



TFGC District IV



District IV Officers

Director-Wanda Taylor

Vice Director-Janie Bitner

Chaplain-Janet Oaks

Rec. Secretary-Winifred Silvers

Cor. Secretary-Connie Barker

Treasurer-Kathleen Boryla-Payne

Assistant Treasurer-Linda Daniels

Advisors-Connie Barker, Connie
Wallace

Cathy Donaldson, Carole Whited,
Lisa Phipps

Parliamentarian-Charlotte Miller

Greetings District IV,

Our annual Fall District IV Membership meeting was held on Friday, October 28th, at Fox Den Country Club. Nineteen of the twenty-three garden clubs were in attendance with 88 members registered. The table arrangements were wonderful, and members voted for the crowd favorite, best Fall, and best Halloween arrangement. West Hills won crowd favorite and best Halloween. Sevierville won the best Fall arrangement. The speakers were members of the Blue Bird Society and gave us hints on how to prepare our birdhouses for Spring. Spring bulbs were offered for purchase and a silent auction was held. Mary Ruden displayed her wonderful Orchid display. Cathy Waitinas told us to "Play with our Food" and brought designs to encourage us to be creative. Awards were given from NGC and grants fulfilled by the Endowment Trust Fund. Many thanks to all who helped make this event possible.

A gentle reminder that the deadline to apply for awards is December 1st. Send items to Debbie Shaver. The awards can be found on the website tngardenclub.org. And, to presidents that their annual report is due by January 15 also submitted on the website.

I hope that you will all be with family and friends during this season of being Thankful. Check on your members and let them know you are thankful for them.

Happy Thanksgiving, Wanda Taylor, DIV Director

Theme: Let East Tennessee Shine with New Growth

Projects: Grow in Membership and Support our Historic State Headquarters, Ivan Racheff House and Gardens

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DISTRICT IV NEWS

Fall Membership Meeting October 28, 2022



TFGC DIV Board members Chaplain Janet Oakes, Vice Director Janie Bitner, Corresponding Secretary Connie Barker, and Parliamentarian Charlotte Miller.



A bulb sale and silent auction were held in Brassies. Jennifer Hinson holds a design by Cathy Waitinas for her presentation "Play with Your Food."



TFGC President Elect Denise Thorn with Ivan Racheff House and Gardens Chair Hal Watts at Fox Den Country Club.



Shopping at the silent auction in Brassies

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Above, Past District Director 2021-22 Connie Barker receives an NGC Life Award. Sun Up Garden Club member Faye Cantrell receives the Iris Award from Membership Chair Linda Daniels for recruiting new members to the club. Barbara McCune holds the Harrogate Garden Club House Joint Resolution No 387 received from the House of Representatives. Dixie Highway Garden Club achieved an NGC Certificate of Merit award for their FS-1B Club Standard flower show "Into Wonderland" on September 9, 2021. Last picture -the crowd favorite and favorite Halloween arrangement winner from The West Hill Ten O'Clock Garden Club. Congratulations to all.



Chuck Cruckshank and Chuck Powell told us all about Blue Birds 101.





Above Ivan Racheff House and Gardens Chair Hal Watts and Recording Secretary Winifred Silvers. Middle- Dr. Jan Brown receives an NGC award for Knox County Council of Garden Clubs for Historic Preservation. At right, President Elect Denise Thorne addresses the DIV members.





Tuckaleechee Garden Club received four NGC awards: CE-7 Blue Star: Gold Star Marker Landscaping CE9-Landscaping of Historic Areas, MAE-2 Social Media Website, and MAE-2B Social Media/Website. They also received an endowment Trust Grant for \$700.00 to apply to the Heritage Heirloom Kitchen Garden at the Heritage Center in Townsend. Pictured are Charlotte Miller, DIV Director Wanda Taylor, Francesca Messenger, DIV Vice Director and TGC President Janie Bitner, Colleen Garrard, Linda Lee, Theresa Schehr and Brenda Gose. Francesca also received the Iris Award from Tuckaleechee Garden Club.



