 2021 was quite a productive year after all. Although there were warnings not to expect activity until a month later than usual due to the cold temperatures in January, our ongoing bluebird project with three trails and numerous private boxes began in early March with nests already in the completion stage. Our trails at Bobby Lanier Farm Park and Poplar Estates Park saw increased numbers in bluebird fledglings while private boxes became homes to non-bluebirds such as chickadees, wrens and a cowbird. Because of this trend the number of bluebirds fledging from private boxes was significantly reduced from 28 in 2020 to only 5 this season. To keep all of our members informed, weekly photos and reports were emailed to everyone with the latest bluebird activity.

In mid April the club hosted an impromptu garden tour of three members' gardens. The event kept its members connected safely in three pretty outside venues as COVID was still a major concern. At the end of the tour a light supper was served with a champagne toast to everyone's continued good health and garden success.



Fred Robertson of the TN Bluebird Society, with members of the Poplar Estates GC, presents a program to Shelby East Garden Club

If you don't see gridlines, go to 'settings,' choose 'photos,' and turn on 'grid.'

The grid determines the golden rule of photography, the **rule of thirds** - a composition principle that says an image should be broken down into thirds, both horizontally and vertically, making 9 parts total. Placing your point of interest along these intersections or lines makes your photo more balanced and dynamic. Look at these photos. (1) is balanced, but hardly dynamic. (2) is better - more sky gives it more punch. (3) is both balanced and dynamic, wanting to take your eye down the field and into the trees.



2. Focus

Phone cameras auto-focus to the foreground, but not every photo has a specific subject. To adjust where you want the lens to focus, open your camera app and tap the small yellow square where you want to sharpen the view. That will be the focus of your photo. Even if you should shift your camera left or right, the focus will remain on where you tapped. This will also help optimize your lighting and exposure (we'll leave that one for another time!).



Hints for Taking Great Photos for the TVG

From Anne Krekelberg, Editor, TVG

Each issue I receive lots of photos to include in the next TVG issue, some I can use, some I can't use. I wanted to include in this issue a few hints for taking great photos with your phones. Obviously, the "newer" phones like the iPhone 12 or 13 or the Samsung Galaxy Z are pretty geared with lots of bells and whistles to take awesome photos, but if you're unaware of the basics, like framing, there's no amount of editing that will fix it.

I've made this list of hints that I hope will help, but it's not a do-all, end-all list. If you're interested in learning more, I would encourage you to practice, practice, practice - after all, we have the luxury of deleting and retaking nowadays, rather than spend a fortune developing a roll of film with just one photo worth keeping.

I would also encourage you to attend the **Photography for Flower Shows & Calendars**, February 7, 2022, 9:00 am to Noon at the Memphis Botanic Garden. Hannah Underhill, noted Memphis cityscape and nature photographer, will present a crash course in using your phone to take photographs worthy of submission to photo and calendar contests. Call MBG to register (901-636-4100).

Your phone has many automatic settings as you get ready to take a beautiful, clear, well-balance photograph. Below are just a few hints to get you started.

1. Use your gridlines

Did you know you have gridlines? They should look like this:



June provided an opportunity for members to celebrate National Garden Week by assembling a large red bucket filled to capacity with various plants and flowers and delivered to one of the fire stations in Germantown. The entire department staff was on hand for the presentation. A note of appreciation was extended to the staff at the same time for their service to the city of Germantown.

With continued mild temperatures in October, the club met outside on the patio of a member's home; a welcome treat to be able to meet safely in person. Several of our bluebird monitors gave reports on activity for the season while everyone dined on a light supper provided by the hostess. In mid-October three members and one of the founders of the Shelby County chapter of the Tennessee Bluebird Society, Fred Robertson, gave a bluebird presentation to the members of Shelby East Garden Club at the historic Collierville Town Square. The weather was perfect and the venue couldn't have been finer for the event.

Three days later on October 16, the club dedicated its Arboretum located in the Poplar Estates Park in conjunction with the Poplar Estates Homeowners' Association fall event. The association collaborated with the garden club on expenses for the Arboretum. Among the guests were city officials, Tennessee Garden Clubs President Julie Wilson, neighbors, and garden club members.



Poplar Estates Garden Club celebrates the dedication of the Poplar Estates Homeowners Association Arboretum

As we close out our club year, we have come to realize that in the words of Hans Christian Andersen, "Just living is not enough; one must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower."



Cordova Garden Club

From Kim Lane

After having to hold ZOOM meetings for months, Cordova Garden Club installed new officers at a lovely outdoor pavilion in May and then celebrated the beautiful June weather with a meeting at the home of Janice Oliver, where Vicki



Vicki Duggins

Duggins, with assistance from Frances Gunn, taught us how to make floral arrangements using materials from our garden. Everyone brought plant materials from their yards to share with others; it was great fun to see all the different arrangements that members then created. Vicki later placed her gorgeous arrangement in the Cordova Library to celebrate National Garden Week.

On an unusually cool and pleasant August morning, members of CGC took a guided tram tour of Memphis Botanic Garden with Mary Helen Butler. Everyone enjoyed seeing all the new areas that have been established by the MBG, such as the Delta Garden, Pollinator Garden, and Urban Garden. The tour was followed by a catered lunch and business meeting in the scenic Water Lily Room.

The club has been busy with our community projects, including Deena Abeysekera potting up one of the Firehouse Subs buckets our District I Director Phyllis Allen provided. Deena took it to our neighborhood fire station to be enjoyed throughout the summer by the firefighters. At the Cordova Library, work continues on the Native Plant Bed. The Arboretum Project Chairman, Linda Phillips, assisted by club members, presented a day-long display program on trees found within the Arboretum. Visitors enjoyed a Tree Book created by Janice Oliver, self-guided walking tour maps of the Arboretum, and examples of leaves, nuts and bark. The

2021-2022 Bee & Butterfly Theme: Start a Homegrown National Park!

From Ann Brown, Bee & Butterfly Chair

"We must not see nature as something separate from our daily lives and only to be experienced in parks and preserves. Our rapidly disappearing wildlife, especially native bees, caterpillars, butterflies, and birds need us to become citizen conservationists, transforming our yards into mini-homegrown parks."

- Doug Tallamy

What can we do to help our pollinators?

- Reduce turf to 40% or less.

Consider replacing water-greedy fescue, bluegrass, or other cool-season grasses with buffalo grass. Add clover and native plants too feed the pollinators.

- Create plant layers in your yard, as in nature. Tall trees form the canopy; smaller flowering trees and tall shrubs thrive below. Bottom layers are shorter shrubs and shade-tolerant plants.

- Plant a hedgerow or 'living fence.' Plant flowering trees under tall trees, such as dogwoods and serviceberries, hop trees, pawpaw, and sassafras. Select a diversity of native shrubs.

