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District IV Officers

TENNESSEE GARDEN CLUBS ESTD 1926



TGC District IV

Greetings District IV,

District IV members and Ivan Racheff House and Garden Board members volunteered the weekend of February 4–6 at the Dogwood Arts House and Garden Show. We had two tables displaying items to attract prospective members. About 46 guests signed up to be connected with a garden club. The volunteers enjoyed meeting and greeting new friends.

The DIV Executive Board and Advisors are busy planning the Spring Membership Meeting at Fox Den on March 26. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee & tea available starting at 8:45 a.m. UT Knoxville Extension Master Gardeners will present a program on Tennessee Smart Yards.

We look forward to seeing you there. The Call Letter is included in this email. Please note the cost of food has increased and so has Fox Den food. We regret that the luncheon fee has increased.

The next deadline for the Spring issue of *The Volunteer Gardener* is March 15. Send your club information to <u>annekrekelberg@reagan.com</u> and please send to me also.

The Presidents and Treasurers meeting will be at Racheff on May 6 from 10 a.m. until noon.

Wanda Taylor DIV IV

Theme: Let East Tennessee Shine with New Growth **Projects:** Grow in Membership & Support Our Historic State Headquarters, Ivan Racheff House and Gardens

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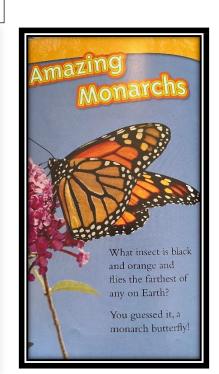
Issue 7

DISTRICT IV NEWS

Hostess L to R: Yvonne Coulson, President LaQuita Misner, Kathy Lasate



Connie Wallace discussed her favorite house plant:South African native plant 'Silver Squille' aka Leopard Lily. Ann Fritts exhibited Adromischus crostatas—Crinkle leaf plant or Key Lime Pie.



Dixie Highway GC members met for the February meeting at Staybridge Hotel.

Mike Naney, nature photographer, and imageologist, led members on an incredible journey "From Egg to Butterfly." Through his backyard habitat he created the perfect environment for the journey.

We watched a mother butterfly place her eggs, the size of a pinhead, on a milkweed leaf, the hatching of caterpillar to Chrysalis, and to finally a Monarch Butterfly emerge and go free. We were spellbound.

Connie Wallace and Ann Fritts provided horticulture displays. We drew names at the January meeting, donated to our favorite charity in the member's name we drew, and presented her with a Valentine's Day card at the February gathering with her charity donation.

Mike Naney is available to garden clubs in our area for this program. His contact information is Email: <u>mtnaney@Knology.net</u> Phone: 865-696-2772



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Lakemoor Hills—The Lakemoor Legacy Park & Gardens is a lovely pocket park nestled deep in the Lakemoor Hills peninsula. Residents stroll and children bicycle along its paved path. Stacked stone benches provide a place to rest and enjoy the bucolic tranquility, including watching the birds that are attracted to this wildlife preserve.

A little lending library offers the opportunity to read in peace. In contrast, in 2015 this land was a neglected bowl encircled by the Circle Lake Lane cul-de-sac owned by the highway department, which had no interest in its development.

That year the Lakemoor Hills Garden Club proposed to develop this land that featured a small pond and raingarden. The club hired a landscape architect to develop the concept design for the raingarden and adjacent walking and seating areas. The club then partnered with Knox County Storm Water department, which provided a 60/40 grant to develop the storm water retention area and raingarden.

The grant allowed the club to excavate poor soil and replace it with healthy, seed-free soil; acquire native plants through the Native Plant Rescue association; construct a permanent walkway around the raingarden; and provide an adjacent parking area.

By 2018 the inner perimeter walkway was completed and the central raingarden was planted by the club members, UT, and AmeriCorps volunteers with an array ...

(continued on next page)



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... of vigorous, native plants that prefer "wet feet." Further development was facilitated by a grant from Tennessee Agriculture, which allowed the purchase of 38 redbud, dogwood, horse chestnut, and pawpaw trees at a deep discount. Additionally, the club purchased and planted rhododendrons, deciduous azaleas, and ferns above the walking path that encircles the raingarden. As the land is a bowl-shaped depression, it catches the runoff from adjacent paved and unpaved land.