Harrogate Garden Club

We've had a busy year so far here in Harrogate, TN. We want to share our highlights. On March 26th we were invited to attend the inaugural Heritage Seed Exchange at the Abraham Lincoln Museum at LMU. We had some heritage bean and tomato seeds to share. We took soil, seeds, and cups so that any children attending could plant seeds to take home. It went really well with many more children than we imagined

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Smoky Mountain Garden Club members attending the Fall Membership Meeting at Fox Den Country Club: DIV Director Wanda Taylor, President Glenda Edmondson, Kay Turner, Valerie Whiting, Kerry Robertson, and Pat Landry. Not pictured was Frances Hoffman.



SMGC members met at the home of Elizabeth Mize for their November meeting. DIV Vice Director Janie Bitner presented a program on "Using Natives vs Invasives in your Landscape." Following the presentation, members enjoyed homemade treats and fellowship.

Standing: Janie Bitner, Elizabeth Mize, Pat Landry, Kerry Robertson

Sitting: Frances Hoffman, President Glenda Edmondson, and Wanda Taylor.

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West Hills Ten O'Clock Gardeners have had a busy year. Our programs have been varied, educational, and enjoyably enlightening: Kim Bennett, Volunteer Director of "The Bloom Center"; from the Knox County Master Gardener Speakers Bureau, Lynn Carlson, Master Gardener, presented "Seasonal Containers"; from KCMG Speakers Bureau, Sheila McNeely, Master Gardener, spoke concerning "Ornamentals, Flowers, and Shrubs"; Nancy Irwin, Volunteer from Random Acts of Flowers, spoke about the many opportunities available in their volunteer program which provide flowers to area institutions; and Stephen Lynn Bales, TN Naturalist, and author, addressed "Birds That Winter Here".

Our club has continued its leadership in West Hills Beautification Council with our selection and identification of "Yard of the Month", which actually encompasses 8 outstanding yards, May through September. October through December, the emphasis is on mailbox decorations. Each home that is chosen receives a sign of recognition in their yard; a picture of their yard/mailbox which also appears in the West Hills Newsletter, and a certificate for their extra effort in helping to make West Hills an outstanding, attractive neighborhood.

At this year's District IV Fall Meeting, our club was recognized three times. June Zachary, longtime club member, Master Gardener, Liaison to KCCGC, longtime member of the Ivan Racheff House and Gardens Board of Governors (former), was presented the Iris Award for bringing numerous members into our garden club. Her name also appears on the fifth "Friends of Racheff" plaque. Our table centerpiece design won two of the three awards given: Best Halloween Design and Crowd Favorite.

Once again, we will collect and donate Christmas cards for the prisoners at TN Maximum Security Prison to send to their families. Last year we were able to provide about 500 cards for the inmates. We hope to increase that number each year.
Submitted by Ilza Woods



West Hills Beautification Council, October winner



Nancy Irwin at West Hills Ten O'Clock Gardeners



West Hills Ten O’Clock Gardeners, (standing) Susan Yanno, Illy Wood, President Winifred Silvers, Lori Emory, Connie Silvey, Judy Fenton and June Zachary and the winning centerpiece .



Designed by Judy Fenton our centerpiece was the winner at the Fall Membership Meeting. We also won Best Halloween Design and Crowd Favorite. President Winifred Silvers and Judy Fenton



June Zachary, longtime club member, Master Gardener, Liaison to KCCGC, longtime member of the Ivan Racheff House and Gardens Board of Governors (former) was presented the Iris Award for bringing numerous members into our garden club. Her name also appears on the fifth “Friends of Racheff” plaque.