- Spray yourself, not your yard! Insect sprays kill pollinators as effectively as mosquitoes.

- Let others know what you are doing in your yard by putting up friendly plaques and signs, letting others know you are pesticide free.

For more information about protecting our pollinators, I'm available at brownw01@yahoo.com. The complete power point on "Start a Homegrown National Park" can be found on our TGC website.



Membership Development

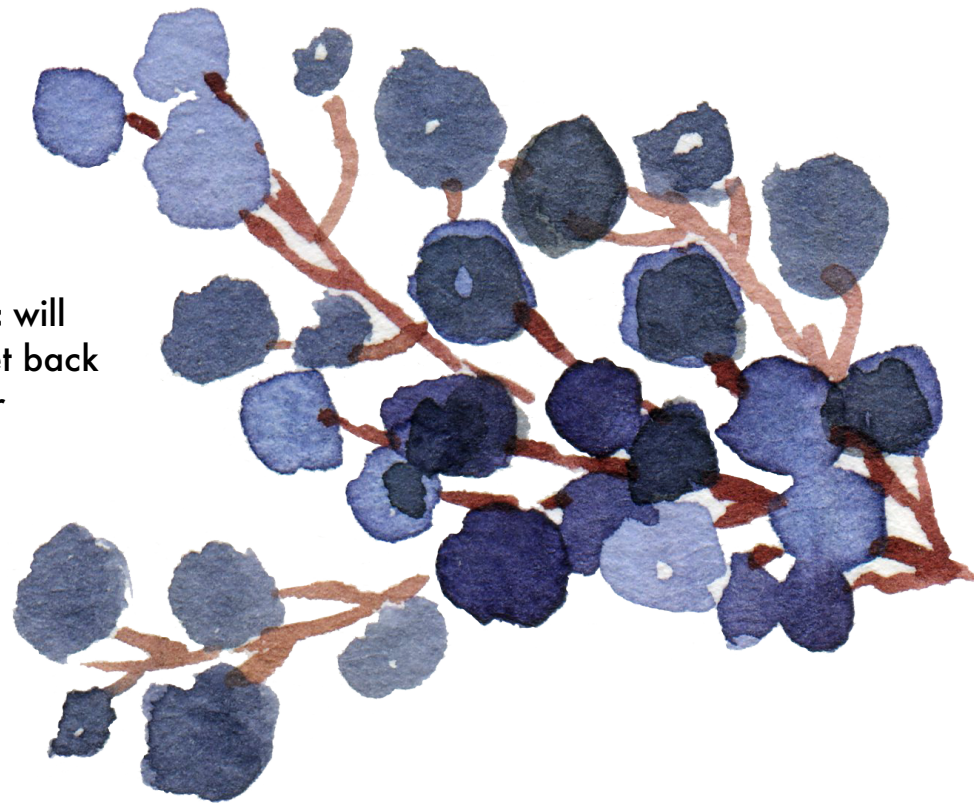
From Debbie Boyett, Chair

Due to the extra efforts made by many clubs to increase membership in 2020, our membership increased by 152. Our total membership in 2020 was down to 2,414, and in 2021 to 2,122. This is attributed mainly to the disbanding of several clubs, the pandemic, and aging members.

How important is our membership? Our TGC by-laws state that one of our purposes is to promote the organization of new garden clubs and encourage membership. NGC's new administration notes that "membership is the lifeblood of our organization." We all benefit when we grow. NGC's Membership Committee has begun hosting a monthly 1-hour Zoom for clubs to share success stories, resolve common issues, and brainstorm solutions. The "3R's Workshop on Membership Mondays" explores recruitment, retention, and revitalization. We can do this!

Each District should have a Membership Chair on their board to assist the director with recruitment. In addition, every club member can help us bring in new clubs and increase membership. Each district director should have a list prepared and sent by me which ranks Tennessee cities by population; my hope is that this will give us a starting point to look for new members and build new clubs. Members, please share your ideas with your club presidents and your district director. I would love to hear from you as to how your club, and your district, is brainstorming.

I'm hopeful the pandemic will soon be history, and we can get back to "normal" soon and grow our membership!



club also donated books on trees to the library manager Zeb Matthews. The Arboretum received Level 1 Certification in 2015, and we are pleased to make it available to the public.

In September we attended a Hypertufa Workshop conducted by Memphis Area Master Gardener Tom Rieman. After learning the history and variety of material options for hypertufa pots, each member created their own rectangular pot. It is always fun to play in the mud, or in this case, the cement!

Our October meeting included a fun, informative and most timely presentation on 'Wicked Plants' by Memphis Area Master Gardener Genie Ashworth. In November, club member Annette Dabaldo taught us how to make Christmas trees using ribbon and branches. Some members went for the rustic look with subdued colors and patterns, while others made trees that were bright and colorful. All of them were Merry!

Cordova Garden Club welcomed four new members in 2021, and honored Dorothy Hirsh and Martha McGinley as Lifetime Members of the club in appreciation of their contributions over the years. We are so happy to once again be able to come together in person, to learn, laugh, and share. Hopefully, that will continue for all the clubs in TFGC throughout 2022.



Tom Rieman, Memphis Area Master Gardener, instructs members in hypertufa



Cordova Garden Club

Collierville Garden Club

From Kathy Rybczyk

Collierville Garden Club once again entered the yearly Lichterman Nature Center ScareCrow Contest and won the "Best Critter" and "Most Creative" honors. This year, sponsored by Lichterman and local Herbi-Systems, the theme added a new category, "Best STEAM" (science, technology, engineering, art, & math). Our garden club entered "Cuz ITT's Crow Scaring Time," inspired by the renewed popularity of "The Addams Family" lovable, hairy character, ITT. His likeness was fashioned using raffia table skirts attached to tomato cages, hat, and glasses.

Our club is quite active in our community, including the beautification of the Collierville Post Office. We attend many of the education opportunities offered by TGC to broaden our knowledge. With 17 members, Twila Christian, the current president, aims to share knowledge and the appreciate of gardens, flowers, and horticulture with our community.



It's an ITT!

Conservation

From Jeanie Jackson, Chair

2021 brought many documented critical changes our beautiful Earth, and various conservation groups urge change in our everyday behavior to reduce the stress on flora, fauna, people, and planet. Below are a just a few.

The warming earth is accelerating the polar ice caps melt factor and the consequential rise of our oceans. Many of our beaches remain closed due to bacterial sludge that cause disease in animals, fish, and people.

Animals and Eskimos who thrived living on the ice will no longer have this avenue of food as in the past. Some estimates show the oldest and thickest ice in the Arctic has declined by 95% in the past 30 years. This impacts the Tundra ecosystem as well as the fishing industry.