Heavy rains can inundate the raingarden with as much as 3 feet of water, which generally recedes within 4 hours. The robust water incursion does present some erosion issues that have been addressed with river stone waterways, boulders, and plant diverters. The first walkway that was made of packed crushed stone suffered from erosion and was later replaced with permanent asphalt paving.

Currently the park and garden are overseen by a club subcommittee that has developed a detailed masterplan that is being implemented over time. These plans recognize different areas within the park by their topography, soil, light, and water, including a grassy meadow; verdant woodlands, rock gardens; the raingarden surrounded by a mowed lawn; sunny, dry garden plantings; and a quiet, shady gathering space adjacent to the lending library.

This variety provides an excellent demonstration to residents throughout Lakemoor Hills to help them understand what plants will thrive on our peninsula under various conditions.

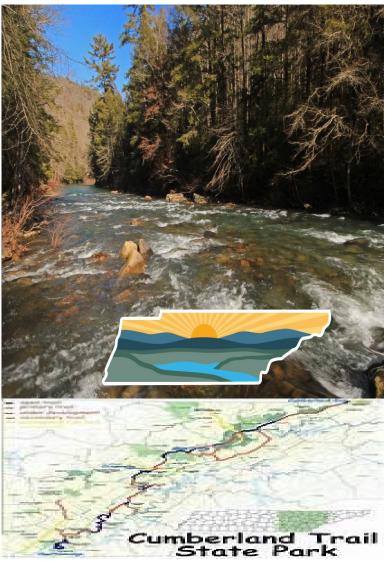


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Piney River Bluffs Acquired for Cumberland Trail State Park

Earlier this week, TennGreen Land Conservancy, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, and the Open Space Institute conserved 358 acres in Rhea County, known as Piney River Bluffs, to expand the Justin P. Wilson Cumberland Trail State Park.

Piney River Bluffs is less than two miles from Spring City and was a high-priority acquisition for the linear state park. The acquisition completes the protection of an 11-mile trail section through Piney River Gorge, among the most remote experiences on the Cumberland Trail, and also finalizes the Cumberland Trail connection to Soak Creek State Scenic River, fully joining 30 additional miles of the trail network in Rhea and Cumberland counties.

"TennGreen is pleased to assist with this significant project in East Tennessee. Piney River Bluffs represents one of our state's best examples of conservation land—beautiful forests and rivers protecting hiking lands."

-Christie Henderson Director of Land Conservation TennGreen Land Conservancy

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DIV & IRH&G Present at the Dogwood Arts House & Garden Show

FEBRUARY 11–13, 2022 | KNOXVILLE CONVENTION CENTER





Amelia Daniels and Sharon Davis



Frances Hoffman and Glenda Edmonson Smoky Mountain Garden Club



Sharon Davis, Cathy Waitinas and Ellen Yatteau at the Ivan Racheff House and Gardens booth promoting the gardens as a wedding venue.

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Janie Bitner and Rebecca Shular



Janet Underwood, LaQuita Misner, Jan Brown and Connie Barker



Ellen Yatteau, Cathy Waitinas, Sharon Davis, and Wanda Taylor



Wanda Taylor, Kim Overman, and Janie Bitner

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Sharon Davis and Alice Allen

Arboretum at H https://www.townsendriverwalk.com/

lant Sal

sponsored by the **Tuckaleechee Garden Club** to benefit the

Townsend River Walk & Arboretum

Saturday, April 23, 2022 9 am - 4 pm at the **Great Smoky Mountains** Heritage Center

123 Cromwell Drive, Townsend

Perennials ~ Annuals ~ Vegetables ~ Herbs Wildflowers ~ Garden Items

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Arboretur

Dates to Remember

- March 15, deadline for submission in the Spring TVG (online)
- March 25, DIV Spring Membership meeting/Fox Den, 9 a.m., \$30
- March 30, Entries for "We the People" submitted, schedule published
- April 30, Racheff Plant & Bake Sale, 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
- May 2, Cheekwood Community Flower Show (TGC & NGC Nashville)
- May 6, DIV President's meeting/Racheff 10 a.m.- noon
- May 12, Town & Country GC Flower Show "Appalachian Spring"
- May 13, 100th Anniversary of Flower Lover's Garden Club, 11 a.m., John T. O'Conner Senior Center
- May 17–22, NGC Convention/Orlando
- June 5–11, National Garden Club Week
- July 15, deadline for submission for Summer TVG (online)
- July 15, Racheff Summer Splash Card Party
- July 28, NGC Flower Show/O'Connor Center—We the People 2-4 p.m. Wednesday, July 27; and 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Thursday, July 28
- October 23–26, Conservation Camp
- October 28, Fall Membership meeting, Fox Den Country Club, 9:30 a.m.