Recipe from BIRDLIFE, A column in The Knoxville News Sentinel by the late Marcia Davis

Homemade Suet

- 1 jar crunchy peanut butter
- 1 cup lard (not shortening)
- 2 cups quick cook oats (not regular)
- 1 cup white flour (not self- rising)
- 2 cups cornmeal (not self- rising)

Melt lard and peanut butter in microwave or on stovetop. Mix remaining dry ingredients together and stir into lard and peanut butter mixture. Pour into pan (9x13) and let cool and harden. Cut into 4x4.5 squares, place in plastic bags and store in freezer for future use.
TIPS: Don’t feed vegetable shortening to birds. Use only lard , which is animal fat and also does not melt in the sun.

Submitted by Illy Wood



Sevierville Garden Club members attending the Fall Membership meeting: back row - Karen Miller, Ellen Yatteau, Mary Ruden, Dixie Seaton. Front row - Ann Luckett, Faye Holbert, President Melanie Hill.

SGC members Ann Luckett & Faye Holbert enjoying Mary Ruden's display and artwork on native orchids
Mary Ruden and Dixie Seaton and the club's Fall arrangement.





DIV Vice Director and District IV Endowment Trust Chair Janie Bitner holds the grant check for Tuckaleechee Garden Club and distributed grant checks to Melonie Hill of Sevierville Garden Club, Nancy Howell of Chapman Highway Garden Club and Kathy Proctor of Norwood Garden Club. All four clubs in the district were awarded the grant monies they applied for.

The members of **Shady Oaks Garden Club** have had a busy summer and fall. Here are just a few highlights:

- In June several members of the Shady Oaks Garden Club helped organize the dedication of a Gold Star marker in Elizabethton, TN. Gold Star markers honor loved ones lost in service to our country through the United States Armed Forces.
- In July, the club participated in the Knoxville District IV Flower Show "We the People." We had 100% participation in the show and many awards. We are especially proud of our new members, some of whom had never entered a flower show!
- In August we were lucky to visit several local sites. Amy Venable of Little Mountain Microgreens gave a great presentation about these incredibly nutritious vegetables. Harvested after the sprout stage but prior to becoming baby vegetables, they contain from four to forty times more nourishment than their mature counterparts. Also in August, Master Gardener Michelle Hejny gave us a great tour of the Gray Fossil site.
- In September we hosted our first ever FALL garden tour which featured six local gardens. The event was well attended, and a huge success and visitors

commented on how nice it was to visit gardens at a time of year one doesn't usually get to.

- In November, we held our annual Greens Workshop. This workshop is a favorite. Club members Jeanne Copple and Anne Reid guided members and guests through a variety of holiday arrangements including a festive harvest themed design using gourds.

Gold Star Dedication Retired General Tommy Baker, Heather Jacob, Janie Bitner, Shady Oaks President Cindy Hintz, Wanda Taylor, Connie Barker, Imogene Randall and marker donors Annette and Charles Tinnen



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Flower Show Winners -District IV Flower Show Top Exhibitor Section Award Winners from Shady Oaks Garden Club
 Left to right:
 Imogene Randall, Botanical Arts Design Award 1 (Botanical Arts Division)
 Pat Buck, Grower's Choice (Horticulture Division)
 Jeanne Copple, Grower's Choice (Horticulture Division)
 Teri Lee, Award of Merit (Horticulture Division)
 Kris Bowers, Botanical Arts Design Award 2 (Botanical Arts Division)
 Jan Taylor, Tricolor (Design Division)



Tuckaleechee Garden Club (TGC), Townsend, TN had a busy and productive month. The club hosted a new member orientation at the Townsend River Walk & Arboretum (TRWA). Mark Seder, TRWA Chair provided a tour and background information to new members Julie Nagel and Gina Barnett. Nine TGC Members attended the District IV membership meeting in October. The club also decorated the Cardwell Cabin, Montvale Station, and the Davis Cabin for the holidays in the Historic Village at the Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center. The November club meeting featured a fascinating presentation by Kori McCarter, Sevier Solid Waste, Inc., on the topic of recycling. After the business meeting and presentation, Scott and Theresa Schehr hosted a Thanksgiving feast for the club.