It was noted this past year we had the largest documented heat wave across the nation, resulting in numerous wildfires with large destruction of habitat for man, plants, and animals. The World Wildlife Federation notes the average global fire weather season has increased by 20%. Forests and grasses were burned, producing a threat of flooding and landslides.

The pollution to waterways in some areas has become dangerous enough that cities are treating them heavily with chemicals to meet standards, and animals that drink from the tributaries are in decline. Bird egg shells are becoming fragile; the birth rate of our beautiful birds is down. Our declining species are multiplying faster than we can manage.

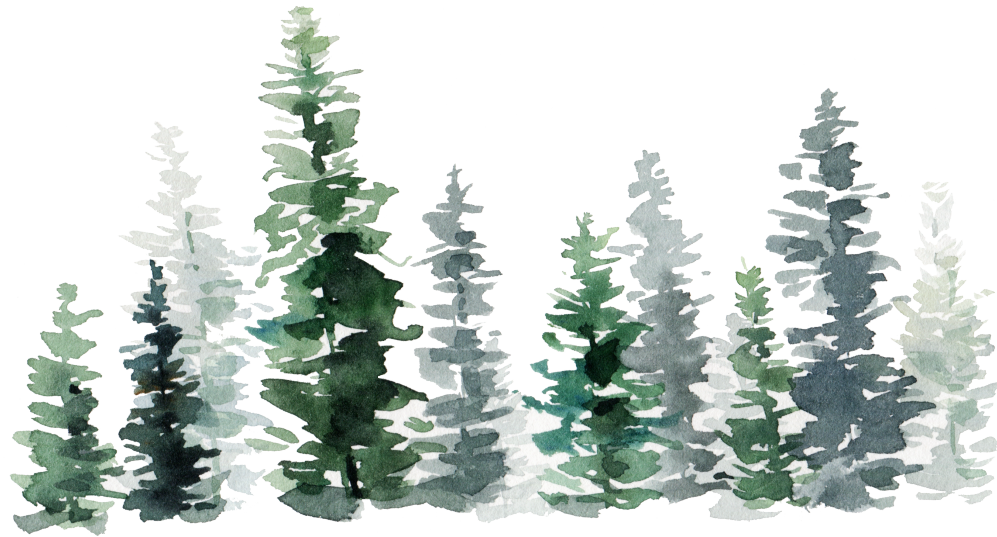
As a Tennessee Garden Club member it is imperative we change our usual behavior to accommodate habits to begin to slow the cycle of decline. Such things such as recycling, reuse, and decreased emissions make an impact. Instead of burning brush, leave fencerows in place so our small animals have a place to raise their young. Leave leaves on your lawn so insects have a place to winter over. Set out bird feeders, research what food our birds like, and keep them full during really cold and sustained winter days. Research, read and discover. Plant a pollinator garden rather than a lawn. And plant trees!

Each club can make a difference by looking at your community. What can you do to educate the general public and let them know how they too can help our planet? Replace the damaged forests with our Penny Pines program as many times as you can. Apply for grants and endowments to plant gardens and trees. This is our land, and as our TGC President says, "This green earth needs you!"

Since the last edition of The Volunteer Gardener, the Treasurer has received donations from the following clubs:

Sevierville GC in honor of Melanie Hill
 Murray Hills GC
 Dirt Dabbers GC
 Sun-Up GC
 Bellevue GC
 Camden GC

Thanks to all for your generous donations!



Historic Preservation & Memorial Gardens

From Blossom Merryman, Chair

If your club would like to plan a Preservation or Memorial project, please contact me using the information below. We can then plan ahead to incorporate a meeting at the next Conservation Camp or TGC event, or at a site of your choice. Please remember that a critical planning element is site safety and to ensure compliance with the owners or management of the property designated. Thank you!

Blossom Merryman, Chair
 111 Spring Street
 Wartrace TN 37183
 931-389-0545
 mschockley1776@gmail.com

Suburban Garden Club

From Kay Black

Suburban Garden Club of Germantown marked a return to in-person meetings with the first gathering the year in September 2021. Business was conducted in a beautiful outdoor setting at the home of Sara Stewart, where President Kay Black and her board announced a slate of creative educational programs for the year. Two that sparked special interest were the upcoming visit to Strawberry Plains Audubon Center, Mississippi, and the 2022 Flower Show, "Alice in Wonderland: Through the Looking Glass," to be held on April 27 at St. George's Episcopal Church in Germantown. Additionally, new members for both 2020 and 2021 were introduced and welcomed by the membership.

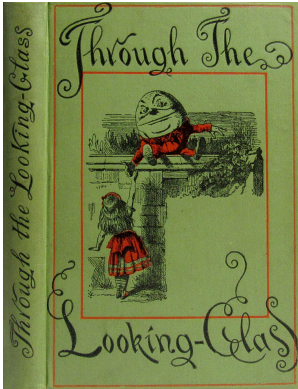
In other news, we were fortunate to present a donation of \$1,000.00 to the Memphis Botanic Garden to support the work done by the Garden to adapt its programs during the pandemic. Additionally, Elizabeth Martin created a stunning floral display to adorn and celebrate the first Iris Orchestra concert held at the Germantown Performing Arts Center since February 2020. Both Iris and GPAC were appreciative of her exceptional talent; their gratitude was expressed on a plaque next to the arrangement. Michael Stern, conductor and artistic director, thanked the Club and Elizabeth from the stage.

Club members enjoyed a fun and educational autumn visit to the Strawberry Plains Audubon Center, the home of the annual Hummingbird Festival, in nearby Holly Springs, MS. Members toured the grounds and historic sites of



Elizabeth Martin

the 3,000 acre sanctuary, including the native gardens and antebellum Davis House. We were inspired by the hummingbird trails and work being done to encourage ecological stewardship of the importance of native plants and habitat. Club members will incorporate this information into preparation of the Spring 2022 Flower Show.