February 16 State Executive Board Zoom and State Board Zoom. District IV members attending: Hal Watts, Cathy Waitinas, Kathleen Boryla-Payne, Cathy Donaldson, Charlotte Miller, Janie Bitner, and Wanda Taylor.

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Please contact Theresa Schehr for plant donations, bake sale items, new and gently used garden tools, and yard art.

teschehr@gmail.com or cell (text): 865-253-0260

Ivan Racheff House & Gardens Plant Sale Club Information

Racheff House & Gardens & Arboretum will be holding a plant sale Sat., April 30, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We are asking garden club members to contribute plants or gently used garden tools/items for the plant sale and bake sale items. Please contribute house plants, vegetable plants, herbs, wildflowers, bulbs, as well as collected seeds. The plant sale required a TN Dept. of Ag Plant certificate (an educational/nonprofit certificate), and the plants will require inspection before the sale. The plants must be at Racheff H&G before 2 p.m. on Fri., April 29, for inspection.

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Per the inspector (Les Southards), the plants we sell have to follow the same growing guidelines as nurseries. Here are some guidelines for planting, growing, and propagating:

- Prior to planting, pots must be purchased new or sanitized with a 10-percent bleach solution.
- Plants & pots must be stored/growing off the ground such as on a table/bench or a barrier (e.g., tarp or cement) on the ground to prevent soil-borne pathogens contaminating the plant.
- All hoses and sprayers must be kept off the ground.
- Ensure there are no fire ants or pests (e.g., ants, aphids, thrips) on plant or in soil.
- The sale of TN invasive plants will be prohibited from this plant sale. Refer to the TN-IPC Invasive Plant List. Some examples are English Ivy, Butterfly Bush, Nandina, Wisteria, Bradford Pear, Mahonia. Refer to the following link for a list of invasive plants: TN-IPC 2017 List Revision – Tennessee Invasive Plant Council (tnipc.org).
- Refer to the following Rose Diseases Information Sheet provided from the TN Dept. of Ag: <u>https://extension.tennessee.edu/publications/Documents/W833.pdf</u>.
- Refer to the following Boxwood Blight Information Sheet provided from the TN Dept. of Ag: <u>https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/agriculture/documents/planthealth/Boxwood_Blight_Best_Management_Practices_for_Website.pdf</u>
- Refer to the following USDA Invasive Pest and Disease link provided from the TN Dept. of Ag: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/pests-diseases/hungry-pests/the-threat.

Please include a label with each pot/plant that includes plant information: common name and scientific name; perennial, annual, or biennial; size (height/width); bloom time & color; light and water requirements; if seed cold stratification is required, etc. A photo on the label of the blooming plant is helpful. If you have many plants of one type, one sign with plant information will suffice. This information is helpful to customers, plant sale volunteers, and supports our "Educational/Non-Profit" plant certificate.

If you will be providing collected seeds, please take them to Racheff H&G by March 14 (Racheff BOG meeting). Provide the common name and scientific name, as well as plant information (same as with potted plants). The seeds will be repackaged in identical packaging.

Gently used garden tools, clean pots, and garden decor will also be accepted for the plant sale. We will be offering a Dish Garden Stake workshop at Racheff in March & April (dates will be provided later). The created Dish Garden Stakes will be for sale at the plant sale. Donations of plates, bowls, saucers, votive holders, and especially cabinet knobs would be appreciated.

Donations should be at Racheff H&G by March 7. History of selling the dish stakes show that it is difficult to get more than \$20 per stake, so donated dishes should be inexpensive or ones that are no longer used. Dishes with small chips are acceptable. Corelle dishes and glass dishes with intricate etching in the middle of the plate will not work (susceptible to shattering when holes are drilled).

The knobs (used or new) should be metal, resin, glass, or ceramic ("rainproof"). Knobs should have a hole through the whole knob (preferred), or screw not attached to the knob, or if screw is attached to knob, the screw must extend at least 1.5–2.5 inches. If you are purchasing knobs, Hobby Lobby, Tuesday Morning, and TJ Maxx usually have a nice selection of knobs in the spring season.

We will also have a bake sale at the plant sale. So, if you are not able to contribute plants or seeds, providing baked items the morning of the sale would be appreciated. Please notify Theresa Schehr with the baked items that you will be bringing.

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