Tuckaleechee Garden Club members attend the District IV Membership Meeting in October at Fox Den Country Club and celebrate winning several awards. Picture (l-r), Charlotte Miller, Wanda Taylor, Francesca Messenger, President Janie Bitner, Colleen Girard, Linda Lee, Theresa Schehr, and Brenda Gose. Francesca Messenger was awarded the Iris Award for her dedicated work in recruiting new members to the club. The club was also awarded an Endowment Trust Fund Grant for their work at the Heirloom Kitchen Garden, [Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center](#).

Grant for their work at the Heirloom Kitchen Garden, [Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center](#).



Kori McCarter, [Sevier Solid Waste, Inc.](#) presents on the topic of Recycling at the November meeting of the Tuckaleechee Garden Club. Sevier Solid Waste diverts 70% of the waste they handle into composting and recycling. Their compost is available for gardening.

TGC Club members Theresa and Scott Schehr hosted a Thanksgiving Feast for the club at the November meeting.

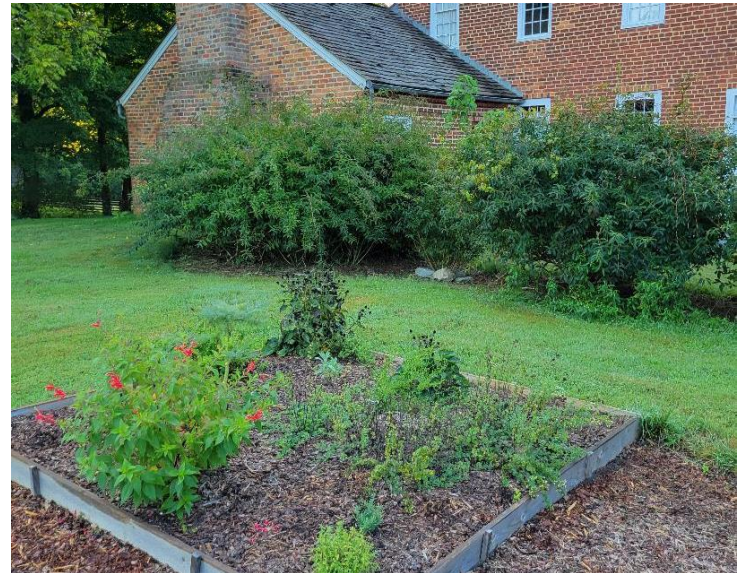




TGC Members Debbie Dickie, Janie Bitner, Wanda Taylor, and Theresa Schehr decorate the Cardwell Cabin at the [Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center](#) with live greens and historically accurate decorations.



On a rainy afternoon, Tuckaleechee Garden Club members designed and installed the Christmas decorations at the Davis Cabin at the [Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center](#).



Submitted: Jeanie Jackson

Fall has been busy for **Eastside Garden Club** in Greeneville. Tusculum students who are members of the Tusculum Garden Society sponsored by Eastside held a meet and greet on the Doak House campus area with roasting marshmallows and chocolate for smores and apple cider for drinks. Susan Monteleone, Professor of Biology, and students as well as members of the garden club enjoyed the warm fire during a very cold evening. Students are eager to participate in several activities and feel the garden club is worthy of our support. They are especially interested in conservation issues and formal plans for programs are in the works. October meeting featured Joel Hausser, bee enthusiast, pollinator garden expert and club member who gave a wonderful program on pollinators needed in our area. He also started a

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recycle program at our church and manages this program successfully as well as participating in many children's programs on conservation.