Suburban Garden Club presents
an NGC Flower Show
"Alice in Wonderland: Through the Looking Glass"
Wednesday, April 27, 2022
St. George's Episcopal Church
2425 S. Germantown Road
Germantown TN 38138



Treasurer's Report: 4/1/21-11/30/21

From Susan Quinn, Treasurer

Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Treasurer's Report, Membership Meeting 4/1/21 - 11/30/21				
	Opening Balance	Income	Expenses	Closing Balance
Unrestricted Funds				
Awards	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Calendars	0.00	2,618.39	1,479.22	1,139.17
District Support	0.00	6,000.00	0.00	6,000.00
Dues	0.00	16,110.00	2,138.00	13,988.00
2022 Convention	7,000.00	0.00	4,700.00	2,300.00
Reunion	0.00	2,774.00	3,024.00	-250.00
Hospitality	0.00	0.00	201.94	-201.94
The Volunteer Gardener	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ways and Means	0.00	1,584.01	241.50	1,342.51
General	5,002.20	0.88	3,347.34	1,655.74
Restricted Funds				
Conservation Education	2,169.52	503.28	0.00	2,672.80
Executive Residence and Pi	1,105.00	160.00	0.00	1,265.00
Friends of Racheff	0.00	1,216.00	1,064.00	152.00
History Book	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Natural Disasters	586.00	210.00	0.00	796.00
Land Trust	0.00	430.00	0.00	430.00
Landscape Design School	0.00	1,102.00	0.00	1,102.00
Life Membership	0.00	525.00	0.00	525.00
Native Plant Book	5,760.27	865.00	0.00	6,625.27
NGC Permanent Home	0.00	190.00	0.00	190.00
Penny Pines	0.00	68.00	68.00	0.00
Presidents' Plaque	336.00	0.00	6.56	329.44
Racheff House	0.00	1,642.00	1,557.00	85.00
Recognition and Remembe	0.00	75.00	0.00	75.00
Scholarship	0.00	192.00	0.00	192.00
Total Cash on Hand	22,458.99			40,912.99
Endowment Trust Fund	175,368.62			192,571.68
Racheff House and Gardens (as of 10/31/21)				
Designated Funds				8,646.06
Unrestricted Funds				352,731.82

Life Membership

from Amelia Wilkes, Chair

The holiday season is behind us, but any season is a great time to reward yourself or a club member to a Tennessee Life Membership in NGC!

We have 7 new State Life Members since President Julie Wilson's term began in May 2021:

District I: Cheryl Tompkins, Germantown GC and Jane Montgomery of Elizabeth Stone GC

District II: Ann Harvey of New Neighbors GC and Diana Maria Gray of Iris GC

District III: Dianna Mansfield of Crestwood GC

District IV: Theresa Schehr of Tuckaleechee GC and Brenda Gregory of Mountain Laurel GC

Applications for Life Membership are online at www.tngardenclubs.org. Click on "forms." TGC Life Memberships are first on the list and can be filled out online or printed. The \$75 fee can be paid by credit card, PayPal, or, if you print the application, can be mailed to your DISTRICT life chair and she/he will forward it along to me.

A Tennessee Life Member is exempt from paying the state dues of \$7 each year the garden club is listed. Certificates are heavy weight stock with an official gold seal. Deep South Life Memberships are \$50 and National Life Memberships \$200. These forms are also online.

Questions? Please don't hesitate to ask me: ameliawilkes43@gmail.com.



Club yearbooks reminder

From Gayle Jagers

National Garden Clubs, Inc. requires that all club yearbooks list the name of the presidents, their addresses, and email information for NGC, Inc., TGC, Inc., Deep South, and the District Director of their district. It also requires the yearbook include the home address and website information of the above organizations.

Scenic Hills Garden Club

From Susan Schmidt

Scenic Hills Garden Club has really been enjoying our times back together, even with masks and social distancing. We have had several well attended and

informative meetings. We also collected items for the Alzheimer's and Dementia Services of Memphis Day Care located in Kennedy Park. A car full of paper towels, adult diapers, hand sanitizer, bleach, wet wipes, Kleenex, snacks, and juices was delivered there in September. In November we once again committed to decorating a Christmas tree for the 2021 Enchanted Forest, benefitting LeBonheur Childrens Hospital in Memphis. Eight members met at McAlister's Deli in Poplar Plaza for lunch before a small group headed to the Pink Palace Museum to decorate our tree with the theme, "Nature's Gifts." Under the direction of Regina Berryman, Karen Brady, Susan Schmidt and Regina put together a beautiful tree. We used 3 different varieties of dried Allium, dried Hydrangeas, Pinecone stars, Lavender, red Lichen balls, and Pussy Willow stems. These trees will be



"Nature's Gifts" in The Enchanted Forest

selected for sponsorship by donors at \$1,000 each to benefit the hospital and then judged for awards. They were on display at the museum from November 20th through December 31st. We are proud to have been a participant in the Enchanted Forest for several years and look forward to continuing to do so in the future.

Tipton Fleur de Lis Garden Club

From Jacqueline Walker

The latest project of the Tipton Fleur de Lis club involves the recent joining of the walking/ biking trails of Pioneer and Walker Parks. The project began with clearing of undergrowth and weeds in preparation for the planting of shrubs, ferns, and spring bulbs to beautify the trails.

The 3.5 mile new Greenway Trail also connects the two existing parks with the children's water park and nearby lake. The lighted pathways are already in use by walkers, joggers, bikers, and families. In the near future, the club plans to develop a butterfly habitat and a wildflower garden.

"It was exciting to see our 2 year old garden club collaborate with the Town of Atoka to enhance their new Greenway Trail. With each new member comes new ideas for beautification projects," said President Jackie Walker, Tipton Fleur de Lis Garden Club.

Greenway Trail
Beautification



around & about the state

But ask the animals, now, and they shall teach you;
the birds of the sky, and they shall tell you.
Or, speak to the earth and it shall teach you.
Ask the plants of the earth and they shall teach you.
The fish of the seas shall declare to you.
Who doesn't know that in all these,
the hand of God has done this,
in whose hand is the life of every living thing,
and the breath of all humankind?

- Job 12:7-10

Norwood participated in the Tennessee Valley Fair on September 14. Our juniors did a spectacular job on their horticulture entries. We had 9 entries winning several ribbons. The children also won sweepstakes:

1st place winner: Brooklyn Graves

2nd place winners: Millie Teaton and Maddie Williamson

3rd place winners: Evie Teaton and Levi Williamson

4th place winner: Andrew Williamson

Norwood is so very proud of each and every one of our juniors and their efforts! Congratulations and a job well done.



1st place winner Brooklyn's entries were projects made during our Mustard Seed Camp. We focused on sunflowers & the diversified ways to enjoy them. Congrats on her beautiful art work and hard work!



Dyersburg Garden Club

From Sherry Dunlap

For several years Dyersburg Garden Club's Mary Beth Sheppard has been the force behind the Okeena Park & Arboretum. In 2006, she contributed to writing a grant to fund new trees for the park following a storm in 2003 that destroyed and damaged many of the trees. Twenty-six trees were lost. Since that time, Mary Beth has been the overseer of the Arboretum. With the assistance of master gardeners and the Dyersburg Garden Club, it is now Level II status.

The Park trail winds through beautiful trees and flower beds. One Southern oak at the north end of the park has been estimated by an arborist to be about 500

years old. Pecan trees planted by the wives of WWII veterans many years ago still stand tall and proud. The Arboretum contains old, mature, and newly planted trees, shade, flowers for pollinators, shelter for birds and animals, and beautiful fall leaf color and spring blossoms.

On October 15, master gardeners and garden club members met to plant three Japanese Yoshino cherry trees along the busy Lake Road side of the park and Arboretum. Mature Japanese Yoshino cherry trees stood there since planted in 2006 but after a severe pruning by park workers, they succumbed to pests and disease and had to be cut. Everyone was saddened by the loss of these beautiful trees, so Mary Beth and garden club members rallied to raise funds to



replace the cherry trees, as well as add a Crabapple 'Prairiefire' and a River birch to the Arboretum.

Dyersburg Garden Club also maintains the Blue Star Marker bed on busy Lake Road. It is one of the first park features people see when coming into Dyersburg. Special efforts go into planting for color and visual interest each season, so passersby are impressed by our park and city. Garden Club members each take a month to be responsible for the weeding, watering, and general maintenance of the bed.



Dyersburg Garden Club members Mary Beth Sheppard, Ann Reaves, Beverlee Weatherly, and Amelia Wilkes plant pansies in beds at Okeena Park

Norwood Garden Club

From Kathy Pearson

What a beautiful day in the neighborhood at Powell Library for the first story time held outside since the onset of the pandemic. Norwood Garden club was the guest for the day and the theme was "sunflowers." The story teller from the library started our time with fun moving songs and stretching - what a delightful time we had! We heard about sunflowers, flowers, and other enchanted stories. We were able to learn all about how to plant seeds, how they grow, and how they produce and provide for birds and for our environment.

Norwood Garden club was instrumental in the planting of four rows of sunflowers and applied a watchful eye to their continued growth. After much love and care there were sunflower heads with beautiful colors. The plants were planted for the children for their story time and enjoyment. Angie Brandt was the direct overseer of the project and Norwood provided sunflower faces for the day. We were grateful for the day, the many smiles and love that were showered to us by the children and parents from Powell.



Smiles and sunflowers made the day at Powell Library!

Village and open to visitors. The cabin was the home of James Andrew Cardwell and his wife, Martha Clabough Cardwell, and was built between 1892 and 1895. It was originally located between Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg. The single-pen cabin was built with logs James cut from trees on his property. It is an honor for the Tuckaleechee Garden Club to decorate this historical treasure for the holidays.



Period-appropriate decorations to adorn the Cardwell Log Cabin

Tuckaleechee GC members attend the District IV membership meeting at the Fox Den Country Club in October: Mary Lynn Morgan, Brenda Gregory, Linda Lee, Martha Frink, President Janie Bitner, Theresa Schehr, Jolene Martin & Lorna Matheny



Germantown Garden Club

From Susan Olsson

The Germantown Garden club recently teamed up with Germantown Community Theater to host a Cop Stop. Brian Everson, Executive Director of GCT remarked, "The Theater is a part of the Germantown community, and Cop Stop is a great way to show how much we appreciate the fire fighters and police." He invited the Germantown Garden Club to host their Cop Stop at the theater and it was a very enjoyable event for all who participated.

The members of the garden club prepared a delicious meal for the hard-working men and women in blue. The officers were served chicken, beef brisket, mashed potatoes, green beans, several casseroles, desserts, and drinks.

This event was the third Cop Stop for the Germantown Garden Club. The Club's mission includes service to the community; recognizing those who protect us and keep us safe is a great way to show appreciation for this wonderful resource.



"Cop Stop"
Germantown Garden Club

Cooper-Young Garden Club

From Kim Halyak

The Cooper-Young Garden Club is sizzling with excitement and energy. Our 6th Annual Garden Walk in 2021 brought in over 1200 visitors from as far away as Ohio and Iowa. Next year's theme, "Hats On to Gardeners," will invite all visitors to wear their zaniest, most creative garden hat! Proceeds from the walk go to our grandest beautification project yet, "Beautifying our Southern Avenue Gateway Verges with Native Plants". In October, we hosted a "Wine and Walk" through our neighborhood Level III Arboretum and had 60 visitors. The club decorated the community gazebo for the holidays, and we have grown to 41 members.



7th Annual Cooper-Young Garden Walk

May 21-22, 2022

Mark you calendars for the largest Garden Walk
in the South!

Tuckaleechee Garden Club

From Allison Pearson

Tuckaleechee Garden Club got back into full swing in the fall and holiday season. Led by creative designer Theresa Schehr, we designed and installed fall decorations at the Pollinator Garden at the Townsend Riverwalk and Arboretum, creating an Instagram-worthy spot for photos.



The Garden Lady welcomes visitors to the Pollinator Garden at Townsend River Walk and Arboretum. Keep Tennessee Beautiful & Keep Blount Beautiful awarded a grant to TRWA for purchase of 100 plants & trees. Tuckaleechee GC spent a productive day planting river oats, fern moss, lobelia, cardinal flower, Virginia bluebell & more.

Led by Reunion Committee Chair, Mary Lynn Morgan, Tuckaleechee GC created 12 floral arrangements for the Townsend High School Reunion in August. Arrangements of hydrangea, sunflower, coneflower, zinnia, Black-eyed Susan, and natural materials added a fresh and natural touch to the decor.

For the Christmas holiday, Sandy Andrews and Ruth Wall led a team to design and install period-appropriate holiday decorations for the Cardwell Log Cabin at the Great Smokey Mountains Heritage Center in Townsend. The Cardwell Log Cabin is one of 13 historic buildings preserved in the Tennessee Historical

district IV

My theme for this administration is, "Let East Tennessee Shine with new Growth," and I am happy to report that District IV has 67 new members! I encourage everyone to continue to invite a friend or neighbor to your next meeting; let's increase this to 100 new members by March 2022.

Since our installation in March, District IV clubs have started meeting again in person. The annual President's meeting was held at Ivan Racheff House and Gardens in May, with 23 clubs represented. I attended the June 3 Knox County Council of Garden Clubs annual picnic at the Historic Marble Springs home of John Sevier. In June for National Garden Club Week, Janie Bitner, co-garden chair, and I led a tour of the Ivan Racheff House and Gardens Arboretum for Sevierville Garden Club, Flower Lover's Garden Club, and Gatlinburg Garden Club. Smoky Mountain Garden Club visited UT Gardens to tour and work in the Hosta Garden and Tuckaleechee Garden Club planted three varieties of Red Bud trees at the River Walk Arboretum in Townsend. District IV dedicated their first Gold Star Families Memorial Marker at the Gatlinburg Visitor's Center between Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg.