President, Jeanie Jackson, attended Conservation Camp held at Paris Landing State Park near Nashville in Northwestern Tennessee. The days could not have been more splendid with leaf turning trees and the beautiful lake at sunset. Beauty was everywhere and time was spent outdoors as well as meetings on several conservation issues. A wonderful review of why Racheff House and Gardens is so special to our garden clubs. One resounding note was "Preservation is Conservation". Meeting other club members from the Nashville and Memphis area was interesting and fun was had by all in the crafts, floral design, as well as study of frogs, ferns, and our natural waterways. We also learned from the Forestry service how our parks are managed to reduce workload on preservation. Well worth the visit and much was also learned about conservation techniques special to our home grounds. Eastside Garden club presented each attendee with a packet of pollinator plant seeds to take back home with them.

At our November meeting Sherrie Ottinger, known widely as the Dirt Girl newspaper columnist, and member of the newly formed Regenerist farming techniques, gave a program on how to care for our winter plants. This was so helpful to many who are struggling with plants that need some dormancy to regrow in the Spring. Corn shuck wreaths were made, and ribbons provided for use at the Greeneville Historic Museum log house located downtown. The garden club provided two tubs on entry door and perennials are planted suited to the age of the log house. Many visitors tour the log house throughout the year. One of our newest members is caretaker since she lives nearby and markers for plants are on the agenda. Jeanie and Don Jackson adorned the Blue Star Marker on I-81 on Veteran's Day with red, white, and blue ribbons to honor our soldiers of wars past.

A Christmas luncheon is on tap for the December meeting whereas the membership will be given certificates for jobs well done during a trying year of Covid, flu and serious illnesses. We are blessed and wish all a Happy Holiday and a year filled with joy in learning, gardening, and expanding our conservation efforts.



Dixie Highway Garden Club members visited Historic Ramsey House for our November meeting. The club meeting and lunch was held in the Activities Building. The house tour followed, and we enjoyed a docent led tour of the house and saw how families lived in the 1790's and 1800's. At that time Ramsey House was considered a mansion by comparison to the living conditions of some families in the area. The photo of the house speaks for itself. It is a lovely stone and mortar historic treasure.



Check out the website:

<https://www.ramseyhouse.org/>

<https://www.tngardenclubs.org/>

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Back row: l to r. Judy James, Linda Ford,
Virginia Price, Amy Hinton.

Front row l to r: Victoria Deckard,
President LaQuita Misner, Laura
McElroy, Lisa Braunreuter, Trisha
Michaels.



Terrence L. Donaldson "Terry" - age 76 of Lenoir City, passed away suddenly Thursday, November 17, 2022. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather. At Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, he was a choir member for many years and was currently active with the Prime Timers Men's Group. He served his country in the Vietnam War with the U. S. Army and got his college degrees from Penn State and the University of Pennsylvania. He was a faculty member at the University of Rochester but more recently Terry retired from the Oak Ridge National Lab (ORNL) after 38 years as a research scientist. He was a member of the Lenoir City Garden Club of the Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs. He was preceded in death by his parents, Winston and Ruby Donaldson of Emlenton, Pa, grandchildren, Valerie, and Brittany Ballard. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Catherine Huheey Donaldson; daughters, Stephanie Hodnett (Jeffrey) and Hope Kilby (Rick); grandchildren: Rebecca Ismail (Adnan), Jessie Lynn Hodnett, Jacob Hodnett (Kenzie), Brianna Ballard Price (Brandon), and Gregory Ballard; great grandchildren: Blakelee Hodnett, Jedidiah Ismail, Syra Ismail, Teagan Hodnett, and Gemma Price; sisters, Sheila Shenk (David) and Holly Donaldson; niece, Beth Fretz and nephew, Tom Shenk. The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 22nd at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Funeral services will follow at 7 p.m. with Rev. Jim Coffield officiating. Family and friends will gather at the funeral home by 10:30 Wednesday morning and proceed to Lakeview Cemetery for 11 a.m. graveside services. Military honors will be conducted by the Loudon Co. Veterans Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Ivan Racheff House and Gardens, PO Box 50185, Knoxville, Tn 37950. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

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