On July 23, Janie Bitner and I hosted a Summer Splash Card Party at Ivan Racheff House and Gardens as a fund raiser for roof repairs, with \$2500.00 raised for that project. District IV sponsored an NGC Flower Symposium on August 23-24, planned and executed by NGC Life Accredited Flower Show Judge and Design Instructor Cathy Waitinas. I attended several club meetings throughout the fall of 2021, including Sevierville Garden Club, Lakemoor Hills Garden Clubs Fall Fete meeting, and Mountain Laurel Garden Club's annual Halloween fundraiser auction and dinner. September 9 Dixie Highway Garden Club presented their first Flower Show in over two years, "Follow Alice Down the Rabbit Hole." Anniversaries included Town and Country Garden Club (70 years), Dixie Highway Garden Club (97 years). In May 2022 Flower Lovers Garden Club will be 100 years old.

Please invite me to your clubs' meetings, as I look forward to meeting everyone in District IV during this administration.

Wanda Taylor, District IV Director



36

district II

District II has been very busy this summer and fall with many flower shows and much more!

- Tyne Meade Garden Club celebrated their 70th anniversary on July 15.
- On July 19, District II had an awards study group to help members learn about entering projects in district and state garden club contests.
- The Williamson County Fair and Flower Show was on August 5.
- The Wilson County and State Fair and flower show was on August 11.
- The Course 3 of Flower Show School was held August 17-19 at Oaklands Mansion in Murfreesboro.
- Rachell Jackson Garden Club held a flower show on August 27 in Murfreesboro.
- A Gold Star Families Marker Dedication was held in Springfield on September 18.
- Flower Lovers Garden Club held a Flower Show in Lawrenceburg on September 27.
- Many garden clubs designed a scarecrow for the Cheekwood Gardens Fall Festival.
- Lala Eslick wrote a great article about the Franklin County Garden Club.

Bobbi Wolcott, District II Director



21

Country Homes Garden Club

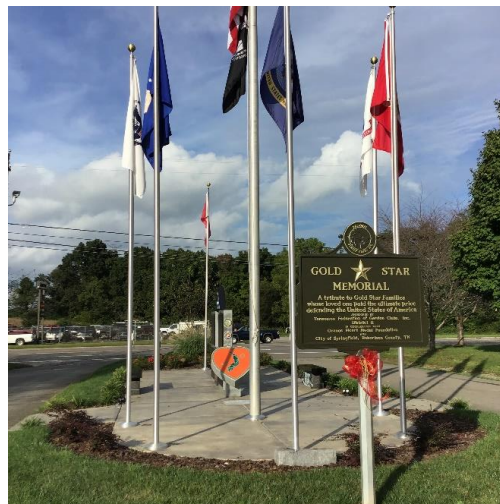
Gold Star Family Marker Dedication September 18, 2021, Springfield Tennessee



Tribute of Flowers by Country Homes Garden Club



Key Note Speaker Major General Tommy Baker, Commissioner, TN Department of Veterans Services, Tove Rawlings, President Country Homes Garden Club



Gold Star Family Marker, Springfield, TN



Ann Teasley, Former President of Country Homes Garden Club, Chair of Dedication



Springfield Memorial Gardens' Chapel, Site of Dedication Ceremony, Featuring Bagpipe Player Darrell Honeycutt Playing Amazing Grace

Lulu Brock from the Garden Club of Lookout Mountain donated \$5,000.00 for the purchase of perennials. Lookout Mountain Beautiful Garden Club represented by Penny Simmons, Candace Wells and Ann Brown donated 1,000 bulbs to be planted in October. Laurelwood Garden Club donated \$100.00 and was represented by Chrissy Jones.

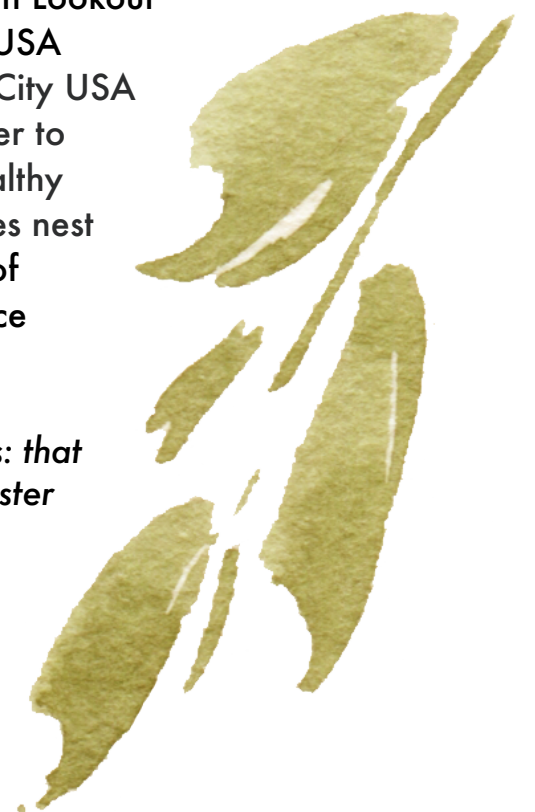
Dennis Bishop, owner of *Going-Native Landscape*, was hired to clear the area of invasive plants, design the garden, and oversee the purchase of plants indigenous to the Cumberland Plateau. Mr. Bishop and his crew planted 150 trees and shrubs in November of 2020 and over 2800 pollinator-friendly perennials in 2021. A water source was installed to ensure the sustainability of the plants.

Fairy Trail Garden is an inviting pollinator and wildlife haven that beckons to each of us to slow down, look deeply into the natural world around us and let nature work her magic. A meandering woodland trail, peaceful seating, and an airy garden of native sun, shade, meadow, and woodland perennials draw residents in for a visit. The garden was created to nurture, heal, and support our Lookout Mountain ecosystem of birds, bees, butterflies, bats, beetles, toads, turtles, owls, foxes, and much, much more. It also honors the unique natural wonders of our community by inspiring the use of less lawn, less water, fewer chemicals, and more native plantings that bring harmony to nature's wildlife, both above and below the ground. Butterfly host plants have been added so butterflies can complete their life cycle. A rustic arbor at the back of the garden leads to Fairyland School and has been named "The Jimmy Campbell Connector Trail."

Mr. Campbell points out, "Even though Fairy Trail Garden is on the Georgia side, it is a garden to be enjoyed by all the residents on Lookout Mountain." The gardens were created using Bee City USA guidelines, "Thinking globally and acting locally, Bee City USA provides a framework for communities to come together to conserve native pollinators by providing them with healthy habitat that is rich in a variety of native plants, provides nest sites, and is protected from pesticides." Over 2 acres of pollinator habitat has been added to the mountain since 2020.

"In the past, we have asked one thing of our gardens: that they be pretty. Now they have to support life, sequester carbon, feed pollinators and manage water."

— DOUG TALLAMY



The Lookout Mountain Beautiful Garden Club utilized a \$1,000 "Plant America" grant to restore and create terraced gardens that are near the tennis courts at The Commons. These gardens have brightened and given a new life to an overgrown and barren area. Pollinator-friendly perennials such as Anise hyssop, Liatris, Swamp milkweed, and Jenna phlox, as well as Serviceberry trees, St. John's wort, and Hydrangea shrubs, were added in fall 2020 and spring 2021 to attract native bees, butterflies, and birds. The club contributed funds to expand the garden along both terraces. Individual members also donated



Lookout Mountain Beautiful Garden Club members work with city employees to prepare beds for the "Plant America" pollinator garden

benches, plants, pine mulch, and a birdbath to create a verdant and inviting place for people and pollinators. A grant from Espoma provides the garden with organic fertilizer. The club helps maintain the area by watering and pulling weeds on a regular basis.

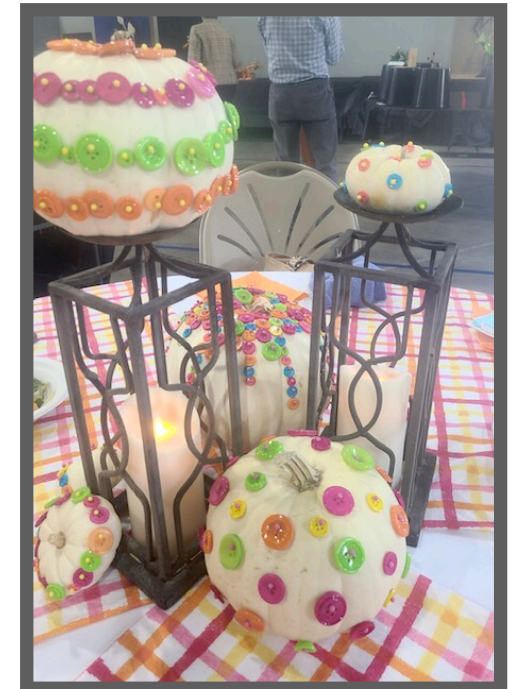
The Fairy Trail Garden, on Whitt Road across from the Carter Soccer field, was initiated by Jimmy Campbell and City Manager, Kenny Lee after they received an \$85,000 grant from the Riverview Foundation in 2020. Wanting community input and guidance to develop this one-acre plot owned by the city, they formed a planning committee made up of representatives of local garden clubs and the local Bee City USA committee chairs, Ann Brown, and Candace Wells. Denise Taylor and

Optimistic Gardeners Club



Optimist GC members
Virginia Pennington, Bobbi Wolcott, Lillian Hibbett, Denise Thorne & Wanda Copley

Celebrating Halloween!



Oak Hills Garden Club



Oak Hills entry into the Cheekwood Gardens Fall Festival

"Excusez-moi Monsieur Van Gogh, but I believe you're standing midst of our fleurs."

Lookout Mountain Garden Clubs Gather to Help

Pollinators

From Ann Brown

Lookout Mountain, TN and GA are Bee City USA sites and the area garden clubs have heard the call to help save our pollinators. All seemed quiet and shut down during the pandemic, but behind the scenes, three gardens were established during 2020-21.

The Garden Club of Lookout Mountain added native trees and shrubs to Temple Park. The club has maintained a pollinator garden in the west corner for several years. Denise Taylor and Ferris Robinson cleared unkempt areas in the park and replanted them with American sycamores, Emerald luster viburnums, American bladdernut trees, and Sweetspire (Itea) shrubs. A White Oak sapling was planted in the center of the park. It is small now, but in the future, it will provide a beautiful, shaded area for our residents. "Blessed are those who plant trees under whose shade they will never sit."

In his book, *The Nature of Oaks*, Doug Tallamy stresses that oaks are the most essential group of native trees and support a complex web of wildlife. They are also "...champions when it comes to soil stabilization, carbon sequestration, and watershed management." So, if you can only plant one tree, let it be an oak, and yes, there are dwarf oaks!



Quercus alba

White Oak

"If oak is the king of trees, as tradition has it, then the white oak, throughout its range, is the king of kings" - Donald Peattie



The Garden Club of Signal Mountain
Centennial Quilt is finished!
Jean Faircloth
&
Rhita Eichorn
Quilt Designers

Tyne Meade Garden Club

From Shannon Thurman

Tyne Meade Garden Club celebrated its 70th anniversary on July 15, 2021, at Johnson's Chapel Methodist Church meeting facility. Janeene Larkin Horn, Sandra Frank, Nancy Goodrich, Shannon Thurman, and Monty West made up the celebration committee. They created the decorations, flower arrangements, refreshments, and a historical program.

Sandra's decoration committee included Doris Weakley and Jan Shockey; they transformed the room with tablecloths and eye-catching floral arrangements. Cake pops, savory sandwiches, nuts, and other treats were provided by Nancy and her team: Betsy Abernathy, Jackie Bellar, Terri Kureshi, and Dixie Riddle. Shannon created scrapbook-type displays of club photos and history, which were exhibited on the wall.



Tyne Meade GC celebrates its 70th Anniversary.
District II Director Bobbi Wolcott, TM President Monty West, TGC
President-Elect Denise Thorne, Nancy Goodrich, & Janeen Larkin
Horn

Club President Monty West welcomed everyone. All were given name tags (created by Monty). Attendees included past TMGC club members, guests from other area clubs, flower show judges, and special guests District II Director Bobbie Wolcott and TGC President-Elect Denise Thorne. Director Wolcott presented Tyne Meade with an Award of Merit from the Horticultural

Society of Davidson County and a check for seventy dollars for the club's program fund.

Janeene Larkin Horn gave a program featuring the club's lengthy history; each member read aloud tidbits of club trivia (such as the rule requiring members to wear gloves when placing their hands over their hearts and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance). Afterwards, members and guests enjoyed refreshments and shared club memories.



Dixie Riddle & Betsy Abernathy enjoy historical artifacts from the club's history



The Garden Club of Signal Mountain

From Charlotte Witry

The members of The Garden Club of Signal Mountain met in small groups throughout the summer to make "their" quilt square for the larger quilt the club is made for the 100th Anniversary. The quilt was unveiled at the Christmas and Centennial Tea on December 15.

The club also met on October 20 at the Signal Mountain Nursery to hear co-owner and operating manager Kim Bonastia and Cecilia Mattingly give us a "behind the scenes" tour of the nursery. We learned so much more is involved in the daily operation other than watering and deadheading. Many of their plants are grown and reproduced from their cuttings and/or transplanted into larger pots.



Ann Richey & Leah Conner working on their quilt square

Almost ready for assembly!



Ocoee Garden Club

From Crystal Ryder

The Ocoee Garden Club met in person in October at the Hiwassee River Heritage Center in Charleston. The museum offers an interesting collection of Native American artifacts and a display regarding the round-up of this population for what is now called the Trail of Tears, with the Indian Agency located nearby the museum. The guest speaker was Leon Bates, from Wild Ones of Chattanooga, a now statewide group focusing on native plants. Leon worked with the TVA for years as a forester, and in 1971 Bates & his crew planted 2 acres of cypress groves on a long block in Charleston for mosquito abatement. Fifty years later, the trees have matured, giving life to 2nd and 3rd generations of trees.

Leon noted the boardwalk on the northwest corner of the area so visitors can get an up-close look at the trees. The key, he said, was to provide so much shade that the normal swamp flora - a perfect hiding place for mosquitoes - cannot flourish. From the Heritage Center, club members walked or drove to the area to view these beautiful trees.



Ocoee Garden Club members at the Hiwassee River Heritage Center, Charleston: Mary Margaret Stamper, Martha McDowell, Polly Whitsitt, Patricia Pierce, Crystal Rymer, guest speaker Leon Bates, Nora McNeill, Jeanette Schlaeger, Mary Ruth Younger, and Rachel Savage

Franklin County Garden Club

From Lola Eslick

Franklin County Garden Club recently worked to change a neglected and abandoned space of approximately 3,500 square feet at a local elementary school into a beautiful and functional space for outdoor learning. The overgrown lawn and old flowerbeds with rotting wood and rusting pipes on the fencing had to go! We were so blessed to be joined by multiple community partners and Boy Scout Troop 185, with two young men who wanted to obtain their Eagle Scout badges.

The scouts and their helpers made and mounted two outdoor chalkboards, assembled and stained three picnic tables. They also provided muscle in laying pavers and moving dirt from old flowerbeds to new ones to make pollinator gardens. We scheduled workdays for pressure washing, tree trimming, and clearing of the sidewalk to plant lawn seed. Sixteen Franklin County GC members assisted, with more than 20 community partners provided time, services, and products to this project.



Franklin County Garden Club members, Boy Scout Troop 185, and more than 20 community partners pitch in to beautify an unused space at a local elementary school

Because there was inadequate seating, a 16-foot aluminum bench was donated from another county school. Our high school construction and welding class made a weather station frame. The station measures temperature, rainfall, wind speed, and also has a sundial (which we found in the overgrown lawn). The new fence was covered with a flower garden made of Yarn Art. Some club members crocheted flowers, birds, and bees. These were affixed to the welded wire fencing to make for a stunning feature!

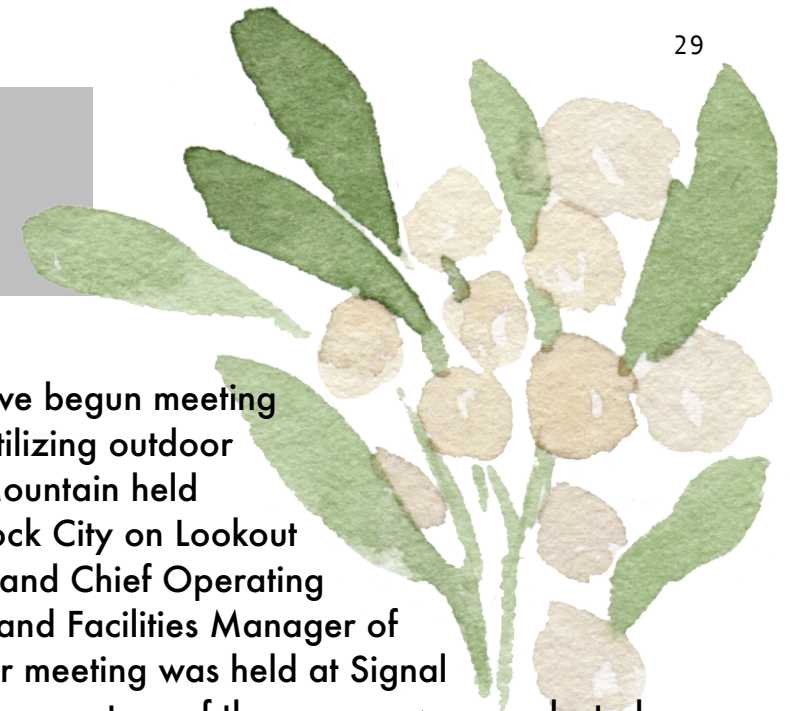


When you just can't wait for spring, plant some yarn flowers!

The music teacher suggested a pipe organ, and we followed YouTube instructions. A garden club member made the frame, and a local plumbing store donated the pipes.

A celebration was held in late October with 10 classes enjoying all the features in their outdoor classroom area. The Frightened Frog and the Saved Seed books were donated to the library. Networking with Nature, an NGC book, was read to the students, and we also educated them about pollinators.

district III



Most of the Clubs in District III have begun meeting in person, with some doing road trips utilizing outdoor meetings. The Garden Club of Signal Mountain held a meeting and tour at the pavilion at Rock City on Lookout Mountain, with Susan Harris, President and Chief Operating Office and Lori Martinez, the Gardens and Facilities Manager of Rock City, as speakers. Another outdoor meeting was held at Signal Mountain Nursery where a behind the scenes tour of the nursery was conducted after the meeting. It is sad to say that one club in the District is not meeting due to health concerns with their aging members.

Murray Hills Garden Club asked me to install their officers at their April 20 meeting where long-time member Joyce Cowan was presented with a Life TFGC Membership. On June 12 I attended the Dayton Garden Club's Flower Show promoting the Cumberland Trail, and August 11 attended Crestwood Garden Club's monthly meeting. It was a great meeting with a program on birds presented by a local Wild Birds Unlimited.

The clubs in District III participated in various ways in their communities to celebrate National Garden Week in June. One such event was a wreath presentation for the Blue Star Marker at the National Cemetery in Chattanooga. Various projects clubs have worked on have been providing landscape design, planting and maintaining gardens, welcome signs, Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Markers, Post Offices, City Community Centers, Camp Jordan Park, Rhea County Courthouse, Frazier Park in Dayton, and The Point on East Brainerd Road (replacing trees lost during the Chattanooga tornado). Lookout Mountain Beautiful and The Garden Club of Signal Mountain designed and installed pollinator gardens for their communities. Also, the three clubs in Cleveland, Aldersgate, Magnolia and Ocoee are raising money to purchase and install a Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Marker to be placed on the grounds of the new Veterans Hospital being built in Cleveland, with an installation goal in spring 2022.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your District III Director!

Diane Ryder, District III Director